
New IBM Global R&D Lab to Open In Australia

Key Facts

- IBM and the Australian and Victorian Governments today announced an agreement to establish a new research and development laboratory in Australia.
- The new IBM Global R&D Lab will be IBM's first lab that combines research and development in a single organization focused on accelerating progress towards a smarter planet. The company believes that linking R&D will help accelerate innovation into the marketplace.
- The new global research and development lab will be located at the University of Melbourne, a world class research university, and will begin operations during the first quarter of 2011. IBM expects to employ about 150 people there within five years. Research conducted at the IBM Global R&D Lab will focus on areas including:
 - Smarter Natural Resource Management: researchers will work in a number of key areas related to resource discovery, production, supply chain, operations using the most advanced techniques in monitoring, analytics and automation. These techniques will be applied to resources such as oil and gas, minerals, water and food. These resources will be considered in various contexts including sourcing, management and use, and particularly their role in smarter cities.
 - Smarter Natural Disaster Management: researchers will work on a number of projects that will expand and integrate current expertise in areas such as real-time event (stream) processing, weather modelling, traffic management and mobility analytics to assist in the planning and management of evacuation, communication and emergency response.
 - Collaborations have already begun with the University of Melbourne in computational life sciences. The work will be extended to a broader set of topics in healthcare and life science analytics.
- The IBM Global R&D Lab will be located on the University of Melbourne campus. The Gillard Government has provided \$22 million to IBM to help create the IBM Global R&D Lab.
- Since 2002, IBM has spent almost \$50B in R&D. IBM's investment in R&D helped the company develop its Smarter Planet vision, as well as prepared the company to capitalise on the opportunity. As a result of IBM's investment in R&D, IBM has been #1 on the US patent list for 17 consecutive years, and is the first company to achieve more than 4,900 US patents in one year. Also, because of the company's investment in R&D, IBM generates approximately \$1B of IP income annually.

Business Benefits

- The establishment of the IBM Global R&D Lab, Australia will accelerate progress towards a smarter planet, particularly in the research focus areas of Smarter Natural Resource Management, Smarter Natural Disaster Management and in the continued research into healthcare and life sciences done through collaborations with the University of Melbourne.
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