

MEDIA RELEASE

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Innovation technologies funding a welcome boost for Queensland

Australia's peak industry representative body for innovative technology, the Australian Information Industry Association ([AIIA](#)), welcomes the \$142 million [Advance Queensland – Innovation for a Future Economy 2022-2032 roadmap](#) announced by the Palaszczuk Government.

The funding will support Advance Queensland programs, Queensland Innovation Precincts, Innovation Action Plan and funding supporting industry-science centres of excellence and partnerships, accelerating university commercialisation through the Department of Environment and Science.

With the University of Queensland finding that 80,000 new jobs can be created in the next decade, along with a \$11 billion-a-year boost to the economy, the funding to boost innovation hubs offers significant potential for Queensland.

AIIA CEO, Ron Gauci, said: "The AIIA is pleased that the Queensland Government realises the potential of a digital led strategy in strengthening its economy through this investment. The funding announcement by the Queensland Government is encouraging for Queensland's innovative technologies sector. This is a sector that will generate significant growth for the economy for years to come. South East Queensland is seeing notable expansion in the innovation and ICT sectors, showing the high demand for these services and the skills to deliver them.

"Seeing the investment flow into the sector is most important. From supporting commercialisation to growing the skills of Queenslanders, it is vital the funding makes its way to support developing technologies. Support of commercialisation will ensure brilliant Australian innovations remain Australian, creating jobs and ensuring Australia retains the economic benefits for years to come.

"There is incredible demand for skilled workers across the ICT sector Australia-wide; our industry could easily be employing over 1.2M skilled workers today given the vacancies. We need to continue to work with governments to develop job-ready and relevant skills, from tailored microcredential courses to tertiary qualifications. This is a promising announcement for Queensland that we look forward to seeing the innovative technologies sector continue to grow and support other economic sectors." Mr Gauci said.

AIIA is a not-for-profit organisation aimed at supporting and advocating for Australia's future social and economic prosperity through technology innovation.

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About AIIA

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. Since 1978 AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favourable business environment for members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity. We do this by delivering outstanding member value by providing a strong voice of influence; building a sense of community through events and education; enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.