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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE PREMIER, MR DUNSTAN.SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CRAFT AUTHORITY

17.10.73

The State Government has established a South Australian Craft Authority to encourage craft industries and wider markets for their products, the Premier (Mr Dunstan) announced tonight.

This was the major recommendation of the report of the Government appointed Design and Craft Board Industry Committee published last June.

Chairman of the new Authority is Dr Earle Hackett, chairman of the Art Gallery Board, Deputy Director of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science and well-known author.

Other members are:

Mr B. Guerin	Reporter, Advertiser Newspapers
Mr E.C. Hall	Designer, Senior Lecturer, Torrens College of Advanced Education
Mr R. Llewellyn	Art Gallery Director
Mr R J Richards	Curator of Historical Section & Applied Arts, Art Gallery. Member, Crafts Board (Commonwealth), craftsman.
Mr R.P. Searcy	Chartered Accountant.
Mrs M.D. Thomas	President, Federal Crafts Council

The Authority will provide workshop advisory services, technical, design and business information, operate a loan fund to assist craftsmen and allocate grant money to stimulate production quality and volume, expand markets, promote South Australia's craft output and work with State and Federal Government authorities.

"The task of the Authority is an important one and is reflected in the very high calibre - skills of the people who have consented to serve on it", the Premier said.

"South Australia has a number of fine and talented craftsmen and designers but so far industry here has not taken full advantage of their work.

"The Authority will be able to encourage and promote better contacts and to foster closer relationships between craftsmen - manufacturers and government.

"This has been a key ingredient in the success of the Scandinavian craft and design industries and their worldwide reputation.

"The Authority will encourage craft industries here in a way which is done in no other State.

"Its direct encouragement, financial and investment in this industry will mean that South Australia can win new markets and greatly enhance its reputation for excellency", the Premier said.