

SKA news for Australian Industry: 12 February 2009

1. Presentations from Industry Briefing Sessions "ASKAP Infrastructure Plans & Opportunities" – Tuesday 3rd February (Sydney) & Friday 6th February (Perth)

Thank you to all those who came along to either of the briefings last week: we were pleased to see you and share our enthusiasm for the project!

The presentations from the infrastructure briefings are now available on the ASKAP website at

<http://www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/askap/briefing.html>

Future briefings will be announced via this list as usual.

2. Updates to the Australian SKA Pathfinder Industry Opportunities Register

Please note that the latest update is now V2.1. This, with a summary of recent updates, can be found at

<http://www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/askap/industry.html>

3. ASKAP development of prototype "Single Digital Backend" system – EOI now open

We are pleased announce that our call for Expressions of Interest to Collaborate to develop a Single Digital Backend is now open on AusTender. A full documentation pack can be obtained from

<https://www.tenders.gov.au/?event=public.atm.show&ATMUUID=6258E49C-C39B-ABA8-A9554A43CC9924B4>

For future reference the EOI has ATM ID number "CSIRO EOI 2009-002".

Please direct all queries regarding the EOI to the email address shown on the above web page.

4. Appointment of Professor Brian Boyle as CSIRO SKA Director

We are pleased to report that Senator Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research announced the appointment of Professor Brian Boyle to the role of CSIRO Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Director. For the past 5 years, Professor Boyle has been the Director of the Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF) and has played a central role in the SKA project and Australia's bid. The new position of CSIRO SKA Director enables Professor Boyle to take on a strategic international role and further Australia's SKA engagement. Professor Boyle assumed his new CSIRO role from 9 February 2009.

The full announcement can be found at

[http://minister.innovation.gov.au/Carr/Pages/NEWPOSTSTRENGTHENSBIDTOHOST\\$2BRADIO TELESCOPE.aspx](http://minister.innovation.gov.au/Carr/Pages/NEWPOSTSTRENGTHENSBIDTOHOST$2BRADIO TELESCOPE.aspx)

5. Power solutions for ASKAP/SKA

Many people have been asking about progress with a longer term, sustainable power solution for ASKAP, and potentially the SKA. CSIRO ATNF, in conjunction with our colleagues at CSIRO's Energy Technology Division, power industry representatives, and Government stakeholders, has been investigating a range of technologies that might offer a practical and cost-effective solution. At this time, it appears that solar power generation (thermal or photo-

voltaic), together with some form of storage and back-up system, is likely to offer a workable arrangement, and we will be continuing to investigate and monitor advances in this area during ASKAP's development. Announced this week is the launch of the Australian Solar Institute (ASI) based in Newcastle, and we look forward to hearing about the technologies and focus of the research the ASI will support from their initial \$100 million funding.