

Media Release



The Hon Philip Dalidakis MLC

Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade

Acting Minister for Tourism and Major Events

Acting Minister for Veterans

Thursday, 6 October, 2016

WORLD-CLASS CYBER SECURITY HUB OPENS IN VICTORIA

Victoria's new world-class cyber security centre is up and running from today with the opening of the Data61 Cyber Security and Innovation Hub – creating 140 jobs, including positions for PhD students, over the next three years.

The Andrews Labor Government has strongly supported Data61 – the digital research arm of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) – in growing their Melbourne presence as part of its push to make Victoria a cyber security and technology powerhouse.

Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade Philip Dalidakis joined Data61 CEO Adrian Turner today to officially open the hub and welcome some of the country's most prominent cyber security leaders to Victoria.

Based in the Docklands' Goods Shed, it will house several other organisations including a collaboration with Oxford University's Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre (GCSCC) and Victoria's new Oceania Cyber Security Centre (OCSC) – bringing together eight Victorian universities and major private sector partners.

In Australia, security compromises often underpin cybercrime, which has become one of the greatest threats facing the economy. Almost half of all small and medium enterprises fell victim in 2015 – costing the country's economy \$17 billion.

Over the past 12 months, the Labor Government has been working hard to keep Victoria at the forefront of Australia's cyber security expertise and capabilities, with this new hub to focus on collaboration and commercialisation to protect our digital economy.

With almost a quarter of Australian cyber security positions taking six months or longer to fill and 10 per cent never filled at all, the Labor Government is also improving training and education in the sector.

Last year we invested \$4.7 million with Box Hill TAFE to develop a training program to meet the growing need for cyber security skills. The institute now offers a one-year certificate in cyber security, Australia's first dedicated vocational course for the sector.

Quotes attributable to the Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade Philip Dalidakis

"With cybercrime rising at an astonishing rate in Australia, cyber security has never been more crucial to our economy as it is right now."

"This new cyber security hub will help us better collaborate with the industry's best to produce products that will help protect our digital economy in the future – and it will create more Victorian jobs."

Quotes attributable to Data61 CEO Adrian Turner

"Aside from bringing together our own Victorian based workforce, this new facility will also provide a dedicated space for Data61 to deepen its key relationships within the cyber security ecosystem, and we're excited to welcome Australia Post, Optus and PwC as our first wave of industry partners."

"Australia's economy is undergoing transformation with every industry becoming increasingly data driven. Today cyber security is a AUD\$98 billion global market, with expected growth of AUD\$222 billion by 2020."

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