

**For further information,  
please contact:**

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*“Fostering high-tech industry  
development in ICT Sector”*

**OVERVIEW**

The **La Trobe University Microsoft Centre** is a technology infusion initiative in partnership with **Microsoft, Industry, La Trobe University** and is supported by the **State Government of Victoria** and other technology providers.

The Centre is a facility for software developers (SMEs, the developer community, university students and staff) where their ideas can be brought to life through the infusion of cutting edge hardware and software. This facility is aimed at creating better Student to Business linkages as well as lowering the infrastructure barriers and ensures that the latest platforms are available to students, academics, SMEs and start-ups for research and product development.

The facilities and activities in the Centre will focus on strategic projects, closely aligned to the Microsoft platform that in turn will contribute to economic growth through development and transfer of technology, new IP and relevant world class skill transfer.

**OBJECTIVES**

- To establish a Microsoft Centre in Australia providing necessary Industry and Academic Linkages
- To provide easy access to cutting edge technology (software and hardware) to enable skill transfer and innovation
- To give Industry & Academia access to a stimulating environment for innovation
- To give smaller companies access to mentoring resource by larger companies (Microsoft, Intel, Wacom, i-mate, etc)
- To give students and researchers exposure to industry in a “soft” environment
- To help developing products for eventual commercialisation
- To engage students and academics in Research and Development projects based on Microsoft platforms

**LOCATION**

The La Trobe University Microsoft Centre is located at the La Trobe University’s R&D Park. The La Trobe University’s R&D Park is one of Australia’s largest wholly University owned and managed technology parks.

**MANAGEMENT & OPERATION**

The La Trobe University Microsoft Centre will be managed by the **Centre for Technology Infusion**, a University-based Research and Product Realisation Centre

and will be operated under the existing structure of the Centre for Technology Infusion.

Microsoft will play a supporting role and provide the following necessary components:

- General marketing & branding support
- Access to appropriate software and tools
- Regular refresh of necessary software & tools
- Mentoring and awareness of new technologies as per Microsoft DPE Initiatives
- Access to seminars & workshops on emerging technologies that would be of interest to academia & Industry
- Access to Hardware and other resources when available
- Considering to grow this Centre to Microsoft Centre global brand over time
- Appropriately promoting the Centre facilities to Microsoft partners and customers
- Encouraging engagement of industry clusters and other stakeholders
- Participating in Steering Committee and planning meetings

Whilst the Centre partners (La Trobe University, Microsoft, etc) are happy to provide some technology innovation guidance it is expected that all users of the Centre facilities will become members of appropriate Microsoft partner programs (Empower) in order to receive the required Technical support resources and other benefits.

**USAGE GUIDELINES**

To maximise both use of the Centre and output from the Centre, the following booking procedures are recommended:

- Initial request for booking to be made via Centre for Technology Infusion, contact details: Dr. Hai (Harris) Le +61 3 9479 3763; Email: [H.Le@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:H.Le@latrobe.edu.au)
- Request to include the main reasons for wanting to use the Centre, a summary of the proposed project to be developed, and details of the company/person making the request. Online application form located at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/tech-infusion/mc>
- All requests to be evaluated by a committee comprising of members from
  - o La Trobe University, Microsoft and other industry partners (Clusters, Intel, Wacom, i-mate, etc)
- Applicants getting through this part of the process to be invited, if required, to a brief interview before final approval.

