

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday 21 October 2005

### **HISTORIC 2-WAY AGREEMENT GIVES NT CRYSTAL CLEAR LOOK AT FUTURE ISSUES**

A partnership between NT's university, government and a world player in high-end technology will help investigate and explain the effect of different courses of action when facing major environmental challenges in the future.

The historic three year Collaborative Agreement is signed in Darwin today by Charles Darwin's Vice Chancellor, Helen Garnett, and Perth-based ISA Technologies' CEO, Sil La Puma.

"Ironically, this highly sophisticated and complex technology will help researchers give simple explanations for people involved in solving a potential problem or working with a new opportunity," said CDU Vice Chancellor, Professor Helen Garnett.

"Our scientists will be able to take the results of their investigations to the people affected and show them what the various courses of action will look like in practice, with clear, simple 3D pictures," Professor Garnett said.

The collaboration brings together the outstanding research experience of the university and ISA's world class expertise across a range of ICT areas, including High Performance Computing and Visualisation.

They will collaborate using **computational fluid dynamics\*** to help the NT government tackle three major topics, the stability of the Daly River channel, Darwin Harbour's health and the design of thermally efficient buildings. Each issue has major potential impact on the future of the Territory.

ISA's High Performance Computing facility has the capacity to process volumes of information outside the capacity even of large companies and government departments.

Professor Garnett says this agreement will enable CDU researchers – and through them the NT Government – to manage large and complex projects such as these, while shrinking data processing time and minimising capital expenditure.

"Through this agreement, we will have access to ISA's technical experts on identified projects and as part of CDU courses and workshops.

“As an added bonus, CDU technology students stand to gain international experience in the Asia Pacific Region through links to other ISA partners including IBM,” she said.

ISA Technology’s Visualisation expertise will vastly increase the effectiveness of scientific discussions with stakeholder groups, who can literally be shown:

- the effects of various options for solving a problem
- the negative implications of continuing with a particular type of development
- the long term results of leaving a situation as it is or continuing a particular course of action.

For example, Indigenous stakeholders, the fishing industry, ports authorities, foreshore developers and other interested parties could literally see the results of taking different actions in developing the Darwin foreshore, such as where the beach sand will shift.

*Computational Fluid Dynamics – the process of modeling fluid flows by the numerical solution of mathematical equations of motion.*

CDU MEDIA CONTACT: Jennifer Richardson (or other, TBC), 0421 602 304

ISA MEDIA CONTACT: Kerryn Nelson, 0417 035 536

e: [kerryn.nelson@bigmouth.net.au](mailto:kerryn.nelson@bigmouth.net.au)

PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW:

**GENERAL:**

CDU VICE CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR HELEN GARNETT

ISA CEO, SIL LA PUMA

**HEALTH OF DARWIN HARBOUR & STABILITY OF DALY RIVER CHANNEL:**

Dr Eric Valentine – School of Engineering & Logistics

**THERMALLY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS**

Dr Michael Duell – School of Engineering & Logistics