

Media Release
22 November 2005

NICTA and UNSW: nurturing research intellect and imagination
Making great Australian ideas real

Minister for Education, Science and Training, the **Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP**, today opened a state-of-the-art laboratory in New South Wales, dedicated to research and development in information and communications technology (ICT). Located opposite the University of New South Wales (UNSW), National ICT Australia's (NICTA) Kensington laboratory provided a first-time look at some of the pioneering ICT projects underway at the facility.

The *Neville Roach Laboratory* is an important addition to NICTA's national research facilities, and plays a key part in the Federal government's drive to build ICT skills and to gain measurable national benefit from science and engineering innovation.

NICTA encourages ground-breaking research to keep Australia at the forefront of global research and development.

One of the sources of inspiration for NICTA's research comes from taking a fresh look at the current and future needs of society. At the Official Opening today NICTA demonstrated its *Intelligent Video Analysis (IVA)* research, a project focused on overcoming the limitations of traditional surveillance systems, presenting important research progress on future technologies that can deliver a safer Australia.

NICTA's *Intelligent Video Analysis (IVA)* system automatically raises an alert when it detects a potentially harmful event, and controls replay of the event from an electronic database so a human operator can gauge and respond appropriately to the situation. Any 'unusual' event is automatically tagged with labels classifying what aspect is being noted as abnormal.

Other projects on show today included mContext™. This exciting research breaks through conventional boundaries of information and communications technology by enabling users to access content (graphics, video, sound or text) from anywhere, no matter where it is stored (Internet, work or home computers), and in a format tailored to the capabilities of any mobile device.

mContext offers businesses new market opportunities, making it possible to build additional products or services in an efficient way. NICTA is collaborating with local technology companies,



including TOWER Software, to commercialise its mContext technology. TOWER Software is a leader in enterprise content management (ECM) and delivers electronic document and records management (EDRM) solutions around the world.

About NICTA

National ICT Australia (NICTA) is a national laboratory with a charter to build Australia's pre-eminent Centre of Excellence for information and communications technology (ICT). NICTA is building capabilities in ICT research, research training, and commercialisation in the ICT sector for the generation of national benefit.

NICTA is funded by the Australian Government's Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and the Australian Research Council through *Backing Australia's Ability* and the ICT Centre of Excellence program.

NICTA was established and is supported by its members: The Australian Capital Territory Government; The Australian National University; NSW Department of State and Regional Development; and The University of New South Wales. NICTA is also supported by its partners: the University of Sydney; University of Melbourne; the Victorian Government; the Queensland Government; Griffith University; Queensland University of Technology; and Queensland University.

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The imagination driving Australia's ICT future