



Media Release

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NICTA empowers start-up company Cohesive Data with advanced mobile device software

NICTA has entered into a technology transfer agreement to provide its advanced optimisation and search software to Cohesive Data, a start-up company established specifically to develop and commercialise products based on the core NICTA technology. Cohesive Data has been founded by entrepreneurs/investors Tim Sullivan, Todd Viegut and Peter Vroom. They are joined in the venture by Dr Raymond Wong, who led the NICTA project team that developed the software.

The core NICTA technology, which focuses on the efficient delivery of dynamic information to small mobile devices, keeps data as up-to-date as the last network connection. This means users can view websites and access email and other information on their mobile devices, even when out of network range.

Products containing the NICTA IP will be marketed initially to US mobile carriers to help them provide more seamless information delivery to their customers. "We are very excited to take the NICTA technology to the US and world markets," said Tim Sullivan, Executive Chairman of Cohesive Data. "We feel this is a great fit within the carriers' needs for delivering large volumes of information to an ever-growing mobile market."

The four-person NICTA technical team, headed by Dr Wong, will join Cohesive and will be based at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney. "We are really looking forward to bringing this technology to market," said Dr Wong. "NICTA has provided a wonderful development environment for us over the last few years and now we are thrilled to be moving forward as part of Cohesive. I am excited to be working with Tim, Todd, and Peter, who have all been down the technology commercialisation road before and have helped shape our path to market in the months it has taken to get the spin-out off the ground."

Cohesive has been boosted by early seed funding from NICTA. In exchange for providing software and IP, NICTA has taken an equity position in Cohesive as part of a structured licensing arrangement.

Dr David Skellern, Chief Executive Officer of NICTA, congratulated the team: "Raymond has done a fantastic job as a NICTA researcher and project leader over the years. I am sure his tenacity, intelligence and passion for research will translate brilliantly to his new role as Chief Technology Officer at Cohesive. His achievement demonstrates what NICTA is all about – carrying out breakthrough research and taking it to market to solve real-world problems."

Dr Wong is also an Associate Professor at the University of New South Wales, who has been contributed to NICTA while leading the team. The NICTA technology was refined through a number of trials and won the CeBIT.AU Early Innovators Award in 2007. Since its foundation in 2002, NICTA has spun out four companies: Audinate, 7-ip, Monitoring Division and Open Kernel Labs.

About NICTA

National ICT Australia Ltd (NICTA), Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, is developing technologies which will meet the current and future needs of the community in fields which will lead to large economic, social and environmental benefits for Australia. NICTA has five laboratories around the country. Since NICTA was founded in 2002, it has created four new companies, developed a substantial technology portfolio of patent applications and continues to supply new talent to the ICT industry through the NICTA-enhanced PhD program.

NICTA is funded by the Australian Government as represented by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy and the Australian Research Council through the ICT Centre of Excellence program. In addition to federal funding NICTA is also funded and supported by the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland and Victorian Governments, The Australian National University, Griffith University, University of Melbourne, University of New South Wales, University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology and The University of Sydney.

About Cohesive Data Inc.

Cohesive provides solutions for increasing content accessibility within constrained environments. Using unique and patented XML optimisation, Cohesive provides continuous and cohesive access to web delivered content whether online or offline, a persistent delivery of information to roaming platforms without user experience degradation and eliminating momentary disruptions in service delivery of information.

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