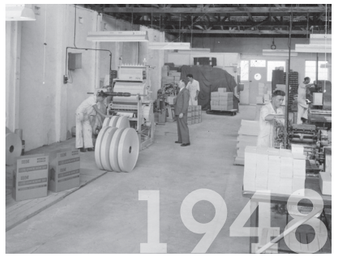
A snapshot of IBM milestones in Australia



George Bennett
(1939-1958)

1939: George Bennett becomes General Manager of IBM Australia.

1948: IBM establishes a card plant in Sydney (above).

1949: IBM time recorder products are assembled in Australia.

1952: IBM establishes a data processing division in Sydney.

1952: ACNeilsen becomes the first customer in Australia to install IBM data processing equipment.

1953: AMP initiates an 'IBM program' to progressively automate its data processing.

1954: IBM establishes an Electric Typewriter division in Sydney.

1956: IBM's first Electric Typewriters are assembled in Australia.

Brian Finn
(1980-1993)

1980: Brian Finn becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

1982: IBM celebrates 50 years in Australia. The company consolidates its product marketing divisions into a single sales unit.

1983: IBM's corporate headquarters at West Pennant Hills, NSW is opened.

1983: The IBM Personal Computer is launched in Australia.

1983: IBM Australia's Software Development Support Centre (now the Australian Programming Centre) is opened.

1983: IBM Global Financing Division begins as IBM Australia Credit Limited.

1984: IBM's manufacturing plant in Victoria makes its first shipment of IBM Personal Computers to customers.

1986: IBM Australia's gross income exceeds AUD$1 billion.

1991: Brian Finn chairs Australian Education Council Committee proposing national education and training reform for all young people in preparation for employment.

1993: IBM Australia records a revenue of AUD$1,773 million, with the value of services exported reaching AUD$116 million.

Bob Savage
(1996-1999)

1996: Bob Savage becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

1996: IBM sells its Wangaratta, Victoria facility.

1996 –1999: IBM Australia revenue grew by 30 per cent, driven by large outsourcing contracts. Major contracts were signed with Ansett, Cathay Pacific, Optus, Victoria Police, NRMA, Dept. of Health and Aged Care, Health Insurance Commission and Medibank Private.

1997: Telstra joins ISSC as customer and shareholder, and IBM Global Services Australia (GSA) is formed. The agreement with Telstra made IBM GSA the largest services organisation in the Asian region outside Japan.

David Thodey
(1999-2000)

1999: David Thodey becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

2000: IBM helps customers achieve successful Y2K transition.

2000: Sydney hosts the Olympic Games called 'the best ever' in which IBM provides an integrated hardware, software and services IT solution.

2000: IBM GSA combines with Telstra to secure AUD$4.3 billion outsourcing agreement with Westpac.

Glen Boreham
(2006-2010)

2006: Glen Boreham becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

2006: IBM delivers eCensus component of Australian Bureau of Statistics' national census.

2006: IBM establishes a regional delivery centre in Bathurst, NSW.

2006: IBM signs a seven-year Business Process Outsourcing agreement with Telstra to transform its supply chain and procurement functions.

2006: IBM named as Leading Organisation for the Advancement of Women (>500 employees).

2008: Glen Boreham addresses the National Press Club in Canberra.

2008: Australia and New Zealand enter the Growth Markets Unit within IBM.

2008: IBM Australia's revenue reaches AUD$4 billion for the first time.

2009: IBM boosts employment in Ballarat with new IT Services Centre.

2009: IBM signs a project delivery contract with Qantas for the provision of project management delivery services.

2010: IBM establishes Melbourne Life Sciences Collaboratory and Global R&D Lab.

2010: IBM signs multi-year agreement with the National Australia Bank to manage its technology infrastructure within Australia.

1930 1950 1990 2000 2010

Edgar Hall
(1932-1939)

1932: IBM® incorporated its subsidiary in Australia under General Manager Edgar Hall.

1932: IBM opens office in Sydney's Queen Victoria Building (above).

Allan Moyes
(1958-1980)

1958: Allan Moyes is appointed General Manager of IBM Australia.

1958: The IBM Sydney Data Processing Centre (right) is opened and IBM 650 processors are installed.

1962: IBM installs Australia's first commercial data communications link between Sydney and Melbourne.

1965: IBM Australia moves to new headquarters in Kent Street, Sydney.

1972: Morrison Knudsen International becomes the first company in the world to install a System/3 at a remote construction site at the Robe River railway camp in Western Australia.

1976: IBM establishes a typewriter plant at Wangaratta in Victoria with 32 employees. The plant assembles Selectric typewriters for the Australian, New Zealand and South-East Asian markets.

1977: Satellite technology allows IBM Australia to link with computers worldwide.

1978: IBM works with the NSW Department of Agriculture to research techniques for interpreting data received from a Landsat satellite.

Doug Elix
(1994-1995)

1994: Doug Elix becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

1994: IBM and property development firm Lend Lease form the joint venture Integrated Systems and Services Corporation (ISSC).

1994: IBM Australia has its most profitable year to date.

Phil Bullock
(2000-2005)

2000: Philip Bullock becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

2001: Andre Agassi wins the Australian Open. IBM continues its relationship with the tournament, furnishing the Open's technology.

2001: IBM receives newly established Employer of Choice for Women citation from the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency.

2002: IBM acquires PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting, expanding its local employee population by 3000.

2002: IBM unveils new AUD $5 million computing centre in Sydney to help independent software vendors port their applications to IBM.

2003: IBM opens Regional Software Solutions Centre in Ballarat.

2004: Philip Bullock named as Leading CEO for the Advancement of Women by the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency.

2005: IBM acquires Classic Blue to enhance business continuity capabilities for small-to-medium businesses.

2005: IBM establishes a new Business Transformation Outsourcing Centre in Brisbane.

Andrew Stevens
(2011...)

2011: Andrew Stevens becomes Managing Director of IBM Australia.

2011: IBM signs multi-million dollar systems integration agreement to deliver essential business and operational systems to NBN Co.

2011: IBM awarded AUD$23.6 million dollar contract to develop nation-wide authentication system for electronic health records.