**SmartSat CRC New South Wales Node
Infrastructure Access Scheme Expression of Interest**Submissions due 5pm Thursday, 31 August 2023

The New South Wales Node (NSW Node) Infrastructure Access Scheme provides an ideal mechanism for successful industry engagement and delivering outcomes for business. The NSW network of research provider institutions has significant equipment and resources available across a wide range of capabilities, generally serviced by a dedicated technical team. The Infrastructure Access Scheme provides an opportunity for NSW based industry to benefit from these capabilities and expertise at no direct cost.

Key features of the scheme include:

* Industry can apply at any time
* No direct cost to industry
* Simple, quick application process, including consultation
* Provides a pathway to partnership development, including other SmartSat NSW Node schemes

**How does accessing the Scheme help my business?**

Your company can access state of the art equipment, laboratory space, and research infrastructure. As part of this scheme, you’ll also get access to expert advice, training and analysis from dedicated technical staff at no direct cost. This combination of expertise can help organisations discover solutions to improve their business through new technologies and research.

**How do I apply for the Infrastructure Scheme?**

Each enquiry to the Infrastructure Access Scheme is managed on a case-by-case basis in a responsive and timely manner to identify and work through the details of the proposed work, including:

1. the scope of work being proposed – what specific infrastructure will be required and can a infrastructure provider meet this need?
2. the feasibility of the scope of work being proposed – does a research provider have the necessary capability and capacity to achieve the work in the timeframes being discussed?

Companies need to complete a short application form, and review and accept the Terms and Conditions associated with this Scheme.

**For industry**: If you're interested in a Infrastructure Access Grant, please contact the NSW Node Coordinator in the first instance. If you already have a connection at the University and would like to take up a Infrastructure Access Grant with this contact, please ensure you both contribute to the application before you submit this to the NSW Node Coordinator.

**Combined Application Documents Below:**

SmartSat NSW Node Infrastructure Scheme Guidelines
SmartSat NSW Node Infrastructure Scheme Application Form

**Expression of Interest**

The SmartSat NSW Node Infrastructure Access Scheme will allow companies to access research infrastructure for projects focused on solving a pressing industry problem or issue.

To access research infrastructure, it is important to note:

* The intent of this Scheme is to facilitate companies accessing world class research support to address an industry problem/issue.
* Applications to this Scheme must identify the problem/issue that the project will address, and the anticipated outcomes from the project.
* To access support and advice regarding eligibility and the overall application process, all applicants must contact the Infrastructure Access Scheme Node Coordinator, prior to applications being submitted.

**GENERAL GUIDELINES:**

* Small to medium size companies are eligible to apply to this Scheme.
* Eligible companies must have current operations in NSW, along with a demonstrated intention to benefit the State’s economy.
* There is no direct cost of the project to industry. Project funding will be released to the infrastructure provider, for the benefit of the industry partner through the project.
* Project funding will not be distributed to industry partners. Funds will be released only when the Application has been approved by the NSW Node.
* There is no limit on the frequency with which companies or researchers can be part of applications, provided that explanation is provided as to how the scope of each project differs from previous applications.
* The Terms and Conditions associated with the Infrastructure Scheme Application Form must be agreed to prior to the application being submitted.
* The Infrastructure Access Scheme operates on the general principle that industry partners will have free commercial access to any arising project IP.
* Funding cannot be spent on activities outside of the defined project, including:
	+ activities conducted directly by the industry partner;
	+ business development or strategic planning;
	+ software or hardware purchases, except for prototype development purposes;
	+ design and production of marketing or promotional material or events;
	+ non-technical professional services, including accounting or legal services;
	+ maintenance or upkeep of facilities;
	+ any administrative fee or surcharge for administering such expenditures; or
	+ any other activities, as determined by the NSW Node, that are the usual requirement of business.

**Instructions**

* + This application form must be read in conjunction with the accompanying Infrastructure Access Scheme Guidelines, and template Infrastructure Access Agreement.
	+ To apply for this scheme follow the steps below.
	+ Contact the NSW Node Coordinator to discuss the work required (all companies must meet with the NSW Node Coordinator before submission)
	+ Send a draft to the NSW Node Coordinator for feedback. The first draft should be submitted weeks before the intended deadline to allow due process and optimisation
	+ Applications should be co-developed by the industry partner and university researcher(s) and must be written in the style of a business case where the project problem statement and benefit is clearly articulated.
	+ All applications to the Infrastructure Access Scheme must be written in accessible language that is easy to understand and where technical or discipline specific terminology is explained.
	+ For industry: If you're interested in the Infrastructure Access Scheme, please contact the NSW Node Coordinator in the first instance. If you already have a connection at the university and would like to take up a Infrastructure Access Scheme with this contact, please ensure you both contribute to the application before you submit this to the NSW Node Coordinator.
	+ Applications should be submitted to: andrew.beveridge@smartsatcrc.com
	+ SmartSat will only accept applications in this template.

**Infrastructure Access Scheme Application Form**

# DETAILS OF INDUSTRY APPLICANT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Company** |  |
| **ABN** |  |
| **Address**  |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Telephone** |  |
| **Are you a SmartSat or Aurora Partner?** |  *Yes / No* |
| **Are you an SME?** |  *Yes / No* |

# DETAILS OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDER

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Company** |  |
| **ABN** |  |
| **Address**  |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Telephone** |  |

# PROJECT DETAILS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | *Please provide a project title* |
| **Project Description** | *Provide a brief (up to 250 words) lay description of the purpose and significance of the project.* |
| **Problem Definition** | *Provide an outline of the problem/issue that the project will address.* |
| **Project Benefit** | *Explain how infrastructure access funding will benefit the project. Include expected achievements and/or anticipated outcomes from the project.* |
| **Special Considerations** | *Please describe any other special conditions relevant to this project, including relevant security approvals (if applicable), or potential to leverage additional funding.* |

# INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS REQUEST

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Infrastructure budget and location** | *Briefly describe the infrastructure you are requesting funds to access, the location of this infrastructure.*  |
| **Budget request** | *Please outline the $ value being requested ($AUD)* |
| **Full Budget** | *Please outline the full budget to support the project and associated activities ($, exclusive of GST). Attach quotes where possible.* |