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MEDIA RELEASE

The ARM Hub is working with regional Queensland's businesses to recover and grow post-COVID-19 with free virtual innovation workshops.

KEY MESSAGES

Now, more than ever, the Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing (ARM) Hub's expertise and services are essential to growing Australia's high value industries and creating jobs.

Especially in the wake of widespread disruption, the ARM Hub works closely with local businesses to deliver smarter solutions to manufacturing challenges, protect jobs and upskill staff, helping them transform and thrive.

The ARM Hub is a dynamic collaboration between industry, research organisations and government, working together to accelerate the uptake of advanced manufacturing capabilities across Australia and help businesses, particularly small and medium manufacturers, navigate these uncertain times.

In partnership with the Innovative Manufacturing CRC (IMCRC), the ARM Hub is hosting a series of virtual futuremap® workshops – the first step in a journey of digital transformation post-COVID-19 for many businesses.

MEETING THE
TRANSFORMATION
NEEDS OF INDUSTRY

 53 Holland Street,
Northgate QLD 4013
 info@armhub.com.au
 www.armhub.com.au

CORE ARTICLE

The Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing (ARM) Hub, a new not-for-profit company is helping Australia's small and medium businesses to recover and transform post-COVID-19 with free virtual innovation workshops.

Here to help industry adopt advanced manufacturing technologies and processes, the ARM Hub is backed by industry, research institutions and government. The Hub has launched during the global COVID-19 pandemic and is assisting businesses to secure opportunities and address challenges.

"Where some might see problems, we see opportunities," says Chair of the ARM Hub, Emeritus Professor Roy Green. "The ARM Hub is at the forefront of industrial transformation, helping to build strong local supply chains and preparing companies for successful participation in global markets and value chains."

To engage with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and get them started on their post-COVID-19 transformation, the ARM Hub is hosting a series of free online futuremap® workshops in partnership with the Innovative Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre (IMCRC). For many businesses, these workshops are the first step in a journey of digital transformation and assist to map out the best path for adopting advanced manufacturing in their operations.

The ARM Hub's mission is to accelerate the industrial transformation of industry across the nation by supporting home-grown businesses adopt advanced manufacturing technologies and processes. With world-class robotics expertise and design capability that translate new technologies into workplaces and workflows, the ARM Hub is creating the safe and skilled jobs of the future.

Tailored to manufacturing business owners and senior executives, futuremap® is a business diagnostic tool designed to help deepen participants' understanding of their business capabilities and what is needed to advance and successfully transform their manufacturing operation. By demystifying the concept of Industry 4.0 and pointing out the importance of leadership, collaboration, and innovation within an organisation, futuremap® outlines options for potential investments that can future-proof businesses.

Alongside futuremap®, the ARM Hub provides SMEs with a range of services assisting them to access the expertise, technologies and resources needed to progress their advanced manufacturing journeys. These services provide smarter solutions to manufacturing challenges, protect jobs, and upskill staff, helping businesses transform and thrive.

These interactive virtual workshops are an important introduction to the possibilities of industrial transformation.

"We know industry is aware it needs to adopt new technologies to be competitive, but it can be difficult to know where to go for advice, and it can be costly, especially for SMEs," says ARM Hub CEO, Dr Cori Stewart. "The role of the ARM Hub is to be a trusted source of information and to assist industry access the technical and other resources needed to transform and grow."

Workshop attendees will use futuremap® to map the current state of their business and identify where they can lift their awareness, competitiveness and build resilience against 13 key areas of industrial and advanced manufacturing competitiveness. At the end of the session, they will receive a

personalised report that not only highlights the improvement areas but guides them to resources that can assist them to take the next step.

“The ARM Hub has proven to be an essential service and is the logical next-step following futuremap® workshops,” says David Chuter, IMCRC CEO. “They are helping companies establish new ways of working by finding the right digital solutions for their business.”

These ARM Hub virtual workshops are beneficial for businesses who want to know more about advanced manufacturing, those who aren't sure what to transform or how to do it, and those who have an idea but don't know where to begin. To participate, register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/arm-hub-kick-start-your-post-covid-19-manufacturing-transformation-tickets-110241212434>

Media Contact: Emma Lane – emma.lane@armhub.com.au

Business Contact: Peta Portelli – peta.portelli@armhub.com.au