

## **Local SmartForms wins at AGIMO e-Government Awards**

### ***Electronic forms system awarded for slashing small business red tape when dealing with local councils***

**Sydney, May 22** At last night's AGIMO e-Government awards, Local SmartForms won a Highly Commended Award for dramatically improving NSW Councils' online services to small businesses.

The Local SmartForms service has made efficient e-Government a reality, streamlining more than 1600 paper forms from 41 NSW councils down to just 21 shared electronic templates.

"Local SmartForms has enabled a consortium of NSW Councils to migrate from paper-heavy communication to electronic forms with all the associated improvements in accuracy and efficiency," said Derek Corcoran, General Manager of Avoka Technologies, the IT development house behind the SaaS system.

Last night AGIMO awarded the Consortium of Councils, represented by Rockdale City Council as the lead Council in the project, for adopting the technology.

"We are particularly proud of this win, given the impressive selection of e-Government Award entrants", said Local SmartForms program director Ms. Allison Hornery.

"It is a good example of 'joined up government' at work. Real collaboration was crucial – not only with the Federal Government and among the 41 councils, but also with our technology partner Avoka. They facilitated the integration of all 1600 council forms to just 21," Ms Horney said.

#### **About the Local SmartForms Delivery Platform:**

- Powered by FormCentral, a shared service implementation of Avoka Technologies' FormCenter product.
- FormCentral & FormCenter Products leverage Adobe's LiveCycle Enterprise Suite.

#### **Benefits:**

- A web-based, customer-facing solution, it manages the complete lifecycle of electronic forms and their associated services and data.
- The availability of the forms through Adobe PDF Reader means that end-users can access the service using a desktop application that is free, trusted and readily available.

- Local SmartForms reduce the burden of red tape, leaving local businesses more time to run their business.
- Forms can be submitted, attachments uploaded and payments made online anytime.
- In-built field validation ensures forms are always completely and correctly filled in
- Shared form templates mean forms are consistent within and between Councils.
- Local SmartForms support electronic submission even when an ink signature is legally required, and offers the ability to “save offline” with in-built smarts.

“The shared service ensures that Local SmartForms can be easily deployed by any Council with immediate benefits. The success of this project demonstrates how collaboration and shared IT services is a way forward for local government in Australia,” said Mr. Corcoran.

Ms. Horney added: “By adopting Local SmartForms, the consortium is also making a significant local government contribution to the Federal Government’s target of halving the number of government forms by 2010.”

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More information about Local SmartForms:

[http://www.avoka.com/news/200805\\_awards.shtml](http://www.avoka.com/news/200805_awards.shtml)

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