

## **The Spatial Information Industry Workforce Plan Skilled people for a “people” industry**

Spatial information is used everyday by ordinary Australians in their work and recreation. There is increasing demand for people with spatial information skills in areas such as land administration, planning and development, transportation, defence, emergency management, environmental sustainability, water management and infrastructure development. It is commonly understood within the spatial information industry that skill shortages are a significant factor that will affect both industry growth and ultimately Australia’s future economic performance.

The spatial information industry in Australia is experiencing the dual pressures of an aging workforce and an explosive demand for new skills. As part of an international industry, it is competing globally for skilled people.

Key national bodies in the Australian spatial information industry have agreed to a coordinated national strategy to address the growing shortage of people with spatial skills in Australia. The Spatial Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), which is the nominated body to coordinate implementation, has released the industry’s first workforce plan.

The message delivered by the workforce plan is that the industry must develop a skilled, mobile and flexible workforce, ultimately unencumbered with demarcation amongst disciplines and sectors and fully engaged with its user communities. The spatial information industry must be a “people” industry, with one of its core values the nurturing of education and skills formation.

The full workforce plan can be viewed at:

<http://www.crcsi.ecampus.com.au/course/view.php?id=88>