



## Press Release

Sydney, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2002

The Australian Centre for Advanced Computing and Communications (**ac3**) today announced that it will install a new supercomputer to expand the services provided to university and institutional researchers. The new computer will be purchased with a grant from the Australian Research Council, together with contributions from university partners, and will be housed and supported within **ac3**'s state-of-the-art data centre at the Australian Technology Park, Redfern, NSW.

“This will help **ac3** continue to respond to the needs of leading edge researchers who have requested far greater capacity than we have been able to provide on our three existing supercomputers since we commenced operations in November 2000” said Phil Singleton, the Chairman of **ac3**. “It will provide researchers with access to additional computing power that will enable them to carry out simulations of the real world that have not been possible to date”.

The successful grant application was spearheaded by the University of Technology Sydney on behalf of a consortium of 5 NSW-based Universities, which, in addition to UTS, include the Universities of Sydney, NSW, Macquarie and Wollongong, with **ac3** as the industry partner. These 5 Universities are all shareholders in **ac3**, and their researchers are already heavy users of **ac3**'s supercomputers.

“The ARC funding of \$375K, coupled with the Universities' cash contributions of over \$400K, means that we will be able to acquire a supercomputer with a power of around 300 gigaflops”, said Professor Lindsay Botten of UTS, an **ac3** Board member. “We plan to acquire a cluster system based on Intel processors. This, in common with similar systems installed in research environments, will run the Linux operating system”.

The cluster will form an integral part of a national Computational Grid being established by the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing (APAC) and will be used to underpin world leading research in areas which include photonics, nanotechnology, bioinformatics, quantum physics and chemistry, and engineering.

For further information contact Professor Lindsay Botten on (02) 9514-2247 or [Lindsay.Botten@uts.edu.au](mailto:Lindsay.Botten@uts.edu.au) .

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## About **ac3**

**ac3** was established in 2000 with seed funding from the NSW State Government of \$12M, as well as cash and in-kind contributions of \$9M from eight NSW-based Universities. The company, in which the NSW State Government has 57% equity, operates three state-of-the-art supercomputers in its secure data centre at the Australian Technology Park at Redfern, NSW.

**ac3**'s commercial interests focus on financial services and government services. **ac3** provides banks with a superior platform for risk modelling. Government business is primarily based on professionally managed co-location services.

**ac3** also provides researchers in its shareholder universities with access to supercomputing power, and serves as the New South Wales partner in APAC, the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing.

For more information on **ac3** visit [www.ac3.com.au](http://www.ac3.com.au), or contact Phil McCrea, the CEO, on (02) 9209 4601 or email [pmc@ac3.com.au](mailto:pmc@ac3.com.au).

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