



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for the Illawarra
Minister for Small Business

SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD GOES TO VENUSTUS

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Venustus Beauty and Body Lab of Paddington has won the Small Business of The Year Award at the Australian Retailers Association 2005 NSW retail awards for excellence, the NSW Minister for Small Business David Campbell said today.

Mr Campbell said Venustus of Paddington epitomised the energy of the State's successful young retail entrepreneurs.

"The award for Small Business of the Year (Training) to Venustus acknowledges the level of commitment that a business makes to educating and developing its employees," Mr Campbell said.

Venustus which opened in the early 1990s were a finalist in this category in the 2003 award and have won numerous beauty industry and business awards.

The company uses aromatherapy as well as the latest advances in beauty technology for its clients.

"To succeed in today's highly competitive business environment, a business needs to be committed to training their staff. This commitment means integrating training and education into the business plan," Mr Campbell said.

"Barbara and Jeanine Bourke have demonstrated a dedication to developing the most important resource of all, their staff," he said.

Retailing accounts for almost \$13 billion to the New South Wales economy.

The sector is the biggest employer in the State, now employing a record 490,000 people, or 15 per cent of all jobs in the NSW.

Mr Campbell said the last two years had been very important for retail with the NSW Government tabling the Retail Leases Amendment Bill before the NSW Parliament.

"The reform of retail leasing arrangements is one of the Lemna Government's great achievements for retailers.

"Retail tenants will soon be entitled to similar protections as those enjoyed by their residential counterparts," he said.

Retailing makes a significant contribution to the economy and wellbeing of New South Wales accounting for almost \$13 billion in the New South Wales economy. It is the biggest employer in the State, now employing a record 490,000 people, or 15 per cent of all jobs in the state.

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