



**John Mickel MP**  
**Minister for Transport, Trade, Employment and Industrial Relations**

## **Media release**

### **Bon Voyage to Queensland's fourth 2008 International Cadet**

Trade Queensland's fourth 2008 International Cadet left for Tokyo on the weekend to gain first-hand overseas business experience.

Minister for Trade John Mickel said that Katie Neeson's cadetship, sponsored by the Queensland Clinical Trials Network (QCTN), would see her investigating potential Japanese clients for pre-clinical and clinical trials to be undertaken in Queensland.

"Trade Queensland's International Business Cadet program began in 1999. It gives high-achieving Queenslanders like Katie the chance to work with the Queensland Government for a 29-week period, spending 20 weeks with one of Trade Queensland's 13 overseas offices," Mr Mickel said.

"Sponsor companies and organisations invest \$20,000 in the program. Cadets allocate about 80 per cent of their time to undertake a market-based export or investment research project as requested by their sponsor. The remaining 20 per cent is dedicated to the on-going work in their Trade Queensland overseas office.

"Sponsor businesses gain inside access to in-market knowledge and overseas networks to increase export sales or attract investment to Queensland and the cadets gain invaluable international experience. The benefits are great for all parties," Mr Mickel said.

This year, four cadets have been placed in Trade Queensland offices in Guangzhou, Shanghai, Seoul and Tokyo. Three of the cadets departed Brisbane in March and will return to Queensland in late July. Katie is the fourth cadet, departing Queensland on 31 May and returning in October.

The 2008 cadets have been sponsored by the following Queensland businesses:

- **Mr Greg Bell - Guangzhou** – A consortium led by the Gold Coast City Council to research and explore opportunities for partnering Gold Coast environmental companies.
- **Mr Li He - Shanghai** - Russell Mineral Equipment to examine mining equipment relining and technology
- **Mr Mark Ranson - Seoul** – Sponsored by a Queensland business to identify emerging opportunities to deliver professional services in Korea.
- **Ms Katie Neeson - Tokyo** - Queensland Clinical Trials Network (QCTN) identifying opportunities to attract Japanese bio-pharmaceutical companies to conduct their pre-clinical and clinical research in Queensland and to raise the visibility of Queensland's medical-scientific community and its capabilities.

Each cadet is required to prepare a detailed report based on the findings of their research. There are up to four Trade Queensland International Business Cadetship opportunities per year.

**Media contact for Minister Mickel: Shannon Mackay 3237 1125 or Nathan Moir 3224 5060.**  
**June 3, 2008**