The Queensland Government released the Queensland Aerospace 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan in June 2018, setting out their vision for the future of the state’s aerospace industry. Development of space technologies is a key part of this plan, with Brisbane home to much of the state’s space capabilities.

Brisbane’s space industry ready for take-off

Space is a logical progression for Brisbane’s nation-leading aerospace industry. We have a highly skilled workforce and a strong research base in both the civil and military sectors. Since the establishment of Boeing’s Australian headquarters in Brisbane in 1998, we’ve been at the forefront of building capability, adding considerable value to the national research sector and the economy.

FOUNDATIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SPACE INDUSTRY

- We’ve established the Queensland Space Industry Reference Group of prime contractors, SMEs and research institutions to help guide the industry’s development. This group is chaired by the Queensland Government’s strategic advisor to the air sector, Air Vice-Marshal (ret) Neil Hart AM. This group works alongside a whole-of-government working group to ensure a coordinated approach between industry, government and the research sector.

- We’ve commissioned a technical analysis to identify and assess priority space infrastructure developments in the state.

- A Queensland representative currently chairs the ANZLIC Spatial Information Council, the peak government body in Australia and New Zealand responsible for spatial information.

OUR STRENGTHS

SPACE-BASED SENSING
- Earth observation
- Data analysis and exploitation

SPACE-BASED SERVICES
- Communications
- Position, navigation and timing

SPACE SYSTEMS SUPPORT
- Launch and recovery
- Monitoring and control

SPACE SYSTEMS DESIGN & MANUFACTURE
- Vehicles and orbital propulsion
- Payloads
- Ground stations and equipment
- Autonomous systems, artificial intelligence and machine learning
A WORLD-CLASS INDUSTRY BASE

We have a world-class industry base in Brisbane, with expertise in areas such as aerospace technologies advancement, propulsion systems, unmanned systems development, advanced intelligent surveillance, data processing, advanced manufacturing, thermal treatment, niche machining and composites development.

Brisbane also has many companies contracting to national and international defence forces. This means our industry is accustomed to producing products and services of the highest standard and working in a tightly regulated environment.

Brisbane also has the opportunity to draw on its strengths in sectors like mining and agriculture, and connect them to the space sector. There is potential to tap into new markets such as asteroid mining and precision agriculture using the existing knowledge base in conjunction with emerging space research and technologies.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

>> Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing (AMPAM) has significant expertise in materials engineering and manufacturing activities

>> Centre for Hypersonics is a world leader in the development of hypersonic technology and has been conducting targeted research in this area for more than 20 years

>> Hosts the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network (TERN), which has recently collaborated with NASA to study global climate

>> Has an X3 expansion tube capable of studying superorbital gas dynamic flows (i.e. the properties and behaviour of fuels in space propulsion systems)

QUT

>> The former host of the Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation (ARCAA). ARCAA played an integral role in building Australia’s unmanned aircraft system industry over a 10-year period and the work of ARCAA is now captured under QUT’s robotics and autonomous systems discipline.

>> Home to the Asia Pacific-leading Australian Centre for Robotic Vision

>> Institute for Future Environments is developing new technologies and methods for collecting and analysing big data through its IntelliSensing program

>> Has the country’s only low-humidity electro-manufacturing dry rooms that support production of commercial-grade lithium-ion batteries

CSIRO

>> CSIRO’s Brisbane facility includes the Queensland Centre for Advanced Technologies (QCAT). This is Australia’s largest integrated research and development precinct for the resources and associated advanced technology industries. Research areas include autonomous systems, smart mining and advanced aeronautical engineering.

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

>> Specialises in artificial intelligence, computer image processing and robotics through its Institute for Integrated and Intelligent Systems (IIIS)

>> IIIS’s quest to incorporate human behaviours into intelligence devices has secured consistent global recognition and is an international leader in the field

PRIME CONTRACTORS WITH A QLD PRESENCE

Airbus
BAE Systems
Boeing Defence Australia
Elbit Systems of Australia
DigitalGlobe
Harris Corporation

Northrop Grumman
Nova Systems
Qantas
Raytheon
Virgin Australia

Absolute Data Group
Black Sky Aerospace
Crystalal Manufacture
EM Solutions
Esri Australia
Ferra Engineering
Gilmour Space Technologies
Heat Treatment Australia
Hypersonix
Imagus
ImmersaView
Insitu Pacific
Intellidesign
L3 Microc

Lavender Composites
Ozius
Products for Industry (PFI)
QinetiQ
Teakle Composites
Teledyne Australia

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Corporate House, 138 Juliette Street
Greenslopes Qld 4120, Australia

World-class research

Brisbane-based institutions are conducting world-class research that feeds into the space sector. This includes:

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