

Dear SKA friends & colleagues

Please find below the latest industry-relevant news on SKA activities within Australia.

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the inaugural SKA industry cluster event on 5 December 2005 (item 2) and do hope that you will be able to attend.

Kind regards,  
Carole

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## **SKA news for Australian industry: 4 October 2005**

### **1. Australian SKA Industry cluster mapping project**

Following the endorsement by the Australian Electronics Industry Action Agenda Implementation group an "SKA cluster mapping project" has been set up to determine capability, gaps and strategic goals within Australian-based electronics and ICT industry. The initial mapping project is expected to foster the development of industry-led SKA R&D projects, offering global exposure to potential new astronomy markets, as well as the exploitation of SKA technologies beyond radio astronomy.

An initial 'core' consortium comprising AEEMA, CSIRO, Boeing Australia Ltd, BAE SYSTEMS Australia, Cisco Systems, Global Innovation Centre Pty Ltd, Raytheon Australia Pty Ltd, RLM Management Pty Ltd, Tenix Pty Ltd, RF Technologies Aust Pty Ltd and Radio Frequency Systems Pty Ltd has been identified with all partners expressing strong support for the aims of the cluster mapping project. This core consortium, via the facilitator, Mr John Humphreys of GIC Pty Ltd, has submitted an application for funding to AusIndustry's "Industry Cooperative Innovation Program" (ICIP).

We thank these core members as the sponsors of the up-coming cluster activities.

### **2. Inaugural Cluster event: 'The SKA Industry Cluster Initiative – Australian Industry Capabilities & Project Opportunities'**

Please see attached invite: this will be held at CSIRO ATNF HQ on Monday 5 December 2005. The event is open to all interested parties, but as numbers are limited, registration is required.

### **3. Antennas design for the xNTD**

Following the successful Antennas workshop on 15 September at CSIRO ATNF, copies of the presentations and other useful information on the xNTD antenna requirements are now available at [http://www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/ska/industry\\_2/pw-antennas.html](http://www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/ska/industry_2/pw-antennas.html)

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Carole Jackson, Colin (xNTD Project Leader – [Colin.Jacka@csiro.au](mailto:Colin.Jacka@csiro.au)) and/or Mike Kesteven (xNTD Antenna development leader – [Michael.Kesteven@csiro.au](mailto:Michael.Kesteven@csiro.au)).

We hope you are enthused to prepare an initial expression of interest in proceeding with this project.

### **4. Australian SKA Planning Office (ASPO)**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ASPO newsletter is now available – please download from

[www.atnf.csiro.au/news/press/ASPOnewsletter2.pdf](http://www.atnf.csiro.au/news/press/ASPOnewsletter2.pdf)

It contains updates on NTD, SKAMP, New Zealand, industry collaboration and Western Australian activities. Please feel free to distribute copies to colleagues who you think may be interested in Australian SKA developments.

### **5. WARS – bi-annual Workshop on the Applications of Radio Science**

WARS is forum organized by the National Committee for Radio Science, for the presentation of current work in radio science, focusing on Australia (but not limited to), and for discussion to promote new work.

You are cordially invited to the next WARS in Leura, NSW, 15-17 February 2006. More information can be found at <http://www.ips.gov.au/IPSHosted/NCRS/wars.html>

Whilst the program isn't yet finalized, there is likely to be a session on both SKA R&D and Australian space related activities. The proceedings of the last meeting are a good guide of the breadth of the workshop. This is an opportunity to talk with a wide variety of practicing radio scientists in an informal environment.

For more information/registration contact Dr Phil Wilkinson, [phil@ips.gov.au](mailto:phil@ips.gov.au) Deputy Director IPS Radio and Space Services and WARS convener.

## **6. IAU (International Astronomical Union) General Assembly, Prague 14-25 August 2006.**

This is the largest meeting of the astronomical community, held every 3 years: the last one was in Sydney, enormously successful, attracting >2000 participants from Observatories world-wide and hosting an Astronomy Industry Day.

There are a number of opportunities for sponsorship and exhibitions for the meeting in Prague: We are seeking partners for the Australian SKA exhibition stands. If you are interested in participating or partnering/sponsoring the Australian SKA stand(s) please contact Carole Jackson for more information.

IAU GA website: [www.astronomy2006.com](http://www.astronomy2006.com)

*You are receiving this email as you have previously expressed interest in industry-related SKA news and updates. If you wish to be removed from subsequent mailings please let me know.*

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