

**Question on Notice
No. 1090
Asked on 9 June 2006**

MR ENGLISH asked the Minister for Small Business, Information Technology Policy and Multicultural Affairs (MR CUMMINS) —

QUESTION:

Will he outline the benefits of the Smart ICT strategy and the Government ICT IP Commercialisation Program that aims to identify ICT related intellectual property (IP) that exists with Queensland Government agencies and seeks out business partners in the form of ICT companies that have the capability of developing markets for the IP?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his Question and would like to congratulate him on his ongoing strong support for the ICT industry within his electorate.

The *Smart ICT – Taking it to the world* strategy (the Strategy), is the Government's principal package of initiatives (totalling \$18.5 million over four years) to develop the information and communication technology (ICT) industry in Queensland. Key initiatives of the Strategy include a:

- Building Productivity Program – to enhance productivity in non-ICT sectors by encouraging the uptake of ICT business solutions;
- Corporate Engagement Program – to encourage business partnerships between international ICT corporations and local ICT firms;
- Fast Tracking Growth Program – to increase the growth rate of local ICT firms; and
- Government ICT Intellectual Property (IP) Commercialisation Program – to assist the ICT industry to commercialise IP that has been developed by the Queensland Government.

The Government ICT IP Commercialisation Program is jointly delivered by the Information Industries Bureau, within my portfolio, and the Australian Institute for Commercialisation. The program identifies government ICT IP that could be commercialised through collaboration with the private sector and other jurisdictions.

The role of the Information Industries Bureau is to promote opportunities identified through the program to the local ICT industry and assist local firms to be in the best position to secure the commercialisation rights to Queensland Government IP.

Benefits of the program include:

- industry development through increased availability of Queensland Government ICT IP to industry for commercialisation as new products and services;
- the opening up of new markets for local ICT firms that are successful in securing the rights to commercialise this IP;

- creation of new government reference site opportunities for local ICT firms;
- cost savings to Government agencies through access to modifications and enhancements undertaken by commercialisation partners; and
- revenue to the Government through license fees and royalty income received from commercialisation success.

To date, six license agreements have been executed, and four of these are with Queensland headquartered ICT companies.

The returns to the Queensland Government from this program are in the form of license fees, royalty payments and cost savings.

To promote this program, there have been two Commercialisation Showcases held, one on 8 November 2005 and the other on 28 March 2006. The second Showcase targeted the e-Health sector and promoted the release of seven Queensland Health IP commercialisation opportunities.