EXPERIENCE THAT COUNTS

EMDG Newsletter - Two in January - What's up?

EMDG for 2021

These applications are still possible to lodge up to February 28th.

We have most of the remaining applications we intend to lodge under control, it has been a bit hard to get back into the groove, post-holiday break and current Covid implications, etc, etc.

If we have asked for information to be sent into us, please provide it asap.

Austrade has not been processing 2021 applications with any real vigour – focusing on 2022 matters instead, we think it will not be until March before the money will start to flow.

EMDG numbers will be down for 2021, not up as for 2022, so the last year of the reimbursement model will be going out with a whimper not a bang.

EMDG for 2022 and beyond

As mentioned in our last newsletter, EMDG for 2022 is simply a case of maybe good in theory, but terrible in practice.

We have now written directly to the Trade Minister. Our letter is as per this link.

On a positive note, 98.93% of our lodged applications have been accepted as complete. Over 54% have progressed to the grant offer stage. The rest are in

progress.

Grant offers will be out in the coming weeks. At that stage you can decide to accept or reject given the low effective payout.

EMDG client survey

Many of you have been asked to complete a survey about the current EMDG lodgement process.

Most of the questions are a bit self-serving and you may not be able to answer as you outsourced the lodgement process to us. They do ask several questions of your fee relationship with us as your lodging agent. I am not sure the purpose of these, as they could have asked me directly and I would have told them.

I think the best part of the survey is the last question where you can make general comments.

Please use this part to express your views that the underfunding of EMDG and the reduction in the maximum payments across the Tiers so the maximum grant is only \$35,000 is a great disappointment to you.

In fact, you can use any adjective you like - terrible, underfunding, waste of time and effort are some that come to mind. Go for it, why not!

EMDG for 2023 and beyond

The next round of EMDG applications is still to be announced. We think it will be in March or April.

We'll be ready when the gates open, not a problem.

Stuart and team.