



**Media Release
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NICTA spin-out Open Kernel Labs attracts US\$7.6m venture funding

NICTA, Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, is pleased to announce that one of its spin-out companies, Open Kernel Labs (OK Labs), has secured a further US\$7.6 million in venture funding.

The investment, from venture capital firms Chrysalis Ventures and Neo Technology Ventures, and also from enterprise application delivery company Citrix Systems, cements the company's status as one of the world's leading suppliers of embedded virtualisation software for mobile phones and broadband consumer-electronics devices.

"The team at OK Labs has worked very hard to achieve this result," said OK Labs co-founder and Chief Technology Officer Dr Gernot Heiser. "This is a great endorsement of the OK team and the research that came out of NICTA. The strategic alliance with Citrix will help our technology to achieve its full potential, which goes well beyond virtualisation."

The company's embedded hypervisor, OKL4, is already deployed in 250 million handsets and other mobile or embedded devices worldwide.

"It is gratifying and inspiring to witness OK Labs' continuing success," said NICTA's Chief Executive Officer Dr David Skellern. "The company's ability to attract this level of venture funding in the prevailing economic climate is particularly impressive."

Chrysalis Ventures led the round. Neo Technology Ventures increased its existing stake in OK Labs and Citrix Systems also made an investment. "With this investment, OK Labs is positioned to amplify our unique position as the only embedded virtualisation solution shipping on handsets today, solidifying its position as a key supplier to the supply chain driving the wireless ecosystem," said OK Labs Chief Executive Officer Steve Subar.

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. It 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's partners include: the University of Sydney; University of Melbourne; the Victorian Government; the Queensland Government; Griffith University; Queensland University of Technology; and The University of Queensland.

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