



www.csrp.com.au

Centre for Sustainable Resource Processing

THE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE PROCESSING

PERTH HEADQUARTERS LAUNCHED TODAY

Perth 12/12/2003

Perth has been chosen as the headquarters for a new government and industry research initiative to develop greater levels of sustainability in mineral production and processing.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Resource Processing (CSRP) has been established to find better technological solutions for eliminating waste and emissions in the minerals mining and manufacturing cycle while enhancing business performance and meeting community expectations.

The new WA Technology Park based CSRP headquarters was officially opened today by the Federal Minister for Communications, Information Technology & the Arts the Hon Daryl Williams.

The minerals industry and the Federal and State governments have committed \$90.6 million in funding to the CSRP over the next seven years for research projects. These projects will involve Curtin University of Technology, the University of Queensland, University of Sydney, the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), CSIRO Minerals and Central TAFE WA.

Newly-appointed CSRP Chief Executive Officer, Stevan Green, said the Centre provided an integrated and coordinated approach by industry, government and research institutions to the challenges of creating a more sustainable future.

"Australia has vast mineral resources which have been critical to its growth and development over the past century," Mr Green said.

"However, the mining industry, government and Australians in general recognise that if mining is to remain viable it must become even more sustainable by meeting greater environmental, business and public scrutiny."

"Australia is renowned for innovation in processing minerals and metals but we need to continue to look for even better ways of production. If we are to continue to be a relevant and responsible industry we must ensure that we are effectively and efficiently utilising resources."

"CSRP's goal is to find new technological solutions for progressively and systematically eliminating waste and emissions in the minerals cycle while at the same time enhancing business performance and meeting community expectation."

"The key focus to achieving this is through minimising energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions; reducing process waste and enhancing co-product values; reducing water consumption and impacts; and improving the control of minor elements and toxic materials."

Mr Green said CSRP has four major core areas of research, with each area broken down into smaller programs. The core research areas are:

- A strategic analysis of current mining and processing practises.
- An analysis of existing operations and their eco-efficiency.
- An investigation to identify and promote regional and supply chain synergies, and
- Development of break-through technologies.

"The success of CSRP is pivotal for sustained prosperity and wealth generation from Australia's mineral endowments," Mr Green said.

"The minerals industry is no longer about picks and shovels and holes in the ground. It is now a high tech industry and will become even more so in the future to meet ever increasing sustainability targets.

"In addition world class research requires world class researchers. An important focus of the CSRP will be working with universities and high schools to attract the brightest of our young men and women into an exciting high tech industry which is crucial to our society's future well being."

CSRP has 10 core participants: Alcoa World Alumina, Curtin University of Technology, Newmont Australia, TRPL (Rio Tinto), Xstrata, University of Queensland, WMC Resources, ANSTO, CSIRO Minerals and University of Sydney.

OneSteel, Rocla Industries and Central TAFE are supporting participants while associates to the Centre are the Kwinana Industries Council, Delta EMD, Tesla, URS, Ausmelt, Environment Australia, Hatch, Minerals Council of Australia and the NSW Minerals Council.

The CSRP is part of the Cooperative Research Centres Programme run by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training. The CSRP is further supported by the Centres of Excellence Program under the Office of Science and Innovation within of the WA Department of Premier and Cabinet.

For further information:

Mr Stevan Green, Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Sustainable Resource Processing
(08) 6436 8734
0419 583 461
stevan.green@csrp.com.au
www.csrp.com.au