

MEDIA RELEASE

Medtech industry to benefit from MTPConnect and MTAA partnership

Thursday, 2 November 2017, Sydney, Australia: MTPConnect – the Medical Technologies, Biotechnologies and Pharmaceuticals Industry Growth Centre – and the Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) – a national body representing companies in the Australian medical technology industry – have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to work collaboratively to boost the growing medtech industry in Australia.

A report from MTAA stated that the medtech industry in Australia employs over 19,000 high skill workers, across 500 companies, the majority of which are small to medium enterprises (SME), and is worth over \$10 billion in economic contributions – making it a major contributor to Australia’s medical technology, biotechnology and pharmaceutical (MTP) sector in Australia.

Sue MacLeman, CEO of MTPConnect, said, “MTPConnect is excited to work closely with MTAA to ensure the continued growth and innovation of medtech in Australia. Under the direction of its CEO, Ian Burgess, the Medical Technology Association of Australia is set to continue to provide outstanding advocacy on behalf of the sector and those patients set to benefit from its innovative and life-saving outputs.

“As outlined in the MTPConnect Sector Competitiveness Plan, we are aiming to transform the SME sub-sector, supporting its growth to larger, more stable and successful companies. SME’s are an important part of the innovative medtech ecosystem, and it is important that our organisations collaborate to support and advocate on behalf of the sector to encourage positive contribution to growth, particularly in relation to recent government reviews and initiatives such as the \$20 billion Medical Research Future Fund.”

Ian Burgess, CEO of MTAA said, “The Medical Technology Association of Australia is pleased to be partnering with MTPConnect to ensure the medtech sector is the shining light of the country's innovation agenda.

“This partnership will help to direct the limited resources to where they will have the greatest outcome for patients through increased clinical trials, research and development, market access and work towards overcoming unnecessary regulations.

“Working in partnership with MTPConnect we look forward to ensure our voice is heard by decision-makers to identify opportunities to grow our industry and lead to more commercial successes.”

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About MTPConnect

MTPConnect was formed as a not-for-profit organisation in November 2015 as part of the Australian Government’s Industry Growth Centres Initiative to accelerate the rate of growth of the MTP sector, achieve greater commercialisation and establish Australia as an Asia-Pacific hub for MTP companies.

The MTPConnect Head Office is located at the New Horizons Building at Monash University, co-located with CSIRO and industry. There are also key hubs at the University of Sydney's Institute of Biomedical Engineering and Technology and the Medical Device Research Institute at Flinders University at Tonsley in Adelaide.

About MTAA

The Medical Technology Association of Australia (MTAA) is the national association representing companies in the medical technology industry. MTAA aims to ensure the benefits of modern, innovative and reliable medical technology are delivered effectively to provide better health outcomes to the Australian community.

MTAA represents manufacturers and suppliers of medical technology used in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment and management of disease and disability. MTAA members distribute the majority of the non-pharmaceutical products used in the diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability in Australia, and play a vital role in providing healthcare professionals with education and training to ensure safe and effective use of medical technologies.

Industry Growth Centres

The Industry Growth Centres Initiative is an industry-led approach driving innovation, productivity and competitiveness by focusing on areas of competitive strength and strategic priority. This will help Australia transition into smart, high value and export focused industries.

The Initiative enables national action on key issues such as collaboration, commercialisation, international engagement, skills and regulation reform. It drives excellence, not dependence, and will create an economy that ensures Australia's ongoing prosperity. For more information: www.industry.gov.au/industrygrowthcentres

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