



Media Release

Hon. Arch Bevis MP
Federal Member for Brisbane

NEW CENTRE TO BOOST SMARTER QUEENSLAND ECONOMY

Federal Member for Brisbane Arch Bevis today launched the Brisbane node of the \$120 million Smart Services Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) on behalf of the Australian Government.

Speaking at the Queensland University of Technology Gardens Point Campus, Mr Bevis said that the Smart Services CRC reflects the importance of services to Australia's economy and society.

"This centre demonstrates the benefits that can be achieved through government, business and researchers working together under the CRC banner," Mr Bevis said.

"Services are our economic oxygen – they are regarded as the largest contributor to Australia's industry value added, they employ the majority of Australian workers and they are a growing contributor to exports.

"Realising their enormous potential is vital to the wellbeing of not just Queensland, but the nation," he said.

The Smart Services CRC will foster innovation and identify ways to enhance the efficiency of the services sector and its contribution to our economy and society.

The CRC will deliver high value digital services over internet and mobile platforms for finance, health, media, social and government clients.

The Queensland University of Technology is the largest academic contributor to the CRC and will be home to the Services Innovation Foundry.

The fast prototyping to be undertaken in the Foundry will be a significant innovation in improving the engineering, testing and adoption of CRC products by its partners.

The Australian Government has committed \$30.8 million to the Smart Services CRC. When combined with support from the private sector the total resources available to the CRC will be \$120 million.

The Queensland partners are contributing \$38 million which represents over 40 per cent of the partner investment by industry, academia and state governments in the CRC.

Queensland CRC partners include the Queensland University of Technology, SAP, Suncorp, the Queensland State Government and the RACQ.

"Queensland brings significant skills and expertise and investment not only to the Smart Services CRC but to Australia's innovation system as a whole," Mr Bevis said.

"In recent years the service sector has been a major contributor to Queensland's economic growth, earning Queensland the reputation of the 'smart state'. This facility will further strengthen these smart state credentials," he said.

For further information about the CRC please visit: www.smartservicescrc.com.au

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