



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR KIM CARR

Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

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AUSTRALIAN CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES IDEAS COMPETITION

Innovative solutions tackling pollution, energy efficiency, renewable energies, green buildings, smart electricity grids and new transportation systems were among the 70 entries in the *Australian Clean Technologies Ideas Competition*.

Announcing 11 finalists, Innovation Minister Senator Kim Carr said all entries highlighted the world-class calibre of Australian business creativity.

“The competition is an initiative of the Gillard Labor Government's *Clean Technology Focus for Supply Chains* program and part of our \$50 million effort to support Australian industry at home and abroad,” Senator Carr said.

“This competition encourages developing high-tech, high-skill businesses to reduce our reliance on carbon and boost energy efficiency.”

“More than 25,000 Australians are employed in our clean technology industries, which were worth \$22 billion in 2010. The development of clean technology ideas such as those submitted to this competition will grow these industries, creating new jobs, new products and new markets.

Senator Carr said as part of being shortlisted, the finalists were mentored by the Department and competition partners during an intensive workshop covering crucial business know-how and skills to help make their ideas a commercial reality.

The competition winner will be announced at an awards dinner in Sydney on 6 October 2011. At the dinner, firms will have the opportunity to network with fellow clean technology innovators, see cutting-edge clean technology solutions and gain an understanding of what Australian innovation can offer to the world.

The winner will represent Australia at the international *Cleantech Open Global Ideas Competition* in the United States, competing against entrants from 90 countries.

A list of the finalists and their creative solutions is attached.

The competition is a key initiative of the Gillard Labor Government's Supplier Advocate Program and is supported by Enterprise Connect, Commercialisation Australia, the CSIRO and Austrade. For more information and to register to attend the awards dinner, visit www.cleantechopen.com.au.

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Australian Clean Technologies Ideas Competition – Short-listed Finalists

Name of Idea	Idea Description
AquaGen <i>SurgeDrive</i> ®	Wave energy system that has its energy conversion system above water for reduced costs and improved efficiency.
AquaHydrex	An inexpensive, integrated solar-powered water-splitting technology that enables onsite manufacturing of hydrogen for use in industrial processes.
Calcination Energy Storage	Combining molten salt technology with the chemical dissociation reaction of lime calcination to store energy.
Cogen Microsystems	A cost-effective hybrid solar energy system using a heat engine and low cost solar thermal collectors to generate electricity and hot water.
DrainWave	Enabling low flow water appliances through pulsing water through existing plumbing systems.
Eco Whisper Turbine	A unique, efficient and virtually silent 20kW horizontal axis wind turbine that utilises a unique blade design and an outer cowling/ring to ensure optimum energy conversion.
LubeMaster	A centrifuge technology that provides ongoing cleaning of oil in a more efficient way than standard pore membrane filters.
SMAC Technologies	A patented, proven and highly energy efficient, low cost air conditioning technology that reduces AC energy consumption by 30% to 85%.
SolMax	Combining existing roofing and solar products to produce a cheap, efficient solar concentrator.
Sundermann Water Power	Bi-directionally low-head water turbine designed to maximise operational efficiency in slow water flows.
YellowDot Energy	Solar-powered high-flow groundwater extraction system using control algorithm to optimise water flow.