AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: ICT Sector

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard 21 October 2009, E63).

QUESTION No.: SI-39.

Senator ABETZ—…… In relation to ICT, how many people are there in that section of the department still? I think it was six last time. It is part of manufacturing, is that right?
Mr Lawson—It remains six.
Senator ABETZ—Would there be any precinct in Victoria that you could describe as an ICT precinct at all, just from your knowledge—you can take this on notice if you cannot think of anything offhand.
Mr Lawson—It may be best if I take it on notice. Is it a precinct where companies might be focused?
Senator ABETZ—Yes
Mr Lawson—Because there are research sort of precincts.
Senator ABETZ—When I say precinct I understand that to be where there is collaboration or where you have research, a tertiary institution and the private sector all working together in collaboration.
Mr Lawson—There are a number. Have you got in mind a specific one?
Senator ABETZ—Unfortunately, when I was in Victoria just the other day, people in the ICT sector had difficulty in identifying one and I was of the view that clearly there must be one and so I want to assist them…..

ANSWER

Below is a non-exhaustive list of "ICT Precincts" or "Technology Parks" located in Victoria and links to their website:

The University of Ballarat Technology Park

- Located 10 kilometres from the regional City of Ballarat, adjacent to the University of Ballarat.
- Provides contemporary physical resources and professional, technical and academic services to accelerate the business growth of its commercial tenants.
- Focuses on attracting and nurturing emerging and existing businesses from the ICT sector.
- Fosters non-competitive collaboration and strategic alliances between tenants;
- Houses approximately 30 companies/organisations including: IBM; Ambulance Victoria; Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority; State Revenue Office; iGlass; ArgusConnect Pty Ltd; The Centre for eCommerce and Communications; Advanced VTOL Technologies Pty Ltd; The Centre for Regional Innovation and Competitiveness; The Internet Commerce Security Laboratory; Aviarc Australia; and GE Healthcare.

  http://www.ballarattechnologypark.com/

Digital Harbour

- Located at Docklands, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Provides start-up companies, SMEs, 'blue chip' technology companies, education and training institutions, and R&D organisations with an environment designed to stimulate collaboration and the formation of strategic partnerships that create critical mass, attract venture capital and expedite speed to market.
- Tenants include: Telstra's Wireless and Mobility Group; Australia Customs Service; Bureau of Meteorology's Victorian Office; Australian Film Television and Radio School; TransformIT Systems; EnterMO; BTS Australasia; MatheMagic; Parrimark Technology; Shihiko Studios; and VicTrack.

  http://www.digitalharbour.com.au/

Geelong Technology Precinct

- Located seven kilometres from the Geelong Central Business District within Deakin University's Waurn Ponds Campus.
- provides a unique resource and facility for research aimed at industry cooperation and research application.
- Tenants and initiatives include: The International Fibre Centre; Water Industry Training Centre; CPE Systems; Applied Research and Development; The Centre for Material and Fibre Innovation; The Victorian Centre for Advanced Materials Manufacturing; The Advanced Manufacturing CRC; The Advanced Automotive Technology CRC; and The Centre for Intelligent Systems Research.

  http://www.deakin.edu.au/gtp/

La Trobe Research and Development Park

- Located at La Trobe University, Main Campus, Bundoora, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Provides accommodation and facilities to support commercial science and technology R&D collaboration with researchers, teaching institutions, government agencies and private industry.
- The Technology Enterprise Centre (TEC) is the nucleus of the La Trobe R&D Park.
- Tenants of the TEC include: Aerion Technologies Pty Ltd; ASTA Solutions Pty Ltd; Aviation Data Systems Pty Ltd; The Centre for Technology Infusion; Cornerstone computing; Desktop EDA Pty Ltd; Obilon Pty Ltd; and Ultimate Business Systems.

  http://www.latrobe.edu.au/research/techpark

Monash Science Technology Research and Innovation Precinct

- Located at Monash University, Clayton Campus, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Is a centre of enterprise housing university tenants, high tech corporate enterprises and research facilities.
- Tenants work across a range of disciplines including human therapeutics, stem cell research, green chemistry, nanotechnology, bioinformatics, health economics and IT.
- Tenants include the CSIRO, the Australian Synchrotron, the CRC for Functional Communication Surfaces (CRC Smartprint), the National Printing Laboratory and Nanotechnology Victoria.

  http://www.monash.edu.au/strip/index.html