Overview of the CRC Program

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History of RMIT Involvement – Past CRCs

Since the commencement of the CRC Program in 1991 there have been 12 CRC selection rounds completed. RMIT has participated in 18 different CRC’s.

Past CRC’s

• CRC for Intelligent Manufacturing Systems & Tech. (2 rounds, 1993-2006)
• CRC for Water Quality and Treatment (2 rounds, 1995-2008)
• CRC for MicroTechnology (1999-2006)
• Australian Photonics CRC (2nd round only, 1999-2006)
• Australian Telecommunications CRC (1999-2006)
• CRC for Smart Internet Technology (2001-2008)
History of RMIT Involvement – Current CRCs

During 2009, members of:

- CRC for Advanced Composite Structures (1991-)
- CRC for Polymers (1992 -)
- CRC for Construction Innovation (2001-2009)
- Bushfire CRC (2003 -)
- Australasian CRC for Interaction Design (2003-2010)
- CRC for Advanced Automotive Technology (2005-)
- CRC for Smart Services (2007 -)
- CRC for Advanced Manufacturing (2007-)
- Poultry CRC (not as a participant but as a contract research provider)

Joined in 2010:

- CAST Cooperative Research Centre (2010-)
- CRC for Spatial Information (2010-)

13th selection round closed 2 July 2010, announcements November 2010
### History of RMIT Involvement – Financial Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRC</th>
<th>Contribution pa (Cash) (Staff In-kind)</th>
<th>Cash Returns (2006-2009)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Automotive Technology</td>
<td>3.0 EFT (TBC)</td>
<td>$3,234,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Composite Structures</td>
<td>$50k, 1.5 FTE</td>
<td>$1,108,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Manufacturing</td>
<td>2.75 FTE</td>
<td>$393,894 (2007/8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushfiresα</td>
<td>$50k, 1.525 FTE</td>
<td>$2,157,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polymers</td>
<td>$100k, 1.5 FTE (TBC)</td>
<td>$1,270,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smart Services (2007)</td>
<td>$100k, 2.0 FTE</td>
<td>$528,469 (2007/8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Information (joined 2010)</td>
<td>$20k, 1.6 FTE</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry (as contract research)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$276,595 (2008/9)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CRC Resourcing - Consortium Participants

CRCs must include:

• At least one university; and
• At least one end-user participant, though it is usual to have multiples of each

Participants can include:

• Companies based in Australia or overseas
• Small and medium enterprises
• Research and development corporations
• Government agencies and other users of research such as Industry Associations

Research providers can include:

• Universities
• CSIRO
• Research Institutes
• Companies; and
• Other government laboratories
CRC Resourcing – Participant Contributions

RMIT Contributions:
• Minimum in-kind researcher per annum: 1.5 FTE
• No requirement to contribute cash
• IP developed generally owned by the CRC

Returns to RMIT:
• CRCs fund FTE research engineers and scientists
• CRCs fund scholarships, PhD, Master, Top-up etc

Commonwealth Funding: between $20 - $40 million over 7 years
At a minimum, equivalent cash and in-kind from consortium members

Average 2006 figures:
28% Commonwealth 30% Industry 6% Other
20% Universities 16% Government Entities
What Makes a Successful CRC

Successful CRC bids are expected to have the following components:

- Sound governance and management structures, with a clearly articulated vision, committed participants and leadership team
- Strong researchers and a capable CEO
- Strong research plan
- Utilisation / commercialisation strategies, including innovation transfer and path to adoption
- An education and training plan
- Justification of why the taxpayer should fund the CRC
Makeup of a Typical CRC

Spatial Information CRC (2nd round of funding commencing July 2010)

- 5 Universities
- Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment
- WA and NSW Land & Property Management Authorities
- Geoscience Australia
- Land Information New Zealand
- ANZLIC Spatial Information Council
- 43 Pty Ltd (represents 70 companies)

Funding from Commonwealth: $21 million over 7 years
Putting Together a CRC Bid - Resourcing

Bid costs are estimated at $200,000 - $400,000, including in-kind support

The bid budget includes:

- Interim CEO wages
- Impact tool development
- Marketing and communications
- Flights
- Events and workshops
- Consultants and lawyers

Total CRC bid funding by universities is estimated at $50,000 each

- ~$25k funding is available from DIIRD to assist with CRC bidding costs
- ~$100k funding from Collaborative Development Program (on hold)
Putting Together a CRC Bid – Key Principles

When putting together a CRC bid:

• Ensure the CRC Program suits the strategic needs of your consortium

• Develop a **shared ‘vision’** among participants

• Ensure that you have a key person or group who will ‘drive’ the bid, ‘sell’ the vision, help ‘gel’ a team from differing cultures of industry and research

• Decide whether a participant needs to be a core participant (makes a significant contribution and commitment) or a supporting participant

• Recognise that there are a multiplicity of approaches to developing a successful CRC and that there isn’t “one correct” approach or formula

• Establish from the outset that the process will be **end-user driven** – and keep this at the forefront of your continuing discussions

• Ensure you have a world class research team

• Conduct all the difficult conversations (like governance, rewards, commitments, any use of Background IP, etc) before lodging your application
Further Information

General information
• www.crc.gov.au
• Steve Gower in Research and Innovation

IP / Commercialisation Information
• Mark Littlejohn in Research and Innovation