

Dear SKA friends & colleagues

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

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SKA news for Australian industry: 30 March 2006

1. WA Cluster events: 'The SKA Industry Cluster Initiative – Australian Industry Capabilities & Project Opportunities - the WA Perspective'

Thanks to all those who participated in either (or both!) of the very successful and stimulating events held in Geraldton & Perth.

The next briefing will be in mid-May in Brisbane: Details will follow over the next few weeks. For your diary: further briefings are tentatively scheduled for early August (Adelaide) and September (Melbourne or Canberra). We are working on including a short 'RF CMOS design' workshop session and any early expressions of interest in this would be welcome (to me, please).

2. xNTD Antenna project progress & draft specification

The draft specification and timeline for development for the xNTD antennas can be found at www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/ska/industry_2.html/
We have commissioned 3 'cost-feasibility' studies for the xNTD antennas, these are in progress. We anticipate publishing the results prior to any Tender request.

3. Australian SKA Planning office – Newsletter updates

Newsletter #4 (January 2006) is available for download from www.atnf.csiro.au/news/aspo-newsletter/ASPOnewsletter4.pdf
This issue includes update on the Australian Site Proposal submitted in December 2005, NTD, SKAMP and New Zealand.
Please feel free to distribute copies to colleagues who you think may be interested in Australian SKA developments.
Newsletter #5 will be available in the next few days.

4. A Radio Astronomy Park for Western Australia

On 10 March 2006 Francis Logan's office announced the establishment of the "Radio Astronomy Park" at Mileura: see www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/media/media.nsf/news/B1342CAF267FBE2C4825712D003140A2?opendocument

5. Briefings on AusIndustry "ICIP" funding

AusIndustry has announced a new round of funding under the Industry Cooperative Innovation Program (ICIP). Information sessions will be held to give background into the scheme during the first half of April.

See: <http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/content/level3index.cfm?ObjectID=91F9C943-E61A-4075-BB6CE9989586B143&L2Parent=AEB901E5-7CB8-4143-A3BF33B2423F9DA6>

We are developing an application related to xNTD R&D and will be in contact on this issue again soon.

6. Presentations given at "US Technology Day" 14 March 2006

Presentations from a recent "technology day" held at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (VLA operations), New Mexico can be found at http://www.skatelescope.org/US_SKA_Technology_Day06/index.htm
These include updates on the eVLA, NASA DSN, ATA and low frequency astronomy arrays, as well as SKA-related technologies.

7. Australian SKA Cluster mapping project – short information brochure

A short overview of the project is now available as an A5 handout: copies can be freely downloaded from

www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/ska/industry_2.html/

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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