



Innovative Manufacturing CRC

A collaborative venture between industry, government and researchers



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

Business
Cooperative Research
Centres Programme

Innovative Manufacturing CRC (IMCRC)

The IMCRC has a vision for a globally connected and smarter Australian manufacturing industry. We are industry-led and develop important new technologies, products and services in Australia's manufacturing sector. We operate in the context of the Australian Government's Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) program to improve the competitiveness, productivity and sustainability of Australian manufacturing firms, and to drive digital and business model transformation. We will deliver manufacturing outcomes in line with government priorities in key growth sectors and in science, research and innovation, encourage and enable small and medium enterprise (SME) participation in collaborative research, and fund projects to tackle industry specific problems through research partnerships between industry entities and research organisations. The IMCRC is a not-for-profit organisation.

The IMCRC currently has two primary focus areas, which will continue to evolve over time to align with new innovations and industry demand.

- **Key enabling and innovative manufacturing technologies** including for example additive manufacturing (3D printing), nanotechnology, micro and nano electronics, photonics, advanced materials, advanced manufacturing systems, simulation, augmented reality as well as range of product development and lifecycle management (PLM) technologies.
- **Industry Transformation** integrating new technology platforms with business model innovation to deliver targeted business improvement through the value chain, focusing on digital and data driven manufacturing, innovation, leadership and the uptake of Industry 4.0, particularly with SME manufacturers.

More information about the IMCRC, is available on our website at www.imcrc.org or by contacting



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IMCRC Manufacturing Innovation Projects

- The IMCRC runs from 2016 to 2022.
- We have up to \$40 million in Commonwealth funding available during this term for industry projects to match dollar for dollar industry cash contributions. This includes funding for Industry Transformation initiatives.
- In kind contributions are also sought, however not matched by IMCRC, and nor is capital expenditure.
- Essential Participants in the IMCRC contribute at least \$500K in cash over the term of IMCRC.
- Applications are to be created and submitted by a lead industry participant using the templates available at <http://www.imcrc.org/new-research-projects.html>
- Key project assessment criteria require that a Project
 - is industry led, delivers clear manufacturing outcomes, and involves innovative and advanced manufacturing (ideally within a key growth sector);
 - demonstrates genuine collaboration, including with SMEs, and also with Growth Centres and other CRCs;
 - creates opportunities to access global supply chains;
 - delivers wider / multiplier benefits to Australian manufacturing industry – contributes to the sector transformation and sustainability;
 - requires high quality research with Universities, CSIRO and/or other research organisations in Australia, and facilitates PhD student scholarships;
 - has a clear IP utilisation / commercialisation plan (note that IMCRC does not own Project IP – ownership is determined between the industry and research participants where it can most effectively be commercialised);
 - has a clear business innovation and transformation plan and/or Industry 4.0 adoption plan (IMCRC is developing diagnostics, education and training materials and methodology to facilitate this), and
 - has a defined return on research investment, with both manufacturing and commercial outcomes.
- Projects are reviewed initially by the IMCRC Innovation Investment Committee (IIC) which can approve projects up to \$1m in cash value, or recommend approval to the IMCRC Board.
- IMCRC invites new project applications from industry for projects up to \$6 million total cash investment (\$3 million from industry plus \$3 million from IMCRC).