



Press Release

Advanced Computing to increase the competitiveness of regional industry

Sydney, February 18, 2003

The Australian Centre for Advanced Computing and Communications (**ac3**) today announced a new regional industry initiative that will help to improve the competitiveness of companies in Western Sydney and the Illawarra.

This initiative is headed up by Mr Ian Stone, **ac3**'s recently appointed Industry Development Manager, and will encourage companies to consider incorporating advanced computing techniques into their business processes.

"Computers are now powerful enough to be able to model the real world quite realistically and economically", stated Dr. Philip McCrea, CEO of **ac3**. "In manufacturing, for instance, a new product can be developed relatively easily using a computer – but more importantly it can be tested to destruction repeatedly inside the computer before a physical prototype need be constructed. This results in better product that is cheaper to produce in a shorter period of time."

According to Ian Stone it's not just manufacturing that can benefit from advanced computing. "In relation to the environment, for instance, computer modelling can be used to simulate natural events so the effects of rain, drought, or urban development can be determined," said Mr Stone. "In logistics, optimal scheduling solutions can be worked out, eliminating the problems associated with a trial-and-error approach."

Ian Stone has a long history in the development and application of software for the manufacturing sector both in Australia and overseas. He has extensive knowledge of business and industrial processes, and how the use of advanced computing can provide competitive advantage.

About ac3

The NSW Government established **ac3** with funding of \$12 million in 2000, in partnership with eight NSW universities. The company operates three state-of-the-art supercomputers at its secure data centre at the Australian Technology Park at Redfern.

For more information visit www.ac3.com.au, or contact Ian Stone on (02) 4739-6050 or email ian.stone@ac3.com.au

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