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PRIME MINISTER

CANBERRA

MESSAGE FOR THE BICENTENNIAL PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK 1988

I welcome the opportunity to provide a message for Professional Engineers' Week.

My Government has placed much emphasis on the need for Australian manufacturing industry to become more internationally competitive. The development of policies designed to promote this international competitiveness has brought with it an awareness of the crucial part to be played by the engineering profession in this process.

Along with this awareness of the role to be played by the engineering profession has come an acceptance that being an engineer entails much more than was previously expected. In the modern international economy it is no longer sufficient to design and build a product. Engineering firms have to know how to market their products and skills. They must have the willingness to meet increasingly stringent client requirements and the flexibility to keep shead of a rapidly changing technical and competitive environment.

In this Bicentennial Year, it is appropriate for all Australians to acknowledge the contribution of engineers, past and present, to the development of this country. I believe their future role to be even more important.

R J L Hawke

