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Media Release

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## Western Australian Government and Curtin University sign up to Construction Innovation

The CRC for *Construction Innovation* welcomes the Western Australian Government and Curtin University of Technology as the newest partners in its applied research program.

WA Housing and Works Minister, Michelle Roberts, announced the partnership at a launch in Perth on 23 May, saying the State Government welcomed the opportunity to join *Construction Innovation*.

"The construction industry is critically important to WA and its economy, and the government is keen to ensure it has the support it needs," Ms Roberts said.

"By coordinating research efforts in the construction industry, *Construction Innovation* can achieve more than the individual areas of the industry could achieve on their own," said Ms Roberts.

*Construction Innovation* Chair, John McCarthy, was delighted to welcome the WA Government and Curtin University onboard – bringing to 21 the number of *Construction Innovation*'s partners.

"The WA Government and Curtin University are a very welcome addition to our team of collaboration partners," Mr McCarthy said. "We look forward to developing a constructive and fruitful relationship over the coming years."

The State Government will provide \$300,000 a year in financial support, and in-kind support worth a further \$100,000.

The Minister said several areas of *Construction Innovation*'s research were of interest to the WA Government.

"With the support of research undertaken through *Construction Innovation*, we look forward to seeing continued success in the drive to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the WA construction industry," said Ms Roberts.

"In turn, this will support continued strength in the WA economy as a whole," said Ms Roberts.

The WA economy is currently booming. The construction industry in WA grew by 39.7 per cent in the four years to 2005 and, in the three years to June 2005, building activity rose by 52.6 per cent to be worth \$5.838 billion.

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The CRC for *Construction Innovation* brings together 21 industry, government and research partners in a collaboration to find innovative solutions to improve the economic, environmental and social benefit of the Australia's property, design, construction and facility management sectors. Website: <u>http://www.construction-innovation.info</u>