



# Annual Report

---

For the 12 Months ended 30 June 2020



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources

**Industry  
Growth  
Centres**



# Contents

<b>1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 PROGRESS REPORT</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 Project Funds	7
2.2 Masterclasses	8
2.3 Accelerators	8
2.4 Clusters	9
2.5 International Markets	10
2.6 Industry-driven Research FY2019-2020	11
2.7 Operational Update	12
2.8 Growth Centre sustainability	13
<b>3 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4 CASE STUDY</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>5 COMMUNICATIONS DATA POINTS</b>	<b>20</b>
5.1 Published Reports	20
5.2 Media Releases	21
<b>6 APPENDIX</b>	<b>22</b>
6.1 Name of the Growth Centre	22
6.2 Growth Centre Members	22
6.3 Chair's Certificate	22
6.4 CEO's Certificate	22





# Executive Summary



Adrian Beer  
Chief Executive Officer  
METS Ignited

In April 2019, METS Ignited outlined our 2019/2020 business plan to strengthen Australia's position as a global hub for mining innovation and enhance the global competitive advantage of the Australian Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) sector. This leading technology sector has continued to be the critical driver for Australia's global resources industry, employing almost four times as many Australians as the mining industry. The success of Australia's METS sector has

created more highly skilled jobs, increased exports and has increased the economic contribution of the resources industry.

With the impact on business and industry that has emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, the past year has proven that the Australian METS sector is adaptable, dependable and an important contributor to the economic resilience of our country. METS Ignited has also responded, to adapt to a new set of emerging priorities, supporting the METS sector as it addresses the economic challenges of the past year, whilst importantly not losing sight of the future needs of Australia's global leading resources industry.

METS Ignited has been at the forefront of support, engaging a broad range of businesses working through the numerous and often unpredictable challenges that COVID-19 has imposed. With the industry's experience in applying technology to overcome the challenges of the mining industry, be it remote operations,

autonomy, the high volume of data and analytics to drive operational decision making, as well as our track record in safety, sustainability and social licence needs, the DNA of Australian METS sector's capability has been in high demand from many other industry sectors.

As the CEO of METS Ignited, I am extremely proud of the work that the team has undertaken to help and support multiple industry sectors – sharing the learning from many decades of implementing new technology to traditional businesses to respond to new and emerging challenges. We have proved how a resilient technology sector can sustain an economy, respond quickly to a dynamic and uncertain set of circumstances and can continue to deliver outcomes and benefits to the economy through the most extreme circumstances.



## The 2019/2020 Year in Review

The 2019/2020 year started with the appointment of a new CEO to the business, with the goal of further accelerating the execution of the Industry Growth Centre's strategy. Based on the significant volume of outcomes being delivered through the 2019/2020 year, the new leadership has overseen the final stages of transformation into a delivery focussed organisation.

The structure of the Growth Centre execution strategy was refined to three areas; Strategic Priorities, Operational Programmes and Project Funds.

The Strategic Priorities of METS Ignited are captured by our Transformative Automation in METS and Mining (TAMM) initiative and our Industry-driven Research. These high visibility priorities expand upon the global competitive advantage of Australia's METS sector and will drive the future direction of our technology sector.

The Operational Programmes encompass the day-to-day activities of the Growth Centre and are the activities most visible to the everyday communities that we support and influence. They are focussed on enhancing the skills and capabilities of the sector and developing its export capabilities, including:

- ▶ Masterclasses—Future Skills and Workforce
- ▶ Accelerators—Commercial maturity for METS
- ▶ Clustering—Collaborative sustainable ecosystem
- ▶ International Markets—Coordination program

The cornerstone of METS Ignited's impact on the sector is our Collaborative Project Funds. These projects demonstrate Australia's capabilities as an industry leader, with the focus on the local productisation and commercialisation of the innovation that occurs within our resources industry.

The 2019/2020 business plan for METS Ignited was then adapted in response to the impact of COVID-19. The pandemic required our program delivery to be adjusted to accommodate remote delivery, to incorporate a virtual delivery model, and the support delivered by METS Ignited transitioned from a focus on growth to more of a support program.

METS Ignited proved to be a highly resilient organisation, adapting to the impact of the pandemic whilst maintaining a leadership and support role for the sector, ensuring that through these challenging times the focus remained on maintaining an ongoing economic contribution from the sector.

As our first rounds of Collaborative Projects near completion, and the METS Accelerator programs and Masterclass initiatives take hold, through the pandemic we witnessed first-hand the significant contribution of Australia's METS sector capability to a much broader cross-section of Australian industry.



# Progress Report

METS Ignited's goal is to strengthen Australia's competitive position as a global hub for mining innovation and enhance the global competitive advantage of the Australian METS sector.

Our 2019/2020 strategy to achieve these objectives has been to focus on the following activities:

- ▶ Project Funds – Collaborative Industry-led Investment
- ▶ Masterclasses - Future Skills and Workforce
- ▶ Accelerators – Commercial Maturity for METS
- ▶ Clustering – Collaborative Sustainable Ecosystem
- ▶ International Markets – Coordination Program

In addition to these Strategic Priorities, METS Ignited continues to provide guidance and support for Industry-driven Research. This program is focussed on skills development, research investment, (CRCs, CRC-Ps and ARCs), and delivering regulatory improvements. As an outcome, METS Ignited is able to effectively adapt its organisational design and structure to meet the changing needs of its stakeholders. This ensures that we continue to provide a sustainable support program beyond the funding period of the program or of the Growth Centre.



## Collaborative Project Funds

### ➤ Tranche IV projects:

The METS Ignited Collaborative Project Funds support industry-led collaboration between Australian METS companies, global suppliers, mine operators, research organisations and capital providers to support the improved productivity, competitiveness and innovative capacity of the Australia's world-leading METS sector.

The fourth round of the METS Ignited Collaborative Project Funds focused on the application of Analytics, Automation and Robotics in the mining industry. The selected projects originated in our local market, are industry-led, and are projected to deliver a high degree of global impact potential and substantial benefits to the METS sector. Four projects receiving over \$6m in combined innovation funding from METS Ignited and industry brings together 17 industry partners. They are projected to deliver almost two hundred new jobs, and deliver a combined revenue contribution of over \$100 million for the sector.

This is in addition to the 21 projects already underway, with a combined industry value of \$24.3M invested, four of which have already completed. Collaborative Projects recognise Australia's world-class technological capability in areas of national competitive advantage. Australia's mining equipment, technology services (METS) sector is playing a key role in adding value beyond just resource extraction. This current round of Collaborative Project Funds recipients demonstrates just how capable our leading global METS sector is, and what can be achieved within our local technology sector.

Collaboration has been at the heart of METS Ignited's strategy, and continues to be key for the success of the Australian METS sector. METS Ignited has taken the lead in the coordination of the various industry associations and government departments, membership organisations, and regional industry networks, including driving engagement with the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) for the supply of critical medical and protective products through AMGC's COVID-19 Manufacturer Response Register. As an outcome of this, we saw Australian METS companies such as Gekko Systems work with both the State and Federal Government to create ventilators to support patients that have been affected by COVID-19.



# Operational Programs

## Masterclasses

- With the transition to a virtual delivery model as a consequence of the pandemic, and with the re-alignment of the EP program, the focus of METS Ignited's Masterclass program has been to develop a series of IP Masterclasses. In recognition of the high volume of advanced technology solutions developed within the mining and resources sector, the focus of the next round of Masterclasses is the commercialisation of these technology innovations.

In addition to our program, METS Ignited has worked with peak industry bodies such as Austmine to support and maintain their STEM program, partnering with AusIMM with their scholarships and support programs, and working with ARC and CRC programs to support the Future Management Skills and Development Programs. METS Ignited has also worked closely with the ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre to support programs such as the new national mining research and training centre that utilises Australia's advanced technologies to shape the future of our mining operations.

## Accelerators

- In 2019, based on the experience gained from delivering our Accelerators to over 100 participants from more than 40 companies, METS Ignited optimised the delivery program, including refining the curriculum and modes of delivery for the program. With the impact of the pandemic affecting the traditionally face to face model of deployment, the Accelerator program was further adapted to be delivered remotely and online. There was overwhelming support for the new delivery model, with a large volume of applications for the Accelerator program that exceeded the original capacity of the initiative.

For the METS Ignited Scale-up Accelerator, we had almost 50 per cent increase in participation due to the online delivery model, and adjusted the delivery to offer all of the companies who applied for the program access to the key education component.

We are now working with a number of partner companies to expand the delivery of the Accelerator program, that is continuing into the 2020/2021 financial period.





*Maximising opportunity  
and sustainable growth*

## Clusters

- ▶ With the success of the Cluster Development Program in Queensland, the industry Clusters are now achieving attendances of over 600 individual's including representations from world leading mining companies, researchers, and METS organisations. As a result, we are seeing an increasing number of emerging Clusters forming across the Australian METS sector. The Cluster initiative expanded beyond the Queensland network to support national participation, with partner groups emerging in Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales.

The Robotics and Automation Cluster is now engaged with an international ecosystem, and been embraced by both the AROSE (Australian Remote Operations in Space and on Earth) initiative and supported through CRCs and the Quantum TX forums. The Tailings and Mine Affected Water Cluster has also expanded to Western Australia and has a number of international participants.

The Cluster Program is now working directly with other state governments to expand opportunities in areas of technology and innovation that apply cross-industry, as the broader technology sector develops towards the European Cluster model.







# *Supporting Australian companies to economically expand into international markets*

## International Markets

- The pandemic has created a new set of challenges for Australia's METS export market. While border restrictions and limited travel opportunities have impacted the traditional approach to international market engagement, the Australian METS sector has witnessed a dramatic increase in the demand for the technologies that have been developed to manage autonomous and remote operations and data analytics.

METS Ignited has focussed its efforts on supporting the development of new international delivery models, with a greater focus on partnerships and agency agreements with international technology companies to sell and deploy technologies developed in Australia for consumption within global markets.

A Virtual Supplier Development Program has been established to maintain global market access with Australian METS companies, by partnering with international mining markets to support their future industry needs. This program has gained significant traction in global markets, with many different mining regions reaching out and engaging with the Australian METS sector.

## Industry-driven Research FY2019-2020

### ➤ **CRC applications:**

During FY19/20, METS Ignited continued to drive engagement with the research community, providing significant support for the CRC TiME (Transition in Mining Economies) during its three applications—the most recent application being successful. Substantial support was also given to the Future Energy Export CRC. Although the application for the MI4 CRC was not successful in this round, METS Ignited is continuing to support this research group in their application for an ARC ITRP bid.

#### *Successful applications in CRC Round 21:*

- ▶ Reliable Affordable Clean Energy for 2030 (RACE)
- ▶ CRC TiME (Transition in Mining Economies)
- ▶ Building 4.0
- ▶ CRC SmartCrete
- ▶ CRC Future Energy Exports

### ➤ **CRC-P Applications:**

In Round 8, a total of 22 applications were reviewed by METS Ignited with six being successful. From the 22 applications reviewed, only three had prior engagement and input with METS Ignited.

In Round 9, a total of 11 applications were reviewed by the Growth Centre with only one being awarded. METS Ignited had engagement with seven of the researchers in their bid applications.

#### *Successful CRC-P applications:*

- ▶ Deeplot – a new hybrid Wireless IoT Platform for underground Mines
- ▶ Production of 99.5% pure vanadium pentoxide and vanadium electrolytes
- ▶ Novel processing of pyrite ore to produce battery grade cobalt and sulphur
- ▶ A novel process for producing battery grade nickel and cobalt sulphates
- ▶ Value-added cobalt refining technologies powering advanced batteries
- ▶ Recycled plastic ROBOVOID construction solution
- ▶ High output, low cost automated Embedded Rail Track (ERT).

### ➤ **ARC ITRP applications:**

In 2020, a total of six applications for ITTC and ITRH were reviewed by the Growth Centre with one being awarded, the ARC Training Centre for Collaborative Robotics in Advanced Manufacturing. Out of six applications reviewed, only three had engagement with the METS Ignited during the preparation of their bid.



## Operational Update

- METS Ignited has continued to progress from strategy development to execution, engaging with a diverse range of mid-tier mining companies to define the future requirements from the METS sector. The major technical challenges from this mining reference group has focussed on areas such as greater operational visibility, the adoption of more interoperable technologies, and solutions to support continued production within increasingly challenging market environment. The mid-tier engagement has proved to be an effective strategy to aggregate demand, promote rapid development of solutions, and achieve implementation and wider distribution of automation products and services.

Two key themes have emerged from the mining reference group. The access to research and technology innovation for smaller mining companies to support their operational needs, and the lack of interoperability and challenges with integration of the multiple digital and automated technologies available in the market.

As an outcome of this effort, the focus for METS Ignited in our delivery phase has highlighted the need for greater industry-driven research, where the outcomes of these collaborations need to be converted into commercially viable solutions that can be consumed by the wider market. METS Ignited has doubled down on the Industry Driven Innovation agenda, as well as expanding our efforts in the TAMM Initiative (Transformative Automation in Mining and METS). These two key strategic priorities for METS Ignited are at the forefront of our implementation strategy, with the increase in demand for Australia's METS sector capability extending beyond the mining and resources industry, to energy markets, defence and space.

These two strategic priorities, combined with our operational programmes and our Collaborative Project Funds, have supported and sustained the ongoing performance of the METS sector throughout the pandemic, and have ensured that Australia's resources industry has remained a significant contributor to the national economy through these challenging times.



## Growth Centre Sustainability

- Australia's METS sector is recognised world leader in technology and innovation, but has been challenged in commercialising that technology within our local economy, missing out on the financial benefit of making it locally and supplying it for international markets to consume. A great deal of our local research investment is funded by end user markets to improve their operational performance, and is not developed for the purpose of productising and exporting those technologies, particularly around innovations developed within our resources sector. There is an immediate opportunity to convert our technology capability into a commercial industry segment in its own right, rather than continuing to lose our innovation to overseas markets.

METS Ignited has worked with our fellow Industry Growth Centre NERA, to develop a new Technology Growth Initiative. This initiative will build upon our already established world leading technology sector to support innovative Australian businesses to commercialise existing technology locally, and provide the scale and support to grow their business, exporting our world leading technology capability as products and services to multiple industry sectors globally.

The Initiative will provide access to investment capital, often seen as a barrier that prevents innovators commercialising their solutions locally. As an industry led organisation, the Technology Growth Initiative will provide the vehicle for industry investment that will drive the local productisation and commercialisation of technology developed by our research sector that has not been made generally available for consumption by the entire market.

By addressing these challenges, the Technology Growth Initiative will create a skills framework to support industry needs, including vocational training and support in areas such as data and analytics, as well as increasing demand for future skills in regional communities.

The goal of the Technology Growth Initiative is to establish a commercially sustainable industry-led funding program to invest in productising Australia's technology capabilities locally, creating jobs and high-value skills in our economy and preventing loss through offshore acquisition, or IP protection within specific operational environments.



# Key Performance Indicators

Program Objective	Performance Objectives delivered	2019-2020 Outcome
<b>Miner and Major METS Engagement Program (Item 3.3, Item 2.1.2)</b>	<p>Develop an agreed plan of engagement with METS and Miners detailing target stakeholders and key goals and KPIs from engagement.</p> <p>Develop list of key projects and priorities for engagement and distribute to key stakeholders to ensure maximum value from each engagement.</p> <p>Provide report on progress of engagement, key learning, key themes and opportunities identified and next steps to increase value from engagement for all stakeholders.</p>	<p>Engagement Program impacted by COVID-19, in both delivery and engagement. Mining Reference Group defined METS sector project priorities within the Resources sector. Implementation of the objectives of the program through the QuantumTX Accelerator. Key stakeholders have developed and implemented a revised engagement plan for implementation in 2020.</p> <p>Outcome of the success of the program, key learnings and proposed next steps form the basis of future programs for 20/21 and beyond.</p>
<b>METS Capabilities Workshops (Item 2.1.1)</b>	<p>Development of roadshow plan including, locations, marketing and base curriculum. Announced and commenced promotion of events.</p> <p>Queensland Work Program delivered. 5-7 events at Queensland locations defined in the roadshow plan.</p>	<p>With the impact of COVID-19, the delivery of this program was achieved through the deployment of the regional Accelerators – program completed in October 2020.</p> <p>Collated feedback on events and report on lessons learned which has been incorporated into the proposed strategy for future international events.</p>
<b>METS Branding and Narratives (Item 3.2)</b>	<p>Map/optimize market strategies and pathways with partners for target markets.</p> <p>Enhance brand and engagement in target markets with partners linked to international events.</p> <p>Orchestrate engagement with key stakeholders in target markets. Deliver soft landing program with partners.</p>	<p>METS narratives developed via industry collaborative workshops.</p> <p>The narratives were used by the METS SMEs which took part in the METS sector Audio Visual Program. In providing soft landings for Australian METS companies into international markets, the program was modified in response to COVID-19 during 2020, and delivered through the International Markets Initiative VSDP.</p>
<b>METS SME Audio Visual Promotion Program (Item 3.2)</b>	<p>Develop a plan to deliver a second round of funding for Queensland METS businesses to develop AV productions.</p> <p>Deliver an EOI process, then promotion and assessment of applicants.</p>	<p>Completed funding agreements with successful applicants. Collate and submit productions to DSDMIP for use by Marketing and Communications.</p> <p>Develop and release combined communications case studies on selected funding recipients. Program completion targeted for Dec 20 in line with the revised finish date for Work Program 4.</p>

Program Objective	Performance objectives delivered	2019-2020 Outcome
<b>Communications and Marketing Program (Item 3.2, Qld)</b>	<p>Agree key actions, deliverables and goals for Marcomms and Branding program for 2019/2020, including budget and key KPIs. Identify and agree Communications and Marketing Plan for each activity under WP4, including budget and key KPIs.</p> <p>Determine agreed target events and promotion formats for all non-work program opportunities.</p>	<p>This activity was completed in partnership with New Word Order activity in support of the Queensland Work Program objectives. Delivered Marcomms and Branding program, including a review of outcomes against priorities in consultation with DSDMIP.</p> <p>METS sector identified within the Queensland State Government as an emerging sector, and is a focus of COVID-19 economic recovery at the national level.</p>
<b>Transformative Automation in Mining and METS (TAMM, Item 3.3)</b>	<p>TAMM plan and governance established, including the formation of a mid-tier mining reference group. Australian METS digital supply chain focus for METS-Miner Collaborative Project Funds.</p>	<p>Mid-tier miners challenged to collaborate due to operational pressures as a consequence of COVID-19.</p> <p>METS Ignited has formed the interim coordination body for the reference group through the pandemic.</p> <p>Priority investment areas for technology are identified and mapped to sector capability.</p>
<b>Industry-driven Research Funding (Item 3.4)</b>	<p>Map proposed minerals research EOIs and Critical Minerals Roadmap. Facilitate industry input where appropriate including downstream processing.</p> <p>Determine strength of industry support and facilitate bid teams to address core industry needs.</p>	<p>CRC and ARC bids and successes have been documented.</p> <p>Engaged with all CRC / ARC bids that have asked for help, including overcoming challenges in TAMM priority segment.</p> <p>Overall industry support has been very low in 2019-20 due to COVID-19 response priorities for the sector and border control challenges.</p>
<b>Project Funds (Item 3.5)</b>	<p>All T1 projects complete.</p> <p>All T2 projects complete.</p> <p>All T3 funding agreements signed.</p> <p>All T3 projects milestones completed.</p>	<p>Tranche 4 (T4) project funding round completed and projects selected. Agreements in place with all project participants.</p> <p>Project announcements and contract finalisation scheduled for first half 2020/2021.</p>
<b>Future Management and Skills (Item 3.6)</b>	<p>Complete online education pilot and extend the program content to capitalise on the virtual delivery reach.</p> <p>Translate online learning to industry partners to help improve employer preparedness for future workforce. Addressing the skills shortage with program to support PhDs in METS.</p>	<p>Identified industry need for IP and trademark skills, masterclass developed. Due to shift in delivery model to Virtual Delivery, a new Learning Management System has been implemented.</p> <p>Working with Delivery Partners in key regional centres to provide a 'train the trainer' approach to local delivery. Austmine STEM program and workforce studies, as well as ARC ITTC support in South Australia and the WISE program in Western Australia.</p>



Program Objective	Performance objectives delivered	2019-2020 Outcome
<b>Challenge-based Innovation Platforms (Item 3.7)</b>	<p>Support the development of the Newcrest Crowd Sourcing Platform. Complete Pilot Trial of BHP Supply Innovation for BHP Olympic Dam.</p> <p>Achieve agreement with BHP on future conduct of Supply Innovation program.</p>	<p>Supported the two bids and included an Industry Growth Centre proposal to the BHP Supply Innovation Program.</p> <p>Supporting Austmine in communicating the Supply Innovation program outcomes as the successful bidder for the program.</p>
<b>National Accelerator Program (Item 3.8)</b>	<p>Develop revised contracting process, preferred curriculum and modes of delivery for approval. Deliver an EOI process, then promotion and assessment of operator applicants.</p>	<p>Completed successfully. Partnered in Queensland with Quantum TX for the delivery of a METS specific program.</p> <p>Working in a cross-industry collaboration program for Western Australia and South Australia - partnered with Core Innovation Hub to deliver industry collaboration program.</p> <p>Additional Accelerators building on the successful outcome of the National Program in 2020/2021.</p>
<b>International Markets Program (Item 3.9)</b>	<p>Identified areas of Australian Competitive Advantage in Global METS. Publish narratives report and delivered in Chile and Peru. Due to COVID-19 impact on exports, adjusted program to deliver Virtual Supply Missions.</p>	<p>Piloted Brand narrative with Industry in ExpoMin Chile in 2019. Virtual Supplier Development Program (VSDP) created to support METS exports in COVID-19 environment.</p> <p>Program identified, created and first VSDP delivered with Peru and LinkMiners in partnership with Austmine.</p>
<b>METS Business Improvement Pilots (Item 3.10)</b>	<p>Delivery of an EOI process managed by MI for METS companies participating in Clusters to apply for matched funding to meet a defined customer challenge.</p> <p>Establish selection panel, assess and award funding. Report detailing key learnings and provision of a draft strategic plan for further commercialisation of collaborative METS innovation (Queensland funded).</p>	<p>Execution of Funding Agreements with approved applicants, including review and approval of appropriate legal arrangements between cluster participants and customers.</p> <p>Administered distribution of funding to successful Cluster funding applicants. Development and publication of case studies showcasing success of the projects.</p> <p>To be developed as projects are completed throughout 2020/2021 financial year.</p>
<b>Regulation Opportunities Roadmap (Item 3.11)</b>	<p>METS-Mining Regulation Roundtable Implementation plans for roadmap priorities.</p> <p>Facilitation of roadmap priorities. Review and refine roadmap priorities.</p>	<p>Regulatory Reform Agenda revised to address the challenges created by COVID-19.</p> <p>Program focussed on border control management for METS sector workers. Working to deliver national METS sector workers code for border controls in line with Agriculture Workers Code.</p>



Program Objective	Performance objectives delivered	2019-2020 Outcome
<b>Marketing Communications and SCP Updates (item 3.12, Item 3.13)</b>	Provide an annual update to the inaugural 2016 SCP. Undertake 12 months of intensive, targeted and proactive communications activities to continue to raise the profile of Australian METS and showcase the strength and innovation of the sector. Increase MI Network Associate database.	<p>SCP update for 2020 completed incorporating the brand narrative and midtier-miners reference group priorities.</p> <p>METS sector identified as an emerging sector to support economic stimulus for COVID-19 Economic Recovery.</p> <p>Supporting the delivery against increased demand for METS sector capability in remote and autonomous operations for other industry sectors impacted by COVID- 19.</p>
<b>IKP refinement (Item 3.14)</b>	Original IKPs to be reviewed.	<p>Complete review of IKPs underway with Industry Research engagement and consultation.</p> <p>New IKP outcomes scheduled for delivery late 2020 as a precursor to the next SCP update.</p>
<b>Internal Skills and Organisation (3.15)</b>	<p>Effective delivery of the strategic and enabling initiatives. Delivery of initiatives to KPIs, on time, within budget.</p> <p>Leverage of key stakeholders to deliver sector impact with mutual benefits.</p> <p>Professional development priorities set for each team member.</p>	<p>As the Growth Centre is now focussed on industry support and execution of programs, new staff members have been appointed to lead TAMM, Queensland Work Program, Industry Research and project delivery.</p> <p>Increased resources in Marketing and Events, and outsourced partnering for Marketing.</p> <p>Industry Analysts appointed for METS sector mapping and Mine Electrification Project Priorities. Greater alignment and partnership with other Industry Growth Centres, in particular with NERA, FIAL and AMGC.</p>



## Case Study

# Quantum TX (Technology Exchange):

Accelerating SMEs to commercial success

The Quantum Technology Exchange Accelerator brings together regional and metropolitan-based SMEs specialising in areas such as digital technologies, automation and remote operations, data sciences, sustainability and clean energy. This cross-sector capability development program is designed to accelerate the commercialisation and scaling up of leading technology businesses from right across the Australian METS sector.

METS Ignited partnered with State Government and regional development organisations to deliver the 12-week intensive program. SMEs are provided access to industry experts and innovation mentors from Mining, Energy, Agriculture, Defence and Space. The program is delivered by Atomic Sky, and has included partners from – Woodside Energy, BHP, Roy Hill, Rio Tinto, AROSE, Fugro SpAARC, Robotics Australia Group, InmarSAT, The Australian Space

Agency, NOVA Systems, METS Ignited, SmartSAT CRC, NERA, Telstra, CISCO, Defence West and Thales New Energy.

The program culminates in a finale demo day and pitch session to investors and potential business partners, with focus on achieving higher commercial execution capability, helping grow participating companies' market presence and export opportunities. Feedback from participants credit this program for accelerating their business' commercial maturity, with the greatest value coming from highly interactive and engaging sessions; developing invaluable connections to peers and the network of industry professionals and potential clients involved in the program.

As a cornerstone initiative for METS Ignited, Accelerator programs such as Quantum TX deliver on the Growth Centre's objectives to accelerate the commercialisation of innovation.







*Collaborative  
Industry-led Investment*



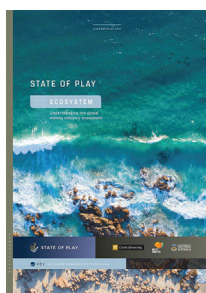
# Communications Data Points



## Published Reports

The following reports and other media were produced through the reporting period:

**Sector Competitiveness Plan 2020 Update**, we step back to examine how the METS ecosystem has evolved over the past four years, we look at how the priorities have evolved for the sector, how the industry has evolved; and what steps must be taken to adapt and respond to those changing market needs. We then look ahead at the emerging future technology trends, the ongoing transformative impact of automation, digitalisation, big data and analytics, look at the increasing demands on our social licence to operate, and the ongoing impact of regulatory reform.



**State of Play – Ecosystem Report:** Based on our 2018/19 global mining industry survey, we examine the changing nature of the mining industry ecosystem and what fundamental forces mining and services companies must position themselves to respond to in order to succeed.



**State of Play – Cybersecurity Report:** In a world-first, we dive deep into the question of safeguarding data and digital infrastructure in global natural resources industries, and uncover the strategic responses mining and services companies are responding to the prescient cyber threat.



**State of Play – Strategy Report:** Based on our 2018/19 global mining industry survey, we examine the ways that leading mining and services companies are responding to the external environment and adapting their strategy to remain competitive.



**Our 2020–21 Business Plan** is heavily focussed on delivery and execution, ensuring that we capitalise on the investments of the past, and maximising the future opportunities to be captured as a result of the hard work and dedication not only within METS Ignited but from across the broader resources industry.



**State of Play Delivery Report** - we examine the challenge of delivering innovation effectively in large, mid-tier and junior mining and services companies across the mining industry. In a world-first, we are able to link innovation approaches with total shareholder returns. This report is a musthave for leaders looking to transform their companies into innovation leaders.



## Media Releases

### Strategic:

DISER initiative promotions – M2M, Defence supply chain funding, Critical Minerals, Export Hubs, RMIT panel, manufacturing grants, improved payment terms for SMEs, Data 61, Industry Growth Centres, BGA grants, Austrade export updates, COVID support packages

[manmonthly.com.au/news/queensland-launches-13-5-million-grants-program-localmanufacturers/](http://manmonthly.com.au/news/queensland-launches-13-5-million-grants-program-localmanufacturers/)

[theaustralian.com.au/commentary/help-on-its-way-to-smes/newsstory/b5251832a3bb6b5fc7a4e368010b8c06?btr=15fb-98a1c7c16eafa34c9ac1ae7441ba](http://theaustralian.com.au/commentary/help-on-its-way-to-smes/newsstory/b5251832a3bb6b5fc7a4e368010b8c06?btr=15fb-98a1c7c16eafa34c9ac1ae7441ba)

[linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6638989360039510016/](https://linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6638989360039510016/)

[austrade.gov.au/news/news/novel-coronavirus](http://austrade.gov.au/news/news/novel-coronavirus)

[linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6680629101897822208/](https://linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6680629101897822208/)

[aumanufacturing.com.au/bortana-electric-vehicle-prototype-types-under-test](http://aumanufacturing.com.au/bortana-electric-vehicle-prototype-types-under-test)

### ► METS Ignited new CEO

[australianmining.com.au/features/mets-ignited-welcomes-adrian-beer-as-new-ceo/](http://australianmining.com.au/features/mets-ignited-welcomes-adrian-beer-as-new-ceo/)

### ► State of Play Ecosystem Report, Cybersecurity Report

[energyinnovation.net.au/article/global-report-looming-cyber-threat-in-mining-pavesplatform-for-change-1](http://energyinnovation.net.au/article/global-report-looming-cyber-threat-in-mining-pavesplatform-for-change-1)

### ► Staying ahead of the Game release

[minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/karenandrews/media-releases/new-technologiesaccelerate-resources-industry](http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/karenandrews/media-releases/new-technologiesaccelerate-resources-industry)  
[aumanufacturing.com.au/industry-4-0-adoption-could-create-80000-new-australianjobs-says-new-report](http://aumanufacturing.com.au/industry-4-0-adoption-could-create-80000-new-australianjobs-says-new-report)

### ► Ministerial visit

[blog.metsignited.org/mets-day-with-the-minister](http://blog.metsignited.org/mets-day-with-the-minister)

### Projects: T4 promotions, announcement and contributions to announcements

[australianmining.com.au/news/mets-ignited-announces-4m-in-project-funding/](http://australianmining.com.au/news/mets-ignited-announces-4m-in-project-funding/)

[im-mining.com/2019/07/16/mets-ignited-backing-analytics-automation-robotics-technologydevelopments/](http://im-mining.com/2019/07/16/mets-ignited-backing-analytics-automation-robotics-technologydevelopments/)

### Projects: T3 promotions

[safetowork.com.au/machinery-innovation-aims-to-enhance-underground-environment/](http://safetowork.com.au/machinery-innovation-aims-to-enhance-underground-environment/)

[blog.metsignited.org/partnering-for-success](http://blog.metsignited.org/partnering-for-success)

[im-mining.com/2020/02/26/batchfire-invests-new-data-management-reporting-technologycallide-coal-mine/](http://im-mining.com/2020/02/26/batchfire-invests-new-data-management-reporting-technologycallide-coal-mine/)

### Projects: T2 promotions

[linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6691584588420022272/](https://linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6691584588420022272/)

### Export Growth

International engagement promotion – PDAC, India Business Exchange

[linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6638256958342254593/](https://linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6638256958342254593/)

[blog.metsignited.org/export-hub-funding-announcement-to-supportmets](http://blog.metsignited.org/export-hub-funding-announcement-to-supportmets)

### Industry Capability:

► Industry awards (RIN, QMA, IMARC)

► Earth observation workshops

► GMG virtual working group promo

► Employment advertising for program participants

► ATC winner ongoing success story promotions

[blog.metsignited.org/mining-technologies-homegrown-competitive-advantage](http://blog.metsignited.org/mining-technologies-homegrown-competitive-advantage)

► Robotics and Automation Conference, technology roadmap discussion

► Regional accelerator media release contributions including Ministerial content

[spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/miners-space-racecollaboration-to-boost-talent-pool-supplier-diversity-57146633](http://spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/miners-space-racecollaboration-to-boost-talent-pool-supplier-diversity-57146633)

[startuptoowoomba.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Media-Release-MIRA-METS-Accelerator-Program-FINAL.pdf?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_campaign=postfity&utm\\_content=postfity169a2](http://startuptoowoomba.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Media-Release-MIRA-METS-Accelerator-Program-FINAL.pdf?utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=postfity&utm_content=postfity169a2)

[blog.metsignited.org/hacks-for-real-world-challenges-solved-with-technology](http://blog.metsignited.org/hacks-for-real-world-challenges-solved-with-technology)

[blog.metsignited.org/quantumtx-cross-sector-acceleration-program-0](http://blog.metsignited.org/quantumtx-cross-sector-acceleration-program-0)

[eventbrite.com.au/e/central-queensland-hydrogen-forum-gladstone-tickets-85929237663](http://eventbrite.com.au/e/central-queensland-hydrogen-forum-gladstone-tickets-85929237663)

[blog.metsignited.org/tailing-clustering-first](http://blog.metsignited.org/tailing-clustering-first)

### ► IMARC

[youtube.com/watch?v=7V-kMWyubWI](https://youtube.com/watch?v=7V-kMWyubWI)

[blog.metsignited.org/mets-and-mining-collaboration-reward-ed](http://blog.metsignited.org/mets-and-mining-collaboration-reward-ed)

► Final masterclass promotions

### Other Media

► Austmine sponsorship promotion

► State Government COVID support

► Export Finance opportunities

► Multiple state, national conference promotions

► CRC and CRC P promotions – FBI CRC, TiME CRC

[linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6628812025264906240/](https://linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6628812025264906240/)

► Queensland Projects Fund promotions

[statements.qld.gov.au/statements/89163](http://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/89163)

► Accelerator alumni promotions

► Cluster participant promotions, cluster group promos including Hydrogen cluster

► Collaborative workshop promotions with CEEC and CMBI  
[www.ceecthefuture.org/news/register-now-ceec-kalgoorlie-workshop-7-november-as-partof-metfest](http://www.ceecthefuture.org/news/register-now-ceec-kalgoorlie-workshop-7-november-as-partof-metfest)



# Appendix

## Name of the Growth Centre

The name of the Growth Centre is METS Ignited Australia Ltd, ABN 54 607 894 511.

## Growth Centre Members

At 30 June, the 2020 METS Ignited Australia Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as the 'organisation') Members are:

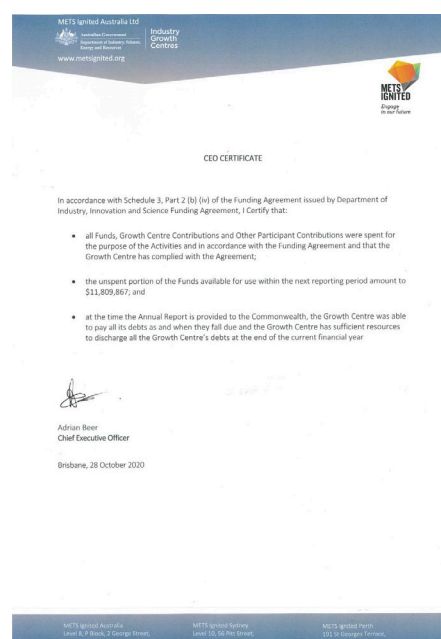
Name of Member	ABN and/or ACN (where applicable)	Organisation Type	Member Contact Details	Role and contribution/s of Member
Orica	98 008 624 691	METS	GPO Box 4311 Melbourne Victoria 3001	Major Australian METS MNC
AMIRA	60 176 687 975	Research	Level 2, 271 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000	Organisation consisting of minerals companies and suppliers which develops, brokers and facilitates collaborative research
Russell Mineral Equipment	20 010 708 406	METS (SME)	141/143 Russell St, Toowoomba QLD 4350	Australian METS SME Multinational
Whittle Consulting	71 086 470 457	METS (SME)	Suite 8, 660 Canterbury Road Surrey Hills, Victoria 3127	Australian METS SME Multinational
Gekko Systems	77 064 618 293	METS (SME)	321 Learmonth Road Ballarat, Victoria 3350	Australian METS SME

- ▶ There were no changes to the Members during the year ended June 2020.
- ▶ There were no calls for Member or other Participant contributions during the reporting period.

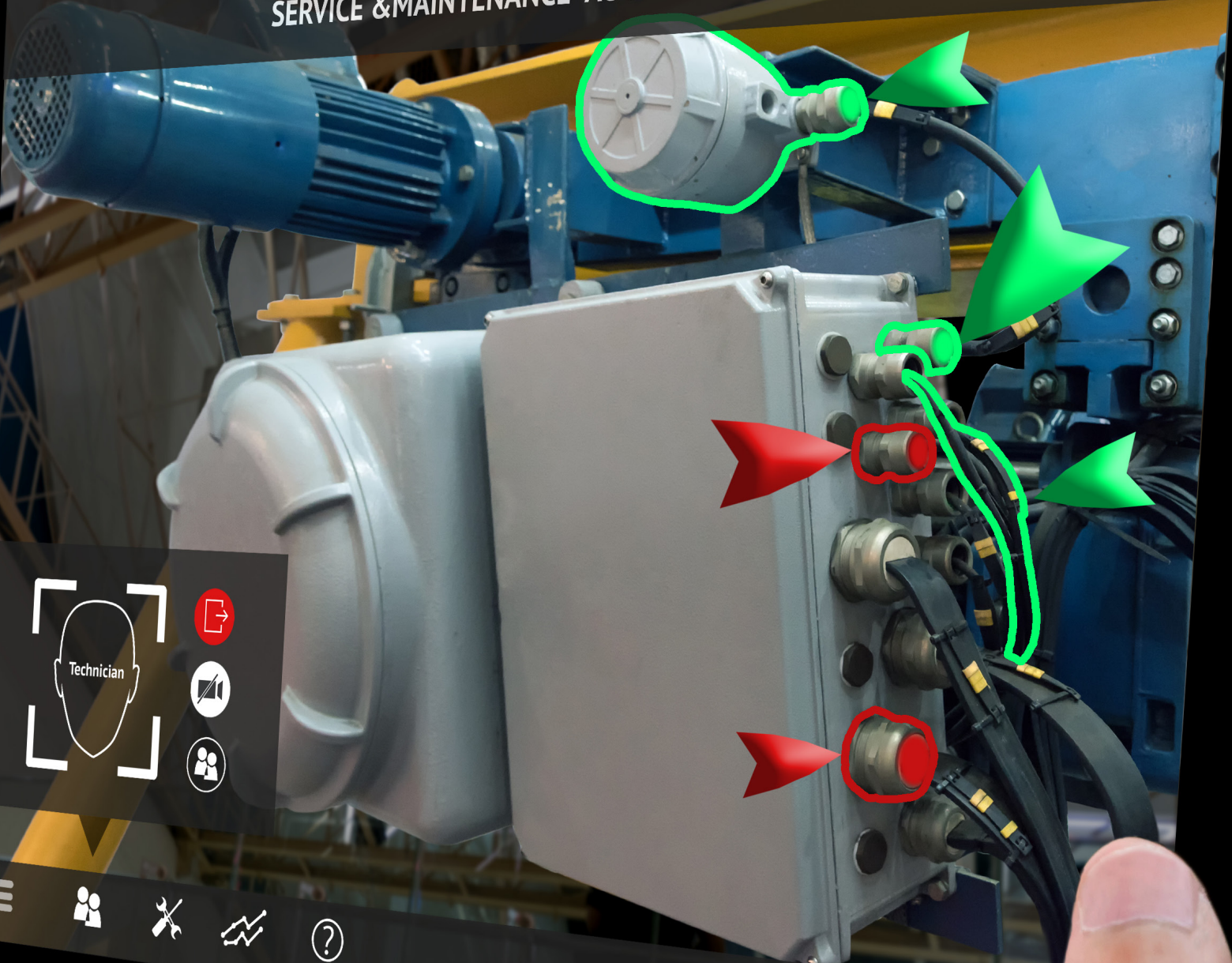
## Chair's Certificate



## CEO's Certificate



## SERVICE & MAINTENANCE AUGMENTED REALITY



*Developing  
a Workforce  
for the Future*





Follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn or  
visit [metsignited.org](http://metsignited.org) to hear more  
about the work of METS Ignited

**[metsignited.org](http://metsignited.org)**

🐦 @METSIGNITED    🔗 METS IGNITED AUSTRALIA LTD