



**Special Minister of State
Minister for Commerce
Minister for Industrial Relations
Assistant Treasurer
Minister for the Central Coast**

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DELLA BOSCA LAUNCHES AUSTRALIA'S FASTEST SUPERCOMPUTER

NSW Minister for Commerce, John Della Bosca, today launched Australia's newest and fastest supercomputer.

"The computer has already broken the computing world's version of the sound barrier by performing more than a trillion calculations per second," said Mr Della Bosca.

"Housed at the Australian Centre for Advanced Computing and Communications (ac3), it is the nation's most advanced computer.

"The supercomputer will be used by NSW universities to conduct advanced scientific research and mathematical modelling," he said.

Mr Della Bosca said ac3 was established in November 2000 with a \$12 million investment by the NSW Government.

"ac3 provides a secure, centralised high-performance computing and data centre for use by industry, government and academia," said Mr Della Bosca.

"ac3 was built at Australian Technology Park as a collaborative venture between the State Government and Macquarie, New South Wales, Charles Sturt, Sydney, Newcastle, Western Sydney, UTS and Wollongong universities."

Mr Della Bosca said ac3's new supercomputer would provide a tremendous boost to research and development across the nation.

"The computer is already being used on a range of groundbreaking research projects including new photonic technology, the design of new pharmaceutical drugs, improved mobile phone communication reception and modelling the effects of land changes," he said.

Mr Della Bosca said the supercomputer is made up of a cluster of 155 dual Dell Intel Xeon machines, each with two gigabytes of memory.

The \$850,000 supercomputer was purchased with a grant from the Australian Research Council and funding from UTS, New South Wales, Macquarie, Sydney and Wollongong universities.

Media contact: Rania Wannous 9228 4777 or 0413 384 122