

Tilson announced investment in Bolton's D&R Electronics



Dufferin-Caledon MP David Tilson got a tour of D&R Electronics Co. Friday from Rinaldo and Alfredo Darolfi. Photo by Nick Fernandes

By Nick Fernandes

Dufferin-Caledon MP David Tilson showed his support for local businesses last week with a visit to D&R Electronics Co. in Bolton. Tilson used the occasion to announce the government's investment of \$50,000 via the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) run by the National Research Council.

Our government's Economic Action Plan 2013 focuses on the drivers of growth and job creation — innovation, investment, education, skills and communities, Tilson said.

The investment will be going toward D&R's development of a Light Emitting Diode (LED) warning light system for emergency vehicles. These lights, which will be among the first to be manufactured in Canada, will be developed, built, and installed into vehicles all in house at the company's headquarters in Bolton.

These new LED lights will last longer than the light bulbs often used in first responder trucks and cars, and due to the rotating pattern of the light system, they will eliminate the need for motors with complex moving parts. Ontario police, ambulance, and fire departments that buy from D&R will be able to bring their vehicles to the company HQ to have the systems installed. D&R will also ship its LED systems to the United States, Australia, and England, among other countries.

The company also designs advanced computer hardware for use in vehicles. A demo police car shown to Tilson during the tour was outfitted with a dashboard computer, control system for the LED lights and a trunk compartment set up with shelving units and the computer's hard drive. Computers are being used in emergency vehicles more and more frequently in recent years, giving police, firemen and paramedics faster access to information in time-sensitive situations and a wider range of utility.

D&R electronics is run by the father and son team of Rinaldo and Alfredo Darolfi, who are heavily involved in the electronic and mechanical engineering sectors of their production line. All levels of development and construction for its equipment will be handled in house, and will be bringing a wide range of employment opportunities from skilled labor to engineering jobs. D&R will be providing its services directly to police departments throughout the province, bringing more advanced and cost effective equipment to Ontario's first responders.