



FarmCentral Press Release

Countryman

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Hook up on the Internet

A new website to link farmers with contractors across the grains, transport and earthworks industries was launched last month.

Farm Central developer Kelvin Bella said the website provided an easy cost-efficient way for farmers and contractors throughout Australia to find each other without the need for costly advertising or time consuming phone calls.

“Once your details are entered, the system will search automatically and will continue to update you daily by email or SMS,” he said.

Farmers register their location, area and crop size to be harvested and starting date. This also applies for earthworks and transport requirements and can be used for other types of contracting such as hay carting, baling or grain carting.

Contractors will register and provide their equipment details, and availability. The system automatically searches and updates both parties daily with appropriate matches, using email or SMS, depending on the users preferences.

Mr Bella said the idea for FarmCentral as a one-stop shop to link farmers and contractors arose when a lot of trucks left the industry in Queensland to go mining - a situation repeated in other rural communities across the country.

The website gives farmers, harvesters, truck drivers and earthworks contractors the ability to plan work months in advance, but can also be used at the last minute.

“In cases when work or a contractor falls through, you can go straight to the website and minimize costly delay,” Mr Bella said.

“If a contractor is in a certain area and it rains, then they can search for work on another property while crops are drying out. Rather than travel hundreds of kilometers away for other work, they may find a farmer looking for contractors within the same district.

Participation can be at least at four levels of membership, depending on the number of services to which access is required. Each category will provide access to the full range of services including harvesting, haulage, spraying, dry hire, baling earthworks and transport. Information can be found at www.farmcentral.com.au