

Media Release

Date: 10 June 2003

Inaugural Director of Business Development Appointed

Dr Mel Slater, CEO and President of National ICT Australia (NICTA) is today proud to announce the appointment of Mr Ric Clark as the Centre's inaugural Director of Business Development.

Mr Clark will manage NICTA's commercialisation and intellectual property activities and lead the Centre's industry development portfolio. His appointment commences on 1 July, 2003.

One of NICTA's key missions is to fund, create, and commercialise intellectual property. This enables the benefits of the Centre's research to flow to the Australian community; act as a catalyst to encourage staff as well as industry and other research institutions to undertake ICT commercialisation; increase Australia's economic standing; and derive income for the centre.

Mr Clark will also continue NICTA's efforts to build strong networks with the Australian ICT industry and the research community.

Mr Clark joins NICTA from Ericsson where he is concluding his role as Managing Director of its Research and Development company, Ericsson AsiaPacificLab Australia.

Mr Clark is an active contributor to university syllabus and industry development and has been involved in various advisory groups with State and Federal Government including the Victorian Comtechport Technical Users Group, Chipskills, the Victorian State Government ICT Advisory Group, the Federal Electronic Action Agenda Committee and Framework For ICT Future Steering Group. He is also currently on the Board of Ericsson ATM Access.

Dr Mel Slater said, "We are tremendously excited by this appointment. Mr Clark will bring to NICTA a wealth of commercial R&D experience, a broad industry and research institute network and a track record of commitment to Australian R&D, innovation and business development".

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Clark said, "I am thrilled to be able to work with what will become the best of Australian ICT research and with the local industry to better harvest it. As an advocate of the original "Centre of Excellence" proposal I am acutely aware of the importance of NICTA's mission and excited at being able to take a hands on role to help achieve it".

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For more information, please contact Peter Russell, NICTA's Communications Manager on 02 92094743 or 0438 755 115.