

Media Release

\$4.45 MILLION TO BE INVESTED INTO DEVELOPING ADVANCED MANUFACTURING SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

- ***The Northern Territory Government (NTG) partners through investment from the Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Fund (AMEF) to lift automation capability and advanced technology deployment across the Territory***
- ***The partnership includes a collaborative program between Diverseco and Charles Darwin University (CDU) to develop and deliver bespoke micro credential qualifications and support services to boost local businesses adoption of advanced manufacturing technology***
- ***The \$4.45 million project is the second to receive co-investment via the Territory's \$7.5 million AMEF initiative, administered by the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)***

Territory based manufacturers will soon gain access to a multi-million-dollar advanced manufacturing facility. The facility will house robotic and bespoke automation products and services to support the implementation of technology such as robotic welders, automated pick and pack systems and product inspection services.

The project will see Diverseco and Charles Darwin University (CDU) work closely to develop four new robotic and automation micro credential qualifications tailored to the region and boost local skills and knowledge in advanced processes and machinery for the industry.

The commitment also enables Diverseco to expand its support services to local manufacturers wishing to advance their operations and improve staff capability by supporting them with access to the latest technology, training programs, design services, equipment implementation, and operations and maintenance activities.

Diverseco and its project partners will provide on-site technical support and training services to local businesses seeking to adopt advanced technologies in their operations and support these businesses to upskill their staff. The facility will also be available to local business to demonstrate these technologies and develop tailored automated solutions for their individual business needs.

This announcement is the latest co-investment awarded under the Northern Territory's [Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Fund](#) (AMEF), which is administered by the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC). AMEF will provide almost half a million dollars towards this initiative, giving industry the ability to experience and test the latest in automation technology with the total project representing \$4.45 million investment into the NT's manufacturing ecosystem.

Diverseco will support the advancement of NT's manufacturing industry by leveraging its and CDU's manufacturing capabilities spanning defence, transport, logistics, agriculture, mining and waste disciplines, focusing on the areas of;

- automation solutions including industrial robots, collaborative robots (cobots), sortation systems, weighting solutions, dimension-weight-scan systems, full packaging lines and industrial metal detectors

- bespoke, and advanced system integration solutions
- extensive after-sales services, including equipment servicing, maintenance and spare parts
- innovative and industry-tailored training to support for all the above capabilities

Chief Minister for the Northern Territory, Natasha Fyles said "Advanced manufacturing will be a major jobs driver of the future, and this new partnership will provide local manufacturers with the ability to turn their dreams into realities.

"By growing Territory capabilities in advanced manufacturing, we are expanding industries and export opportunities, creating new opportunities for investors and exciting job opportunities for Territorians," said Fyles

Minister for Advanced Manufacturing, Nicole Manison said "This exciting collaboration will support the advancement of the NT's manufacturing industry by leveraging its manufacturing capabilities in the defence, transport, logistics, agriculture, mining and waste industries."

"Growing the Territory's advanced manufacturing industry is a key part of our strategy to grow the economy to 40 billion by 2030 and create more jobs," said Manison.

Northern Territory Major Projects Commissioner, Jason Schoolmeester said "This facility and the micro credentials being developed will enable proactive local businesses to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of their business operations.

"It will also ensure that the NT workforce is gaining qualifications to meet industry needs. We look forward to seeing the many local business collaborations with Diverseco and CDU on this exciting new initiative", said Schoolmeester.

AMGC's Northern Territory Director, Charmaine Phillips said "Since the launch of the AMEF last year, AMGC and the Territory Government have built a solid understanding of the manufacturing capabilities that exist in the Territory and the needs of the industry allowing us to support industry growth,

"Diverseco's presence in the NT will give local manufacturers direct access to leading technology and training resulting in skills, capability and jobs growth across the industry", said Phillips.

Diverseco, Managing Director, Brenton Cunningham said "We are excited to work with the NT Government, AMGC, and CDU, for without their support we would not have a presence in the Territory.

"Diverseco looks forward to delivering this unique business solution into the Northern Territory and has every confidence that it will be well received by local industry and create further commercial opportunities for local manufacturers. Diverseco seeks to create solutions at the edge of possibility and the more importance we give to skill development, the more competent will be our youth," said Cunningham.

Charles Darwin University, Vice Chancellor, Professor Scott Bowman AO said, "This is an exciting partnership between CDU and Diverseco, and it will support course expansion into new robotic and automation qualifications tailored to the region, that will boost workforce capabilities in advanced processes and machinery," Professor Bowman said.

"This investment into advanced manufacturing skills and technology is a welcome addition to the Northern Territory and offers new and exciting opportunities for our students."

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About Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) is an industry-led, not-for-profit organisation. AMGC's vision is to transform Australian manufacturing to become an internationally competitive, dynamic and thriving industry with advanced capabilities and skills at its core.

Through the delivery of its world-leading research, Manufacturing Academy, workshops, and ground-breaking projects, AMGC aims to develop a highly skilled and resilient local manufacturing sector that delivers high-value products – via the integration of innovative technology – to domestic and international markets.

<http://www.amgc.org.au>

About Diverseco

Originally evolving from the industrial weighing sector, Diverseco has built on its capabilities to become one of Australia's leading integrated measurement and automation solutions provider to a broad range of industries both in Australia and abroad.

Diverseco provides our customers superior value by combining an intimate understanding of their needs with our problem-solving expertise and innovative weighing, dimensioning, packaging, inspection and robotics automation technologies. Our team has a long, strong history of converting our customers' challenges into new capabilities.

Diverseco has a proud reputation as a national, quality 'employer of choice' for close to 200 people that thrive within a culture that is founded on principles that inspire optimistic attitudes, constructive ideas and productive behaviours. <https://diverseco.com.au/about-us/>

About Charles Darwin University

Charles Darwin University (CDU) is a sustainable, innovative, creative and inclusive new world university located in northern Australia teaching 24,000 students from more than 55 nationalities across 11 campuses and training centres, in over 100 regional and remote locations and across the nation through flexible, online learning. CDU is a dual-sector university offering education pathways in Vocational Education and Training (VET), undergraduate, postgraduate and higher degree by research. CDU is one of the leading universities Australia wide for Graduate Employment and Salary Outcomes and consistently performs on global university rankings. Like our namesake Charles Darwin, we think differently. Our place in the Northern Territory, in Australia and in the Asian region fosters new ideas and innovative approaches.

We believe everyone can make a positive impact. Because skills, training, knowledge and research can transform lives. www.cdu.edu.au

About the Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Fund

The Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem (AME) Fund of \$7.5 million seeks to build the advanced manufacturing ecosystem in the Northern Territory. The fund aims to grow advanced manufacturing capabilities and increase investment in and output of advanced manufacturing activity in the Northern Territory and grow the number of advanced manufacturing jobs located in the Northern Territory.

The AME fund will provide grants to industry led advanced manufacturing projects located in the Northern Territory across the Territory's priority sectors where those projects:

- Commercialise new products and processes, including transitioning a new product or process from prototype stage to full commercial operations
- Support early stage, fast fail, grants to support small scale and pilot research projects in advanced manufacturing

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