

## 60 000 YEARS OF AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGICAL CREATIVITY

Australia has always had some of the world's greatest technological achievements right in its own backyard.

Aboriginal Australians have always been one of the most creative and innovative users and makers of tools, technology and cultural objects in the world. They also solved some of the big issues facing human beings over the millennia for instance, how to chain the power of fire, how to travel on water, and how to make a decent living in harsh environments.

The pre-European record of this continent demonstrates major and regular shifts in tools and technology and wide regional differences. It is clear that over thousands of years, various innovations of tools as well as of social and cultural forms occurred and that these new things moved across the continent in different directions. The result was a dynamic and changing scene.

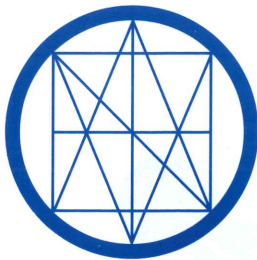
In pre-European times, individual Aboriginal craftsmen and women were skilful and inventive with a careful and opportunistic eye for improvements in their manufacturing techniques and materials. Over time, optimum solutions emerged which were sound adaptations to prevailing conditions. However, when new ideas or materials presented themselves, Aboriginal people were quick to adopt them.

Over the last several hundred years, we see a great deal of evidence of this change and creativity. The change was not necessarily because of the presence of Europeans as such, but rather because of the greatly increased opportunities for Aboriginal creativity given the new materials, new situations and, in some places, the need for subsistence technology improvements because of environmental degradations.

Extraordinary examples of this creativity are on display at the South Australian Museum in an **Innovate SA** tribute to thousands of years of Aboriginal creativity.

---

I N N O V A T E S A



## EXHIBITORS

- 1 Adelaide Institute of TAFE
- 2 Albox Australia Pty Ltd
- 3 Amdel Ltd
- 4 Applied Research of Australia Pty Ltd
- 5 Applied Research of Australia Pty Ltd
- 6 Aussys
- 7 Australian Cranio-Facial Unit
- 8 Australian Flight Test Services Pty Ltd
- 9 Australian Holographics Pty Ltd
- 10 AWA Defence Industries Pty Ltd
- 11 AWA Transponder
- 12 British Aerospace Australia Ltd
- 13 British Aerospace Australia Ltd
- 14 Caroma Industries Pty Ltd
- 15 Codan Pty Ltd
- 16 CSSP Pty Ltd
- 17 Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO)
- 18 Dentsleeve Pty Ltd
- 19 Dynek Pty Ltd
- 20 Dynix Australia Pty Ltd
- 21 FH Faulding & Company Ltd
- 22 Fusion Design
- 23 Glenn Industries Pty Ltd
- 24 Hills Industries Ltd
- 25 Integrated Silicon Design Pty Ltd
- 26 Institute for Telecommunications Research
- 27 Nexus Technology
- 28 OptCom South Australia Inc
- 29 Preton Display Systems
- 30 Rib Loc Australia Pty Ltd
- 31 RFDS (Central Section) Inc
- 32 Rooftop Clothing
- 33 SARDI South Australian Research and Development Institute
- 34 Scan Optics
- 35 Scholle Industries Pty Ltd
- 36 Sentek Pty Ltd
- 37 Sola Optical Australia
- 38 Sonique Audio Pty Ltd
- 39 The University of Adelaide Office of Industry Liaison
- 40 Urban Ecology Australia Inc
- 41 Vision Systems Ltd