

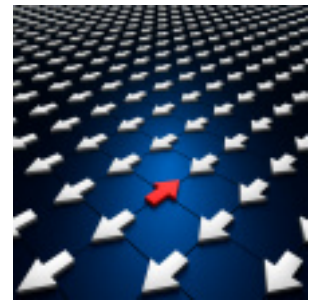


Research Directions

Office of Research Services

Manufacturing Innovation

Professors Ross Chapman, Tim Turpin and Terry Sloan, Dr Phil Toner and Mr Ian Caddy from the Centre for Industry and Innovation Studies (CIIS) are exploring opportunities to improve the environment for innovation in the NSW manufacturing sector through a research project funded by the NSW Department of State and Regional Development.



'NSW is the leading state for manufacturing, with around 32% of the total Australian manufacturing employment occurring here. It is also a leader for innovation and technology in Australia, with more than \$3 billion spent annually on research and development (R&D)' says Professor Chapman. 'The manufacturing industry has been identified by the NSW Government as a significant contributor to, and beneficiary of, enhanced innovation and R&D policies and programs, and one of the industries that is most likely to produce benefits for the broader NSW economy if the innovation activities are adequately supported. This project will look at the policy support needs of the NSW manufacturing sector and develop action areas to foster innovation and competitiveness.'

Working closely with the Department of State and Regional Development and the NSW Manufacturing Council, the research team will use policy reviews and existing manufacturing activity data to build a picture of current innovation activities and existing innovation-related support. By identifying and assessing current government and private sector innovation support programs and analysing feedback from key NSW manufacturing managers, the team will identify gaps in existing services and assistance schemes and develop recommendations for new programs, investments and knowledge infrastructure to support and facilitate innovation in the NSW manufacturing sector.

This project will assist the NSW Government to enhance existing policies and programs, and develop new support activities, to facilitate and encourage innovation within key sectors of NSW manufacturing, thus making the sector more competitive in the global business arena.

Project Title: A study of innovation in the NSW manufacturing sector

Funding has been set at: \$32,812

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