## Men's Shed receives generous donation

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GENEROUS DONATION: Four businesses have shown their support to the Katherine Men's Shed through a generous donation of tools. Pictured: Owen Gay from Totalweld, D&H Agencies business development manager Shelly Holland and Emily Bennett from Totalweld.

The Katherine Men's Shed is gaining recognition and has just received a generous donation from a multinational company.

On behalf of D&H Agencies along with Saint Gobain, Flexovit and Totalweld, \$3000 worth of cutting and grinding disks and a Makita Grinder have been provided to the cause.

D&H Agencies business development manager Shelly Holland said the <u>Katherine Men's Shed</u> was brought to her attention through an article in the *Katherine Times*.

A supporter of the Darwin Men's Shed branch, Ms Holland said the article was the driving force behind the donation.

"We get dozens and dozens of requests for donations from non-government organisations," Ms Holland said.

"As soon as I saw the article in the paper I called up to get the Men's Shed details to send enough cutting and grinding disks to last them a few years.

"I am extremely concerned with the suicide rates in the NT, and because we have significant Defence, mining and construction industries I personally feel there is a strong need for supporting industries and businesses to step up.

"Men are severely under represented in the workplace, our suicide rates are ridiculous and the Men's Shed is a great support for men in need.

Men's Sheds across Australia aim to improve the health and well being of members and reduce the risks of preventable health issues that may emanate from isolation.

"I am incredibly fortunate to live in Darwin and have spent time visiting the Men's Sheds in Palmerston and Darwin, I have read letters from Defence, the hospital and mental health [professionals] which tells of the incredible difference the Men's Sheds have made in people's lives," Ms Holland said.

"I challenge other businesses to donate products or services to the Men's Shed," she said.

The Katherine Men's Shed, to be located at the Rotary Club on Rapide Street, <u>is currently undergoing significant renovations</u>.