

MEDIA RELEASE

IMPACT - THE CRITICAL FACTOR

From research as wide ranging as safeguarding Australia, to improving the safety for the flying public through fatigue risk management systems, the Australian Technology Network universities have been successful in the latest round of the Australian Research Council's (ARC) *Linkage Projects* programme.

With 114 projects representing total funding in excess of \$37million, the ATN universities continue to build upon their reputation of building partnerships with industry and undertaking research which is relevant, has impact and responds to the needs of our nation.

“The ATN has a significantly higher growth rate in ARC funding than other universities, particularly in the area of discovery grants. As well we perform strongly in ARC linkage grants where the focus is on enterprise and community linkages,” said ATN Director Vicki Thomson.

In this latest round, among others, funding has been allocated to develop automatic real-time detection of infiltrated objects for security of airports and train stations, to be undertaken in partnership with the University of Technology, Sydney and iOmniscient Pty Ltd.

This project will develop new technologies capable of detecting objects in sensitive areas in real time, analysing the movements of their original carriers and raising attention accordingly. The potential of application is huge extending beyond airports and train stations to any public areas.

In conjunction with Queensland Rail, the Queensland University of Technology will undertake research which is designed to reduce train delays and transport costs to rail customers and increase the rail market's share of freight movements.

Researchers at the University of South Australia, together with industry partners National Jet Systems and the RFDS will undertake research that will improve safety and minimise the cost of fatigue risk management systems to the aviation industry. Ultimately this will improve safety for the flying public.

“This impact of such research on Australian communities and industry is obvious and immediate and it is critical that this type of research continues to be assessed and funded on the basis of its quality and impact,” Ms Thomson said.

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**BUILDING
PARTNERSHIPS
FINDING
SOLUTIONS**

The ATN as a network emphasises building partnerships with industry and communities in its research programs, and finding solutions with practical applications.

For further information visit the ATN website www.atn.edu.au or contact Vicki Thomson: 0417 808 472