

## INVESTMENT NSW MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 22 July 2024

# New grants program to strengthen NSW space capabilities

A new grant program is now open to assist NSW businesses to commercialise their innovative capabilities and highlight the NSW space industry on the global stage.

The NSW Space+ Program will allow businesses to share in \$500,000 worth of grant funding to advance the NSW and Australian space ecosystem through strategic partnerships and collaborations, and to drive the commercialisation of globally in demand capability that delivers significant social, economic, and environmental benefit to the people of NSW.

The NSW Space+ Program aims to highlight the exceptional quality of NSW's rapidly growing space sector at the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Sydney in September next year – an event expected to attract over 10,000 delegates from across the world. The program will help position NSW and Australia as leaders in the global space market.

The NSW Space+ Program will be administered by SmartSat CRC – Australia's leading space research centre which brings together academics, researchers, industry and end users to develop space technology.

Applications are now open. For more information, including how to apply for a grant, visit <https://smartsatcrc.com/key-initiatives/new-south-wales-node/space-program>.

Investment NSW Deputy Secretary, Katie Knight said:

“NSW is home to some of the nation's leading space businesses that are pushing the boundaries in innovation and entrepreneurship. Through the NSW Space+ Program, we'll accelerate the development of space capability pioneered by our best and brightest minds.

“The global space economy is experiencing significant growth – it's a sector forecast to reach USD \$1.8 trillion in 2035, with the Asia Pacific poised to capture a significant share of this uplift.

“IAC 2025 will be a significant opportunity to highlight the capabilities of NSW space businesses to a global audience – this event is the oldest and largest space congress in the world. It will set the stage for important discussions around sustainable space activities.”

SmartSat CEO, Professor Andy Koronios said:

“SmartSat CRC is delighted to extend our partnership with the NSW Government, and be supporting the NSW Space+ Program, which will significantly enhance the capabilities of NSW businesses in the space industry.

“This initiative aligns perfectly with our mission to foster strategic partnerships and drive the commercialisation of innovative space technologies, ultimately benefiting the social, economic, and environmental landscape of NSW.”