



MEDIA RELEASE

25 June 2009

## Plan Beyond 2012 says former Premier Kennett

Victoria's clubs and hotels must plan at least 5 years beyond the 2012 gaming industry restructure to 2017, according to former Premier Jeff Kennett.

During an inspiring address at the Victorian Gaming Machine Briefing yesterday, Mr Kennett said that the introduction of the new structure in 2012 would "only get you to the farm gate – you've got to open those gates, open the paddock and plan for what comes next".

The event was hosted by the Gaming Technologies Association (GTA) and operated alongside the Club and Hotels Expo and the Foodservice Infocus Expo at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

A range of influential presentations were enthusiastically received by an audience of more than 350 people. Along with Jeff Kennett's presentation, Ross Greenwood (Business and Finance Editor for Channel 9) reviewed the ABCs of the global economic crisis and its relevance to businesses such as clubs and hotels.

Clubs Victoria Executive Director Margaret Kearney reviewed information from the Gambling Licences Review and advised regularly checking the website [www.gamblinglicences.vic.gov.au](http://www.gamblinglicences.vic.gov.au).

Bill Brown (Special Counsel at Lander & Rogers Lawyers) presented a legal perspective and said that venues would experience a 'risk appetite test' in coming years, but that the restructure presents clubs and hotels with the opportunity to exert greater control over their businesses.

The Briefing sessions were supplemented by exhibition stands nearby, showcasing the latest gaming machine products and services from GTA members Ainsworth, Aristocrat, IGT, Konami and Stargames; whose top executives presented information sessions about their organisations.

The exhibition stands helped make the event a success, according to GTA Chief Executive Officer Ross Ferrar. "The people who design, develop, manufacture and supply gaming machines are better connected with Victoria's hoteliers and club executives after this event" he said. "Whilst GTA members have actively supported gaming in Victoria's hospitality industries since its inception, this improved connection with key decision makers will help ensure that the transition to the post-2012 structure is seamless and effective for all stakeholders."

For further information, please contact Ross Ferrar on 02 8216 0931 or visit [www.vgmb.com.au](http://www.vgmb.com.au).

