

TRI TECH - WILLIAMS RD - D'NONG STH
MOVED TO CARRUM DOWNS

ENGINE OIL MANUFACTURING

BACK IN ACTION AFTER FIRE IN 19/5/2011

MOVING TO NEW HOME. LARGER PROPERTY

AT CARRUM DOWNS.

10 GREATER DANDENONG WEEKLY JUNE 13, 2011 P.

Company rises from the ashes

BY SARAH O'CONNOR

TRITECH Lubricants is back in action after its Dandenong South factory was destroyed in a huge blaze on May 19.

TriTech's 10 staff members were back working in a temporary Carrum Downs factory on June 1 — less than two weeks after the fire.

Jon May, whose mother Debra and stepfather Perry McCowatt own TriTech, said the engine oil manufacturer was operating at a 10 per cent capacity last week.

He said production would increase further when the company moved to a permanent home, also in Carrum Downs.

"We hope to be back up to 100 per cent by the end of the year," he said.

"We've bought a couple of tanks and we're having a few more made.

"We're slowly building up the infrastructure again."

CFA volunteers said the fire that destroyed the previous TriTech factory in Williams Road, Dandenong South, was one of the most difficult they had fought.

It took 130 firefighters eight hours to control.

Mr May said everyone at TriTech was still in shock about losing the Dandenong South factory,



In action: TriTech staff are back working at a reduced capacity in a new factory.

Picture: Lucy Di Paolo

but the company was fortunate to have a strong customer and supplier base, as well as dedicated staff.

"At the moment we're working around the clock to filter some products out to our customers to keep them going," he said.

"It's hard going from a purpose-built place to

starting again. We're fortunate we've built such a good network over the eight years [of operation]."

A surprise 40th birthday party for a staff member two weeks ago lifted everyone's spirits.

"They're not just staff, they're our friends as well," Mr May said.