

MEDIA RELEASE

HyperOne to unlock more than \$22b in economic benefits for Australia

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST, 2021 – The new \$1.5 Billion HyperOne network will help unlock more than \$22b in economic benefits across Australia, according to new research from Deloitte Access Economics.

HyperOne is Australia's first hyperscale national fibre backbone that will connect every capital city and many regional centres across the country with more than 20,000km of high-speed cable, capable of transmitting more than 10,000 terabits per second.

It will deliver a long overdue upgrade to Australia's digital infrastructure, replacing fibre networks that are more than 20 years old and nearing the end of their useful lives.

Deloitte's Economic Impact Assessment found HyperOne would deliver more than \$3b in direct benefits and help drive \$22.6 Billion in broader digital productivity gains and thousands of new jobs.

Deloitte also found that it was critically important to invest in fast and reliable connectivity now if Australia is to maximise productivity, economic growth and job creation during the next decade.

Currently, Australia is at a competitive disadvantage compared to global rivals, ranking 57th in the world for broadband speeds, according to the Speedtest Global Index, behind Estonia.

Having received considerable interest from its registrations for interest earlier this year and recently completed route planning and design, HyperOne has this week called for formal expressions of interest for the project delivery with the intention of commencing the project in late 2021. Interested parties can contact Hyperone at ei@hyper.one for further information.

Serial Entrepreneur Bevan Slattery founded HyperOne so Australia will have the digital backbone it needs to meet our future demand for data with cloud computing, the Internet of Things and AI increasingly used by industry and business to drive productivity.

“Our existing fibre backbones were built before Cloud computing, video streaming and IoT. We need digital infrastructure that is fit for purpose now and for our future” he said.

“HyperOne is Australia’s first truly national, independent high-speed fibre network,” he said.

“It will help bridge the digital divide between regional Australia and capital cities through the inclusion of more than 2,000 on-ramps across rural and remote areas.”

Mr Slattery said the network would more than double the number of locations international undersea cables could land and interconnect in Australia, creating more opportunities to connect to Asia and as far away as the Americas and Antarctica.

He said it would support the development of existing and emerging industries across Australia, including space vehicle launch, aerospace, satellite, defence, environmental sciences and Cloud computing.

It would also provide critical capacity and diversity to better enable local distribution networks such as the National Broadband Network and mobile operators.

Craig Scroggie, the CEO of Data Centre Operator NEXTDC, said building a new national fibre backbone would be critical to the growth of Australia’s digital economy.

“The next ten years of data usage will see bigger growth than the last ten years – so digital infrastructure growth needs to be exponential, not linear,” said Mr Scroggie.

The Deloitte report found more than half of the economic gains generated by HyperOne would be spread across the northern states of Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

HyperOne has already successfully completed stage 1 of the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility assessment and approvals process.

Northern Territory Acting Chief Investment Officer Andy Cowan said upgrading digital infrastructure in regional areas would help drive new economic opportunities.

“HyperOne is important for our economy in the Northern Territory. While broadband connectivity in Darwin is good, connectivity in regional areas certainly requires improvement. New infrastructure will be important to continuing to advance industry including agriculture, satellite, defence, resources and renewables,” he said.

The HyperOne network is expected to create more than 10,000 jobs across Australia during its construction phase, which is expected to begin in late 2021.

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