

World wants our produce

MARTIN HAESE



ONE of the services that Business SA provides for the business community across South Australia is the processing of certificate of origin document preparation for exporters.

We provide this service to assist producers and suppliers to send their goods all around the world.

Business SA, as the state's chamber of commerce and industry and part of the Australian chamber network, is the largest provider of this service in SA.

Despite the limiting impact of Covid-19 on the economy, SA producers and suppliers are continuing to export large volumes of goods and services to destinations worldwide.

In fact, Business SA recorded the highest number of export document certifications ever in a single month in July, which indicates that our export trade activity remains very strong.

These numbers demonstrate the favourable position that some of our members find themselves in during this global pandemic. Our role in the export of goods is to verify their origin, certifying that their place of growth, production or manufacture is, indeed, SA.

A mandatory component of the complex exporting process for many destination countries, we see a busy month of stamping as a very positive sign for the SA economy, particularly for the agricultural sector.

With another Covid-19-induced lockdown in July, the odds for a prosperous month were against us in SA.

Nonetheless, demand for our goods from China, Japan and South Korea led the way as top destinations for the export of fruits, nuts and grain which accounted for more than 50 per cent of produce dispatched.

However, I am not too surprised. Business SA understands and appreciates the state's top-quality produce and works closely with many outward-looking and entrepreneurial members to support them as they build their businesses.

We are known around the world for being fiercely competitive in international markets with our premium goods, putting quality above all else, followed by the ability to fulfil growing demand, particularly for wheat which remains our biggest export – and is well poised for a bumper crop.

In the midst of restricted travel and trade tensions abroad, it is a testament to our resilient producers that they remain on a solid trajectory of growth during this uncertain time.

It's clear now more than ever how adaptable SA exporters are as they defy the odds and adjust to every twist and turn during the pandemic.

With national borders closed for now, it's our exporters who are keeping us connected with global markets.

As chief executive of Business SA, I am proud that my team plays a vital role in supporting our members in the export sector.

Business SA offers a range of services to exporters, with an expert team experienced in certificate of origin documentation, free-trade agreements and ATA Carnet documentation.

MARTIN HAESE IS BUSINESS SA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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