

SUPPORTING STARTUPS TO START AND LEAD SPACE VENTURES

Venture Catalyst Space is a globally competitive program which supports founders, entrepreneurs and startups, to develop and grow innovative or disruptive ideas in the space sector.

Delivered by the University of South Australia's Innovation & Collaboration Centre (ICC) and supported by the State Government's Space Innovation Fund and the South Australian Space Industry Centre, the program gives founders the support and tools they need to plan and successfully build a scalable and investment ready business.

The one-of-a-kind program delivers tailored support and guidance working with a global pool of industry experts including former NASA astronaut Pam Melroy, the Australian Space Agency, Airbus, Nova Systems, Fleet, Myriota and the Smart Satellite CRC.

Participants will also receive one-to-one mentoring from the ICC's Entrepreneurs in Residence; Kirk Drage and his company LeapSheep and serial entrepreneur and founder of Regency Food Services, Regency Staffing and Zen Energy, Richard Turner.

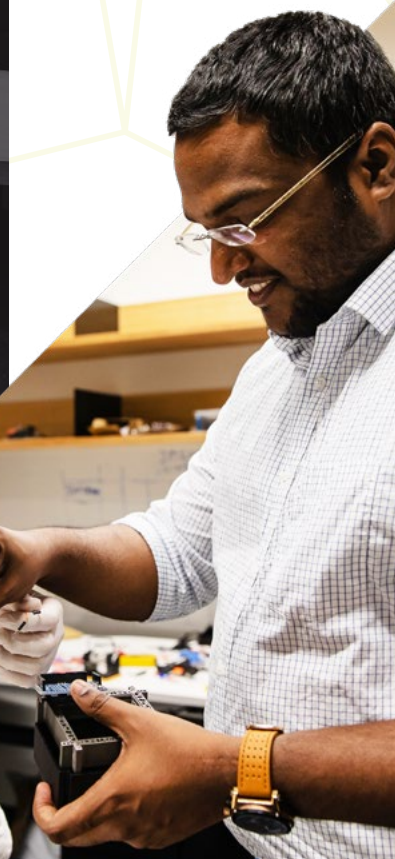
With South Australia home to the Australian Space Agency and a bustling and thriving startup community, especially within the space and defense sectors, apply now and join our growing community of likeminded startups whose shared experience of successes and failures, benefits everyone.

“THE SPACE NETWORK IN ADELAIDE HELPED US DEVELOP QUICKLY WITH PARTNERS, UNIVERSITIES AND INDUSTRY.”

Katrina Albert
Co-Founder
Lux

“THE COMMERCIAL REALITIES OF CREATING A SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS MODEL SEEMS LIKE A NEBULOUS PROBLEM TOO EARLY TO TACKLE. THE PROGRAM HAS REALLY OPENED MY MIND TO THE APPROACHES I CAN USE TO ADDRESS THAT RISK.”

RaviTeja Duggineni
Founder
ResearchSat



CASE STUDY: PING



Intelligent listening for wind farms

Ping Services is one of the companies that was accepted into the Venture Catalyst Space program in 2018. The company uses an aero-acoustic device to continuously monitor wind turbines for blade damage, significantly reducing detection times and repair costs.

Ping have employed additional staff, identified a target market, identified operational improvements and honed their prototype. They have secured over \$2 million investment which has seen them further accelerate their revolutionary product.

Chief Executive Officer, Matthew Stead, admits that he had optimistic but measured expectations for the value he'd glean from the startup program, but has been greatly surprised.

“THE QUALITY AND BREADTH OF THE PROGRAM'S SUPPORT HAS GIVEN US STRUCTURE AND ENABLED US TO APPLY OUR RESOURCES MORE PRODUCTIVELY. THE PROGRAM IDENTIFIES A NUMBER OF PROCESSES AND MODELS FOR LOGICALLY APPROACHING OUR STARTUP, RATHER THAN LEAVING IT TO CHANCE. PLUS, IT'S PROVIDED A DEDICATED SPACE TO FOCUS ON OUR BUSINESS – THIS HAS BEEN INVALUABLE AND WE'VE HAD SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE SIX MONTHS.”

The 'Ping Monitor' uses aero-acoustic listening to detect damage in wind turbines.



KEY FEATURES



Workshops

A series of capability workshops designed for founders



Mentoring

One-on-one mentoring sessions



University resources

Access to workspace and UniSA support services



Industry experts

Access to a pool of industry experts



ICC community

Group activities, support and networking events



Funding

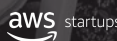
A stipend of \$10k for eligible startups

Additional features



100% equity-free

You retain all equity and intellectual property as a participant



Amazon Web Services

\$10,000 USD in AWS Promotional Credits and access to other services



Business development

Support from the ICC team including advice and guidance to develop your ideas

Discover more of our program features

icc.unisa.edu.au/program-features

WHAT IS A SPACE STARTUP?

The term 'space' no longer means the same as it did five years ago.

In the past, space exploration was just that, going out and exploring the galaxy. In 2021, more companies are contributing to the space economy than ever but utilizing existing space technology to solve real-world problems.

These new companies may not appear to be connected to the traditional space industry as they may only use space signals and data in their own products, typically concerning satellite communications, satellite television, geospatial products and location-based services, but this information can benefit many different industries (examples above).

A space company utilizes space technology or data.

For example:

- Using information provided by satellites to monitor drones
- Using beacons to help grape growers improve the quality of their fruit by monitoring weather conditions, or
- Using satellites to capture images of earth for mining companies.

“WE'RE USING OUR CONNECTIONS TO DO SOME MANUFACTURING HERE AND MAKE TEKUMA EVERYWHERE.”

Annette McClelland
Co-Founder Tekuma

“WE'VE MADE MORE PROGRESS IN THE PAST 2-3 MONTHS THAN WE HAVE IN 18 MONTHS IN SYDNEY.”

Michael Griffin
Co-Founder
Tekuma

Register interest for 2022

Applications for Venture Catalyst Space will open again in 2022.

For any further questions visit icc.unisa.edu.au/space

icc.unisa.edu.au/register-interest

SISA visa for Space category

The ICC is part of the Supporting Innovation in South Australia (SISA) program to attract promising overseas seed-stage entrepreneurs to develop their concepts in South Australia. This means temporary visas will be issued to those that meet all the Department of Home Affairs' criteria and requirements. If you are building a company using space technologies or creating tech, services or products for the space industry, we want to hear from you.

Find out more

