

MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUEENSLAND, 22 March 2022

Call for AI innovators to put TMR's Spatial Lab on the map

A call has gone out to Australia's Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) innovators to help the Department of Transport and Main Roads Queensland (TMR) launch its first Spatial Lab.

Transport and Main Roads Director, General Neil Scales, said the new TMR Spatial Labs Program was developed to brainstorm and “hack” current and emerging AI and ML technologies from across the transport, AI, and geospatial sectors to better translate spatial data into usable knowledge.

“The program consists of two rounds of short-term industry/research projects aiming to improve TMR’s data use or find new innovations to support state-wide planning and decision-making,” Mr Scales said.

"The Spatial Labs will focus on seeing how these niche innovators can use TMR’s existing drone, vehicle mounted, spatial and other imagery data to support the delivery of a single integrated transport network accessible to everyone. We want to harness industry capability and research to identify innovative solutions.

“By bringing together innovators from across Australia to brainstorm ideas, we can find pioneering ways to better understand and use our current geospatial data and strengthen our partnerships across this emerging field.”

Mr Scales said TMR would work with FrontierSI to deliver the TMR Spatial Labs 2022.

FrontierSI CEO Graeme Kernich said its non-for-profit company had been delivering spatial information services throughout Australia, New Zealand, and the world for more than 15 years.

“Our team is excited to have the opportunity to continue to work with artificial intelligence and machine learning companies, and to collaborate with an innovative leader like TMR,” Dr Kernich said.

“The TMR Spatial Labs program is problem focussed and will investigate the challenges and opportunities of using AI and machine learning to extract meaningful insights from airborne, drone and vehicle mounted remote sensing data.”

“We're proud of this program, which will continue to grow Queensland and Australia's capability in our geospatial and space-enabled industries.”

Geospatial businesses and universities are encouraged to participate in TMR’s Spatial Labs Project and are invited to submit applications by Friday 8 April 2022.

Successful applicants will be provided with high-resolution, visible, multispectral, and thermal imagery data, and invited to participate in a series of challenge topics to be explored over the next 10 months.

To learn more about the program, register for the virtual information session on Thursday 31 March 2022, or for an overview of the four challenge questions visit <https://frontiersi.com.au/tmrlabs/>

ENDS.

Dr Graeme Kernich is available for interviews.

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About FrontierSI

FrontierSI (formerly the CRC for Spatial Information) has a 17-year track record delivering spatial information services throughout Australia, New Zealand and around the world. Through a partnership model comprising governments, industry, and the university sector, FrontierSI brings people and technology together to solve complex problems using applied geodesy, spatial infrastructures, analytics, artificial intelligence, and image processing | <https://frontiersi.com.au>