

CSIRO provides industry specialist for \$2 billion telescope project

Business Strategist for CSIRO's Australia Telescope National Facility, Phil Crosby, has been selected to join the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Program Development Office (SPDO) located at Manchester University, UK. Phil will take on the role of **Manager – Industry Participation Strategy** as an embedded specialist for at least two years.

The SKA is under development as a next-generation radio astronomy facility for the global astronomy community and is a partnership of over fifty institutes in nineteen countries. SPDO's role was formalised in 2007 to focus international efforts in the project and, in particular, to develop the science case, engineering system design, site proposal process, deployment plan, and a global industry engagement approach. SPDO's key outputs are; a costed design for the SKA, and completed site characterization studies in both Southern Africa and Australia.

In his new role, Phil will be drawing on a solid background in aerospace industry engagement, technical auditing, and project management, gained through careers with Boeing Australia and NATA prior to joining CSIRO. His duties in Manchester will include support for procurement and industry participation planning, sourcing and validation of global capability, and creation of policies for intellectual property management and industry engagement.

Phil is likely to be a regular visitor to both Sydney and Cape Town, and also Rome where the group leader of PrepSKA Work Package 5 (procurement & industry participation) is located. Whilst in the UK, Phil hopes to complete research for his PhD topic on improving success in mega-science projects.

Phil and his wife, Jenni, expect to arrive in the UK mid-April and are looking forward to a 'Euro' lifestyle for a while, although they are packing their raincoats – just in case.

