



MEDIA RELEASE

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Australia's top ICT Research Organisations collaborate on ICT Outlook Forum 2006

Australia's leading publicly funded information and communications technology (ICT) research organisations, National ICT Australia (NICTA), CSIRO and the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) are working together to stage ICT Outlook Forum 2006. This year's event, to be held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Wednesday 18 October, will provide a showcase of ICT innovation along with opportunities for interaction between government, industry and publicly funded research organisations on important issues in ICT research and development.

The focus for the 2006 event is "Investing in research for your success". The program concentrates on opportunities to build on Australian strengths in key ICT research areas such as advanced networks, smart transport, e-health, wireless communication, sensors and information networks, trusted systems, smart agribusiness and adaptive software development.

Delegates will hear from leading researchers in these fields and will have opportunities to explore potential research partnerships and commercialisation opportunities.

In addition NICTA, CSIRO and DSTO will be demonstrating innovative ICT technologies in an accompanying exhibition, including their collaborative project in human-machine interaction, named *Braccetto*.

The forum, an initiative by the ICT Roundtable, was established to encourage greater awareness of the potential for collaboration and coordination of Australia's ICT research agenda and to provide industry and government delegates with direct access to Australia's leading innovators in ICT.

"In previous years we have concentrated on attracting international speakers. This year we are focusing on research topics from some of Australia's best ICT research minds to inform industry on relevant ICT research for Australia's success", said Committee Chair and Director of Research for NICTA in Queensland, Dr Chris Scott.

"Australia's publicly funded ICT research organisations have a collaborative approach to research which is illustrated through shared research projects such as *Braccetto* and initiatives such as ICT Outlook Forum."



The keynote speaker for this year's event is Australia's recently appointed Chief Scientist, Dr Jim Peacock who will present his vision for innovation in ICT in Australia.

Both the forum and the exhibition will provide a platform for a Panel Session, chaired by Mr Thomas Barlow, in which senior leaders from the hosting bodies will discuss the topic, "Does Australia Need a Nokia?"

"The continued involvement of the ICT Outlook Forum core partners in what is Australia's leading research ICT event demonstrates the willingness of our organisations to work together and share ideas to reach a common goal, which is growing industry engagement in Australia while establishing Australia as a global force in our ICT areas of strength", said Dr Chris Scott, Chair ICT Outlook Committee.

This year, ICT Outlook Forum will be followed by the AEEMA Excellence Awards Dinner. These two flagship events are being held on the same day for the first time, offering delegates an unprecedented opportunity to see and hear about the finest in Australian ICT innovation.

For further information please visit www.ictoutlookforum.com.au

For more information on the AEEMA Excellence Awards dinner visit <http://www.aeema.asn.au/Default.aspx?ArticleID=628>

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