High-tech research facility opens soon

By AGRON LATIFI

One of the largest infrastructure research institutions in the world is nearing completion at the University of Wollongong.

It was announced during an inspection of the $62 million four-storey building recently that the SMART Infrastructure Facility would open for business by the middle of this year.

SMART director and chief executive officer Garry Bowditch said the facility was one of the largest infrastructure research institutions in the world.

“SMART draws on the university’s proven research track record and academic strengths in engineering, commerce, informatics, law and science to holistically assess infrastructure projects and develop best practice solutions to potential problems,” he said.

Federal Member for Throsby Stephen Jones was also impressed by the size and functionality of the facility which will accommodate up to 200 high degree research students and features 30 state-of-the-art laboratories.

“The SMART Infrastructure Facility will lead important research on infrastructure which will be nationally significant,” Mr Jones said.