



Media Release
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NICTA wins \$1.01m to build advanced surveillance system for national security

NICTA, Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, has secured one million dollars in Commonwealth Government funding to develop an advanced video surveillance demonstrator for the Port of Brisbane.

Awarded under the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Research Support for National Security Program, the \$1.01 million grant will be delivered in four tranches over the term of the project, with an expected completion date of 31 December 2011.

"This new funding will help us build an advanced video surveillance system at the Port of Brisbane which could then be replicated in other settings where the protection and safety of people and critical infrastructure is important," said Professor Brian Lovell, NICTA's Advanced Surveillance Project Leader.

The new system, being developed at NICTA's Queensland Research Laboratory, will combine NICTA technologies with commercially available, off-the-shelf surveillance tools. NICTA's contribution will include software that recognises individual faces from live video feeds and then matches them to a database, along with technology that improves the clarity of video footage taken in poor conditions, where images may be obscured by rain, dust or fog. The demonstrator will be further enhanced by NICTA's sensor network research which will link all of these capabilities, creating a robust, superior system.

"I would like to thank the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for supporting our development of this adaptable, integrated security and operations management technology," said Professor Terry Caelli, Director of NICTA's Queensland Research Laboratory, "We plan to use the funding to develop a world-leading blueprint that will help ports, combat agencies and commercial security companies to secure their personnel and assets."

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.

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