

AUSTRALIAN MINE SERVICES PTY LTD

Statement by Member for Collie-Wellington

MR M.P. MURRAY (Collie-Wellington - Parliamentary Secretary) [12.56 pm]: Australian Mine Services Pty Ltd has rapidly gained an enviable reputation as an industry leader in all forms of welding disciplines for the mining and civil construction industries. It has recently achieved a remarkable list of firsts for industry in Western Australia. Despite having operated for only three years, the company was recognised last month by the highly respected *BRW* magazine as the ninth fastest growing company in the nation and, more significantly, as number one of such companies in Western Australia. Fewer than two weeks ago, it became the first Western Australian company, and only the fifth in Australia, to achieve the elite ISO 3834 quality accreditation. This international certification was awarded by the Welding Technology Institute of Australia and recognises the innovative processes adopted by Australian Mine Services. Last night AMS achieved the trifecta, when it was an equal winner in the prestigious Western Australian *Business News* Rising Stars Award for 2006. This award recognised the company's financial performance capabilities, growth strategies, capabilities and commitment to future national expansion.

From humble beginnings as a husband and wife team, Australian Mine Services now employs more than 90 Western Australian employees and has an on-target predicted turnover of \$20 million plus. Boasting a client list that includes BHP Billiton Ltd, Rio Tinto, Henry Walker Eltin and MacMahon, this company places a strong emphasis on providing training to Western Australian youth. It is the first contractor, apart from the BHP and MacMahon Newman joint venture, to offer traineeships to indigenous youth. This outstanding company credits part of its success to the thriving Western Australian economy and is leading the way for Western Australian industry. I congratulate Ian and Julie Massara and their team at Australian Mine Services for their success. It is a great effort for a lad who was educated and trained in the great town of Collie, and who was a pretty good football player as well!