

Media Release

Mr Tim Pallas MP

Treasurer

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Industrial Relations



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WORLD-LEADING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR VICTORIA

The Andrews Labor Government is partnering in the establishment of a world-leading international Artificial Intelligence (AI) Centre of Excellence, providing more job opportunities in Victoria's thriving innovation sector.

Israeli tech firm Data Science Group (DSG) will set up its Australian AI Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Melbourne, creating up to 36 new jobs in the cutting-edge AI field.

The CoE will invest \$16.4 million over five years to support Australian businesses' rapid development of advanced AI solutions and models, along with monitoring and governance of AI systems to meet new data regulations.

Harnessing Melbourne's strong culture of collaboration, the CoE will bring together academic and industry partners to deliver research and development along with commercial and educational projects.

This partnership is an example of how the Labor Government is attracting global companies from growth industries in line with the state's *International Investment Strategy*, supporting economic recovery and growth.

The Government recently released its Innovation Statement – a bold plan to keep Victoria at the forefront of innovation, drive the creation of new industries and support jobs for future generations.

The ambitious plan will keep the state at the cutting edge and turbocharge Victoria's start-up ecosystem, growing business and innovation precincts, developing homegrown talent and commercialising world-leading research.

Victoria's tech sector contributes more than \$38 billion to the economy annually and supports almost 140,000 workers across 20,000 businesses.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Economic Development Tim Pallas

"To supercharge our economic growth and create new jobs, we're supporting experts from across academia and emerging sectors, and empowering our innovators to scale up and create new opportunities through AI."

"The arrival of DSG in Melbourne further establishes our position as an innovation powerhouse – responsive, inclusive and backing future opportunities like AI."

Quote attributable to Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford

"AI is an essential part of the future, offering so many opportunities across some of our most important industries from MedTech and FinTech to shipping and retail."

Quote attributable to Data Science Group CEO and co-founder Dr Elan Sasson

"We are excited to partner with the Victorian Government, offering our expertise together with our AI enterprise solutions to Australian business to build AI and machine learning capabilities in diverse domains and use-cases."

Quote attributable to Data Science Group Director of Strategic Partnerships Daniel Fidler

"We invite Australian businesses and members of the growing innovation ecosystem to reach out to explore collaboration opportunities that will help drive economic growth and sustainable business impact."

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