

## NSX Announcement

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### *Regional funding hubs to stimulate business development and jobs growth*

Paul Niederer, CEO of the Australian Small Scale Offerings Board (ASSOB) announced today the launching of a regional business development and jobs initiative. ASSOB is rolling out a network of regional funding hubs across Australia to help regional small to medium sized enterprises (SME's) raise capital to stimulate regional business development and jobs growth.

"This is an opportunity for key influencers in regional centres to contribute to their region's growth and job creation by putting up their hand to establish a local funding hub" Niederer said.

"A regional funding hub connects local businesses and entrepreneurs wishing to raise capital with a proven capital raising platform and process. ASSOB is Australia's best known funding portal and the longest running equity funding platform in the world.

ASSOB has raised over \$138 million for more than 300 SME's over the past few years, and was highlighted as a success in the World Bank's 2013 report on crowdfunding - Crowdfunding's Potential for the Developing World.

Niederer said "Since the GFC funding has been a high priority for many SME's, and the regional funding hubs and ASSOB's capital raising platform will assist businesses in structuring themselves to be attractive to investors.

Regional funding hubs will work with local government and local communities to locate businesses in need of capital, and will focus attention on the importance of funders, including banks, to support local businesses. This will add another layer of client access on top of our existing network of accredited ASSOB sponsors.

Niederer said ASSOB's regional funding hub initiative would allow local people to invest in their own community and that traditional financing transactions were declining in favour of businesses being mentored through regional organisations such as chambers of commerce, incubators, accelerators, innovation centres, regional



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development boards, local government departments of economic development and the like.

“Businesses trust their local business support organisations and often equity funding comes from contacts at a local level,” Niederer said.

Niederer said that SME’s seeking capital through their regional funding hub will also have access to ASSOB’s increasing international connections.

“Last month our American partner [Offerboard.com](https://offerboard.com) was launched at TechCrunch Disrupt in New York, one of the US’s most highly anticipated technology conference attended by top CEOs and investors.

Offerboard already has US\$250 million of offers on the platform pitched at sophisticated and professional investors. ASSOB’s partnership with Offerboard means that good opportunities for investment will also be able to seek international investors,” said Niederer.

Ends.

## About ASSOB

The Australian Small Scale Offerings Board (ASSOB) is Australia's largest and most successful business introduction and matching platform for showcasing investment opportunities in high growth, unlisted Australian companies.

A wide range of businesses, from seed and start-up stage, to award-winning and government granted companies, as well as more established growth and expanding companies, have joined ASSOB seeking access to growth capital and a convenient forum to connect with stakeholders.

ASSOB combines peer-to-peer investment (or 'social' investment) with a venture capital approach, enabling entrepreneurs and early-stage organisations to accelerate company development and to efficiently connect with Funders. [www.assob.com.au](https://www.assob.com.au)

## About OfferBoard



OfferBoard is an American-based technology-enabled private placement platform for equity offerings that leverages the experience and expertise of the Australian Small Scale Offerings Board (ASSOB).

OfferBoard works with emerging growth companies seeking \$2 - 25 million in equity capital from accredited investors, and operates under Title II of the JOBS Act of 2012.

The Platform technology that underlies the OfferBoard business functionality incorporates, in part, software and technology licensed from ASSOB.

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