



tecc.com.au

Tasmanian Electronic Commerce Centre Pty Ltd

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: Tuesday, 7 April 2009

ATTENTION: News Directors, Chiefs of Staff

TASMANIA WELCOMES “21ST CENTURY BROADBAND” ANNOUNCEMENT

The CEO of the Tasmanian Electronic Commerce Centre (TECC) John McCann, a long time advocate for the roll-out of competitive high speed broadband infrastructure for Tasmania and regional Australia today welcomed the announcement by the Rudd Government regarding the National Broadband Network to be known as “21st Century Broadband.”

Mr McCann noted the exciting prospect of Tasmania being the first location for the nation wide investment and roll-out of a Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) and next generation wireless networks.

The TECC in conjunction with CEOS Pty Ltd in 2004, oversaw the development of a consortia to deliver the first major ‘brownfields’ FTTP optic fibre ultra broadband trial. The consortia included Hitachi, Intel, CEOS, Corning, Cisco, Aurora, TECC and the State Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Mr McCann said “the learnings from that trial provided the template for the State's NBN bid and now also hold many key learnings for the broader national roll-out of FTTP.”

Mr McCann stated he was very pleased that the Federal announcement had maintained Senator Conroy’s position and followed the spirit of the initial NBN announcement by building the new network “from the outside in”. Through this process, regional Australia can leap forward and become a far more productive and connected part of the Australian economy and society.

Mr McCann said “while there is a challenge to being the first region to advance, the recognition afforded by the Rudd Government’s announcement rewards the vision of the successive Tasmanian governments in supporting TasCOLT** and for the current government of Premier David Bartlett to submit an application to NBN”. Mr McCann added “ we are well set up to conduct trials in Tasmanian as demonstrated by TasCOLT and we are currently developing research sector interest, designing trials and demonstration projects for households, enterprises and communities for new devices,

Tasmanian Electronic
Commerce Centre Pty Ltd
ABN 74 079 713 456

Hobart Office:
Suite 20, Level 4, Galleria Arcade
33 Salamanca Place
Hobart, Tasmania 7000
Tel: 03 6211 0400
Fax: 03 6223 8837

Email: support@tecc.com.au

Website: www.tecc.com.au

All correspondence:
GPO Box 209
Hobart TAS 7001

services and applications that can now be delivered on ultra fast optic fibre and wireless infrastructure.

The TECC has announced it will welcome collaboration in both trial and open forum information sharing amongst interested industry and regional bodies.

John McCann is available for comment or questions on Ph 0419 322 551 or email at mccann@tecc.com.au

**TasCOLT was the country's largest 'brown field' FTTP trial based across three discrete regional footprints in Tasmania, passing fifteen hundred premises.