Welcome to the spring edition newsletter of the SMART Infrastructure Facility.

Australia must prepare now for a world in the Asian century that is nothing like what we have experienced in the past.

The engine of growth for the world economy will be driven by consequences of migration from agricultural to urban living across the Asia Pacific.

My recent piece in the *Australian Financial Review* ‘Benchmark to make our cities slicker’, discusses the opportunities we have, the potential changes to be made and the need to establish performance benchmarks for Australian cities and compare them with our international peers.

Understanding the changing times ahead, there is an urgency to ensure our major cities grow and prosper for everyone’s benefit. If we succeed, we will underwrite the next economic super cycle reflecting a surge in productivity and exports of high value Australian goods and services throughout Asia and the Pacific.

Infrastructure in cities and regional areas face serious challenges. While ageing and poorly maintained capital could be attributed as the problem, the issues go much deeper. The way we have settled our communities and developed industries in the past 100 years with a relative abundance of land, relatively low population densities, scant attention to environmental impact and with modest community involvement all belong to the past. The question is whether these systems are equipped to handle the next 100 years equally as well.

To address these issues, the SMART Infrastructure Facility is developing and hosting
the inaugural **International Symposium for Next Generation Infrastructure** in October 2013.

This will be the first in a series of three symposia to take place around the world with our Symposium Partners Arizona State University (ASU) and University College London (UCL) who will be hosting subsequent symposia in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Garry Bowditch  
CEO, SMART Infrastructure Facility

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**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA FOR NEXT GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE**

There is an urgent need to respond to the increasing volatility of our time and to make better use of existing infrastructure. In addition, there is also the increasing need of undertaking long term planning that allows the community to participate in a sophisticated way consistent with their ability to synthesise information concerns with many other aspects of their lives.

This is why the SMART Infrastructure Facility is developing and hosting the inaugural International Symposia for Next Generation Infrastructure in October 2013.

To read more click [here](#). To view the International Symposium For Next Generation Infrastructure website please go to [www.isngi.org](http://www.isngi.org).

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**CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR GRAHAM HARRIS**

SMART’s Honorary Professor of Infrastructure and Environmental Systems Professor Graham Harris is joining us to discuss the key issues he sees facing infrastructure planning and how SMART is perfectly placed to effectively address these problems.

To watch the video click [here](#).

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**SMART EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

SMART’s Executive Development Program brings together leading researchers and industry practitioners to deliver the most up to date thinking, knowledge and tools to improve policy and investment decision making.

Upcoming events include:
- [Creating a world class rail organisation](#)
- [SMART’s Urban Liveability Workshop](#)
**SMART INFRASTRUCTURE DASHBOARD LAUNCH**

SMART was invited to contribute to the Illawarra Futures Symposium, an initiative between the University of Wollongong and Regional Development Australia Illawarra, the region’s peak regional development body.

As part of the event, SMART launched our much anticipated Infrastructure Dashboard (SID).

To read more on the Symposium click [here](#).

**SIMULATION AUSTRALIA’S SMART APPOINTMENT**

SMART’s Professor of Modelling and Simulation, Pascal Perez, has recently been appointed to a key governing committee of the national peak body for the simulation community.

To read more click [here](#).

**SMART RESEARCHER AWARDED US PATENT**

SMART Infrastructure Facility researcher, Dr Nagesh Shukla has been awarded a US patent for a modelling tool that better utilises hospital resources for improved patient care.

The main application of the model is to inform strategic planning in hospitals and to report and control monitoring of health care services.

This type of modelling offers real benefits in service delivery and quality for the local community.

To read more click [here](#).

**NEW EXPERT JOINING SMART**

The expert team at SMART is expanding again, and we have recently welcomed our new Business Development Manager, Rafael Vazquez Romero.