

Media Release
24 May 2007

The Australian Institute for Commercialisation and the Australian Nano Business Forum join forces to create big things out of nanotechnology.

The Australian Institute for Commercialisation (AIC) and the Australian Nano Business Forum (ANBF) recently joined forces through a partnership agreement to help raise industry awareness of the potential applications and capabilities of nanotechnology.

The AIC and ANBF will work together to provide practical information and education to businesses across industry sectors that could benefit from nanotechnology application in their business.

To complement this awareness raising, hands-on assistance and funding for commercialisation services can then be made available through the AIC's TechFast® program to help interested SMEs identify, assess and potentially adopt nanotechnologies and other relevant knowledge with the potential to improve products and processes.

AIC Chief Executive Officer, Dr Rowan Gilmore said that the agreement will benefit all types of different businesses, the nano-researcher community, as well as the growing number of nano-specialist companies in Australia.

"The AIC and ANBF will work together using specific mechanisms to find those businesses that will derive economic benefit from the adoption of micro and nanotechnologies," Dr Gilmore said.

"There are a significant number of Australian businesses that could benefit from nanotechnology. Together with the ANBF, the AIC's TechFast program will provide a practical solution to help industry better understand nano-applications relevant to them, and then facilitate and subsidise the adoption process," he said.

"In essence this agreement will enable the TechFast program to identify industry solutions faster and offer a greater range of support to the SME."

ANBF Chief Executive Officer, Ms Tina Rankovic, welcomed the agreement with the AIC as a timely collaboration in the evolution of Australian nanotechnology

"This initiative is a very practical way for the ANBF to deliver benefits to a large proportion of its membership base. By working with the AIC, we hope to assist companies to improve their speed to market of nano-enabled products," Ms Rankovic said.

For further information visit www.ausicom.com or www.anbf.com.au

Ends

About the AIC

The Australian Institute for Commercialisation (AIC) is a leading service organisation helping innovators achieve commercial success. Around Australia the AIC helps business, research organisations and governments convert their ideas into successful outcomes to increase the success rate of commercialising Australian innovation.

About TechFast

The TechFast program helps businesses identify, assess and pursue new partnerships that can provide access to technologies, processes, knowledge and distribution channels to improve business performance.

It uses a unique market pull approach to helping SMEs solve problems and pursue new opportunities. Specifically, TechFast® works with companies with an annual turnover between \$3 and \$100 million to create innovation partnerships, become more competitive, overcome challenges and seize new opportunities.

About The Australian Nano Business Forum (ANBF)

The Australian Nano Business Forum was formed in early 2006, following the 2nd National Nanotechnology Conference in Melbourne in September 2005. The ANBF is the peak national body representing and promoting Australian industries and companies involved in nanotechnology. The ANBF provides a collective voice for member organisations engaged in this emerging technology, as well as facilitating links between other key stakeholders such as government, funding, regulatory and research entities.

More information

For further information, please contact: Michelle Tucker, Marketing and Communications Manager AIC on (07) 3853 5274

Or

Ms Tina Rankovic– Chief Executive Officer, ANBF – 0407 517-296 or tina.rankovic@anbf.com.au

