



## Message from Cluster Manager

*Michelle Carden*

Welcome to the first ever eGovernment Technology Cluster Newsletter. August is a busy month for the cluster as we transition from an Interim Steering Committee to a permanent steering committee. New Committee Members include:

- Ann Steward, AGIMO
- Don Easter, ICT Supplier Advocate, Department of Innovation
- Craig Baty, Fujitsu
- Joe Mammoliti, iCognition

Following on from the success of the e-Health Seminar run in June, this month we will be running a forum on mobile government. Panellists will include Peter Alexander, CIO, Treasury and Trevor Smallwood, Assistant Secretary, Cyber Security Branch, AGIMO.

Next month the cluster will be co-hosting the Australia Stand at the FutureGov Congress where nine of our SMEs will showcase their technologies to an international delegation. In addition, on September 10 the cluster will host Gov Camp.

GovCamp is an event where people from government get together to share knowledge, network, and find opportunities to collaborate. It is targeted at implementers such as developers, user experience experts, social media and communications people, technical and project managers, open data people and any other aspect of technology use and innovation in Government. At this event there will be a few invited guests to address the entire audience from the lecture room at the beginning and end of the day, and the rest of the day is broken up into a few themes (such as mobile government, open data, etc) and 20 minute sessions, so anyone can put their name up for a

## Upcoming Events

### Mobile Government Forum

*August 17, 2011*

*Mobile Government:  
Opportunities and Challenges*

The eGovernment Technology Cluster is providing a lunch forum on 'Mobile Government', featuring presentations from Alacrity Technologies, Blink Mobile and Nsqared Solutions. These presenters in addition to government agency representatives will form a panel for a Q&A session.

For more information, or to register for this FREE event, click [HERE](#).

### FutureGov Congress Australia

*September 12-14, 2011*

The eGovernment Technology Cluster is bringing the FutureGov Congress Australia to Canberra.

The FutureGov Congress will showcase new developments in public sector service delivery from both here in Australia and around the world. This year we will be showcasing technologies by Alacrity Technologies at the conference.

For more information on the conference please go to [www.futuregov.asia/australia](http://www.futuregov.asia/australia).

session wherein they can share a case study, or idea, or experience.



Finally, the cluster has welcomed many new members in the last month. This month we feature an interview with one such member, Chris O'Neil, the Chief Marketing Officer, QuintessenceLabs Pty Ltd.

Best wishes,

Michelle

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## Featured Member



**Chris O'Neil**  
**Chief Marketing Officer, QuintessenceLabs Pty Ltd**

### Why did you join the cluster?

We made the decision to join the eGovernment Technology cluster for three reasons; 1) the collaboration opportunities, 2) networking in industry and government and 3) the insight into the machinery of government.

### What problem does your technology solve for government?

We offer a management platform that provides assurance of information in-transit and, next year, for information-at-rest and in-use. Our technology and approach to information security permits us to:

- Send information securely and detect in real time if it is observed
- Quantify information leakage and counter any leakage
- Provide persistent security against any future advances (e.g. quantum computing)
- Operate independent of any third party assurance or trust.

Unlike most applications of cryptography, our

[www.gov2.com.au/](http://www.gov2.com.au/)

The Gov 2.0 Conference 2011 provides first-hand knowledge from leaders and Web 2.0 innovators within the public sector. Delegates have the opportunity to learn and be inspired by an expert panel of senior government officials, government practitioners and policy makers who will provide insights, case studies and solutions to the challenges facing the progression of Gov 2.0 in Australia.

Gov 2.0 features keynote addresses by:

- Nicholas Skytland, Director Open Government, NASA USA
- Hon Kate Lundy, Senator for the Australian Capital Territory
- Rob Crispe, Director Online Services, Australian Federal Police

Please [visit the website](#) for a detailed list of confirmed speakers.

Gov 2.0 is produced by Hannover Fairs Australia.

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implementation is immune to present and future security vulnerabilities exposed by advances in computing power and mathematical factorisation.

The benefits our technology deliver are cost savings in reduced administration and greater integrity and assurance against some cyber based attacks.

### **What is the biggest impediment/frustration you have found working with government?**

A major challenge, as an SME, is introducing innovation to government. So far we have had good engagement with government but achieving early adoption of our technology is a big challenge. Sometimes it is risk, other times it may be resourcing, policy, money - or all four. We are developing relationships with other vendors to mitigate some of these issues and equally working closely with government to achieve a successful outcome within a reasonable time.

### **You recently attended the cluster's eHealth Forum. What did you find helpful from this event?**

The eHealth forum was a great event for three reasons:

1. Within a short time frame I got a good overview of what's happening in the health sector, learned what some of the key issues are and who some of the key people are.
2. The event was well attended and provided a great opportunity to network in an informal relaxed setting.
3. I was able to arrange several follow on meetings to continue discussions with both government and industry representatives.

community.

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Co-presented by Hannover Fairs Australia and the Australian Government Office of Spatial Policy, Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (formerly known as the Office of Spatial Data Management).

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## **Featured Event**

### **eHealth Forum: the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR)**

On 28th June, the eGovernment Technology Cluster's eHealth interest group held its first Australian event: the eHealth Forum.



*Brendan Lovelock, Fiona Granger and Anna Wise at the eHealth Forum.*

The forum featured a panel discussion between **Fionna Granger**, (First Assistant Secretary, Dept. Health & Ageing, eHealth), **Rachel De Sain** (Director, FlaxWorks), **Anna Wise** (Senior Policy Manager, Consumers Health Forum Australia) and **Brendan Lovelock** (Health Practice Lead, CISCO Systems).

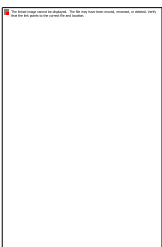
Over 65 participants attended, from a wide range of backgrounds including consumer health leads, government (federal and state) and ICT corporations.

*To read the full article, visit the [NICTA eHealth blog](#).*

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## **Gov 2.0: An Interview with Nicholas Skytland**

*How an open government initiative was led and implemented by NASA*



**Nicholas Skytland**  
**Director Open Government Initiative, NASA, USA**

*Register to attend Nicholas's presentation at Gov 2.0*

**How would you describe your role and responsibility at NASA?**

I'm currently the Program Manager of NASA's Open Government Initiative and lead a number of innovative activities that encourage transparency, participation, and collaboration in government and that aim to create a new level of openness and accountability at NASA.

**Can you describe how NASA Open Government Initiative engages with citizens through the use of Gov 2.0 tools?**

Gov 2.0 tools allow us to engage with citizens to help with our exploration mission. A main focus of the Open Government Initiative is to develop new ways to involve citizens in NASA's exploration mission. Engagement at NASA ranges from using social networks to allow students to interact directly with astronauts on the International Space Station to creating a Cloud Computing Platform to give unprecedented access to scientific data.

**What steps in the planning process did you take to create effective engagement with citizens?**

When developing NASA's Open Government Plan, we outlined three core principles that define how we engage citizens in our mission – transparency, participation and collaboration.

We also established accountability goals centered on those principles, which we ultimately use to guide the implementation of our plan:

- Increasing Agency transparency and accountability to external stakeholders
- Enabling citizen participation in the NASA mission
- Improving internal NASA collaboration and innovation
- Encouraging partnerships capable of creating economic opportunity
- Institutionalising OpenGov philosophies and practices at NASA.

It's not just how individuals get involved in government, but how we can in turn get our challenges out to people.

Participatory Exploration, which is a responsibility of everyone who works for NASA, is all about how we create new opportunities that tap citizens' intelligence, involves them in decision-making and creates opportunities for engagement.

To read the full interview, visit the [Gov 2.0 website](#).

Proudly supported by NICTA and the ACT Government

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