



Media Release

EOS Space Systems joins SmartSat CRC as core partner

- EOS Space Systems upgrades from supporting to core partner
- EOS partnership with Project CHORUS, a high-risk, high-payoff satellite communications venture
- Project CHORUS leverages existing world leading Australian industry capabilities in satellite terminal and optical systems design with the potential to position Australia as the technology leader in this vital future capability.

Adelaide, 6 June 2022 – SmartSAT CRC today announced that EOS Space Systems has become a core partner for the SmartSat Co-operative Research Centre – becoming the 20th core partner alongside leading universities and global corporations such as Airbus, BAE Systems and Nova Systems.

As a core partner, EOS Space Systems will have priority to select and lead strategic research projects, and can nominate candidates for the SmartSat CRC Board and Industry Advisory Board.

SmartSat CRC CEO Professor **Andy Koronios** said: “EOS Space Systems becoming a core partner is the culmination of one of our most exciting space ventures: Project CHORUS. SmartSat CRC brought together a cross-disciplinary team of industry and universities under the leadership of the Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG) and facilitated the requirements-gathering from end-users, developed system designs and the research components. What began as a \$1.2 million dollar Phase 1 project has already moved to the next phase, with a further \$2.8 million investment in the rapid development of this innovative technology.”

“We are delighted that EOS have decided to become one of our core partners. They obviously see real benefit in their participation with the SmartSat CRC and we look forward to working together to help build Australian space technology capability.”

Project CHORUS aims to build on existing world leading Australian technology in compact RF tactical terminals and optical communication to develop “leap-frogging” technology that exploits bearer diversity through a highly integrated hybrid Optical-RF tactical terminal with applications for the commercial and national security markets. Phase 1 of CHORUS (Apr 2019-Apr 2020) was a research activity to develop concepts for, and explore the feasibility of, a highly integrated, tactical satellite communications terminal combining radio frequency and optical frequency capabilities into a single compact terminal. Phase 2 is on track to deliver a working terrestrial demonstration with a terminal in early 2023.

CEO of EOS Space System, **Glen Tindall** said: “The commercial potential of Project CHORUS is significant with the technology dovetailing neatly with our existing globally-recognised capabilities of EM Solutions.



“Project CHORUS has been an exercise in the best-practice commercialisation of a new technology driven by collaboration between government, industry, and academics. The success of this venture to date demonstrates the value of having an independent platform like SmartSat CRC to bring the various parties together and accelerate the emergence of Australia’s space sector.”

“Having benefited from what SmartSat is doing, we are thrilled to be investing our time and joining the CRC to drive great outcomes for Australian space technology.” DSTG’s Chief Technology Officer, Strategic Research and Innovation, **Professor Michelle Gee** said that Defence’s investment in the SmartSat CRC through the Next Generation Technologies Fund was clearly paying dividends.

“We are seeing the development of potentially break-through technologies that could be a game-changer for military satellite communications,” she said.

“Those are exactly the sorts of results we want and expect to see from the Next Generation Technologies Fund.”

*****ENDS*****

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ABOUT THE SMARTSAT CRC

The SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre brings together over 100 national and international partners who have invested over \$190 million, along with \$55 million in Federal Government funding under its Cooperative Research Centres Program, in a \$245 million research effort over seven years. Working closely with the Australian Space Agency, SmartSat will make a strong contribution to the Australian Government’s goal of tripling the size of the space sector to \$12 billion and creating up to 20,000 jobs by 2030. Priority industry sectors for SmartSat include telecommunications, agriculture and natural resources, transport and logistics, mining, and defence and national security.