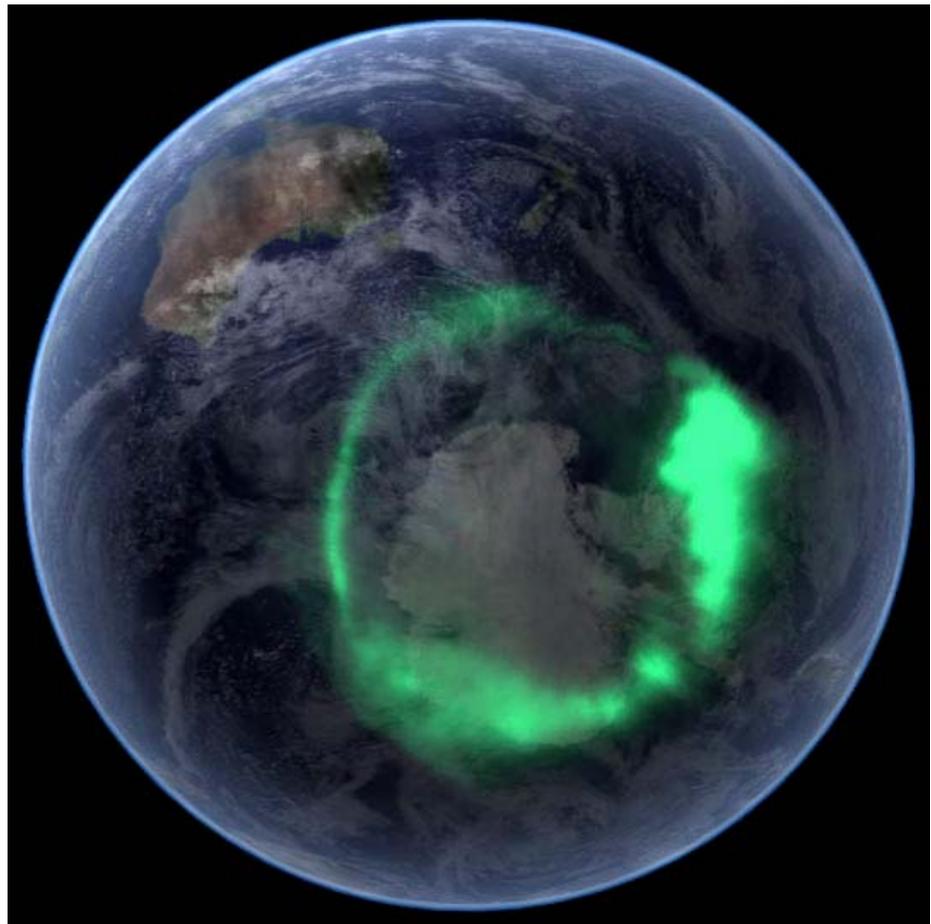


Aurora Australis

The new light in renewable
and sustainable technologies



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LET THERE BE LIGHT

Renewable technologies hub

This paper outlines the potential for establishing a world-class centre for the development of light-carbon renewable and sustainable technologies.

The centre, to be called Aurora Australis, will be a centre of excellence for a variety of light-carbon, low-emission industries such as green cars, solar power, wind power, bio-mass and food.

It will house public and private Australian technology and research development organisations such as the CSIRO and various co-operative research centres in industrial and technology precincts.

Crucially, Aurora Australis will also support smaller component makers and other ancillary firms.

The preferred site is the disused Mitsubishi car assembly plant at Tonsley Park, Adelaide.

The proponents of Aurora Australis, the Universal Design Company, are seeking expressions of interest and support in principle from parties willing to consider having a representative join the steering committee.



RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Change is in the air

A number of factors have come together to create the right time to develop a global centre of excellence in light-carbon renewable and sustainable technologies.

Climate change is accepted as scientific fact, business is looking for ways to profit from the upheavals expected from the transition to low-carbon economies, customers and voters want to secure the future of Planet Earth, governments are willing to fund the cost of change, and globalisation has delivered vast export markets.

This year, car maker Mitsubishi ceased production at its Tonsley Park assembly plant in Adelaide and, over the next few months, will be looking to sell the land and auction the equipment.

Consequently, a 200 acre site that is perfect for housing a variety of technology and manufacturing precincts is lying idle in a dry-air climate.



THE PREFERRED SITE

Tonsley Park, Adelaide



The disused Mitsubishi assembly plant at Tonsley Park in Adelaide covers 200 acres – more than enough room to house a variety of clean, green industries and ancillary businesses in discrete precincts.

GREATER FUTURES

Leading-edge industries

It is envisaged that Aurora Australis's Global Renewable Energy Advanced Technology & Economic Research (GREATER) Futures Centre will be an off-campus studies unit of the University of Adelaide's schools of business, engineering & design, finance & economics, and humanities.

That is, the GREATER Futures Epicenter in Adelaide will lead the world in the most efficient, effective and economical way to be green and clean.

It will be anchored by the Trans-Hybrid Green car plant and other leading-edge light carbon technologies will include wind, solar, hydro and bio-mass.

Tonsley Park is still an outstanding site but it will require as an innovative and cohesive design paradigm commensurate with the idea it represents.



PARTICIPANTS

Stakeholders

The Aurora Australis plan for Tonsley Park has public, social and business objectives and will mobilise both public and private manpower and management.

The project team is working together with the South Australian and federal governments to maximise economic benefits for all.

Supporters of Aurora Australis include:

- The Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union and the Federated Vehicle Industry Union, and
- An Australian social enterprise syndicate that operates in the disability and social sectors.

Anchor tenant

The Universal Design Co (UniCo) will partner with a selected existing vehicle manufacturer to pioneer a new global industry transition to light, clean, more cost-effective car making.

Australian excellence in light materials and low-emission technology will be utilised during assembly to create the world's first green people mover.



It will be lighter, cleaner, safer, and more fuel-efficient than other people movers, with higher power-to-weight ratios and lower emissions.

Two versions of the trans-hybrid people mover will be assembled – a standard version and a universal-design with drop floor that is wheelchair accessible.

Technology showcase

The plan also showcases Australian excellence in light materials and low emission vehicle technology.

This technology provides a graduated path by which existing vehicle manufacturers can decrease their dependence on capital-intensive, fixed presses and embrace cheaper, more flexible methods to meet the demand for lighter, clean-air universal-design vehicles.

It creates export markets for both the vehicle and the process.



GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Multiple funds

Three levels of government are offering financial support for which Aurora Australis and its component industries would be eligible.

The South Australian government has identified a specific assistance package for the Tonsley park site of \$50m made up of:

- \$10m for job training, and
- \$40m for job creating manufacturing.

Funds are also available from the Infrastructure Australia Fund, the Australian Employment Covenant Fund, the Innovation Fund and funds designed to bolster manufacturing and renewable energies. The indigenous job scheme would also help with the training of indigenous workers.

Green fleet

The federal government is promising \$500m in funding for a green car for which the anchor tenant should meet the necessary conditions. It also complies with the prerequisites of the

Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme, including the Motor Vehicle Producer Research and Development Scheme ending in 2015.

In addition, government has indicated a willingness to guarantee fleet vehicle purchases.

The government may chose to make a direct investment in an Australian-lead syndicate rather than



providing recently publicised grants and incentives to attract overseas car manufacturers.

Business success

The preferred site for Aurora Australis is in southern Adelaide, where the cities of Marion and Onkaparinga are actively attracting business – particularly those businesses which are involved in innovation.

The cities recognise the need for the business community to take ownership of the push to grow the economy and have invited a cross section of business leaders to form the Southern Adelaide Economic Development Board.

The purpose of the board is to provide industry leadership to further develop the southern Adelaide economy, influence the decision-making of organisations and individuals which will have a positive impact on the future of the region, and to promote the region as a location for business success.

The board has taken on the task of championing ‘A New Economic Future’ within the business community and encouraging active participation by business.

It intends to give priority to specific industry sectors that offer development opportunities into the future.



GLOBAL MARKETS

Emerging industrial economies

There are 18 specific nations around the world, including India, China, Indonesia that we aim to light up.

These are the emerging industrial economies to whom we aim to market our niche products and professional services so that they may minimise their carbon footprints.



KEY BENEFITS

Local economy

Aurora Australis will maximise the benefits to the South Australian economy and put Adelaide on the world map by providing an international focal point for an expanding LightTech knowledge base in engineering and economics as well as social, macro and micro enterprise modeling.

No longer will Adelaide “hide it’s light (of learning & life skills) under a bushel”.



INDIGENIOUS AGREEMENT

Practical outcomes

The Aurora Australis intends to create with the traditional owners of the land a charter similar to current agreement between the Kurna Heritage Board - formally representing the Kurna people - and the councils of Onkaparinga, Marion, Holdfast Bay and Yankalilla, which representing over 300,000 South Australians who live and work in southern Kurna country.

The Kurna Tappa Iri Regional Agreement 2005–2008 has a particular focus increasing the capacity and opportunity for Aboriginal people to influence and determine issues that are critical for their well-being.

It has a strong emphasis on practical outcomes, such as the establishment of a business centre, protection of significant places, improving influence and holding of culturally important land and establishing guidelines for developers.

Aurora Australis offers the prospect of real reconciliation and reconnection of all people - past and present - with our authentic selves.

It also recognises the powerful difference we can make as



individuals in shaping the reality of the world we live in now and the need for commitment to collaboration and co-operation to achieve our aspirations of a better world in the future.

That takes enlightenment.

As the Kurna elders say: "Let's become

aware, respect, acknowledge and celebrate the spirit, the land ,
the people and the way of life” on earth.

We are at a defining moment in the history of this planet and the
evolutionary journey of its inhabitants because in order to
effectively lighten our carbon footprint, we have to tread more
carefully, gently and respectfully with each other along the way.

As witnessed by the growing acceptance in the human
consciousness of the reality of climate change.



UNICO'S PEOPLE

The principals

The principals of the Universal Design Company (UniCo) are UniCab Australia and ESG Engineering of the US.

UniCab Australia has NSW government accreditation to operate 1000 licensed cabs plus a government incentive to lease an unlimited number of wheelchair-accessible taxi plates consistent with current NSW policy.

The company's managing director, Jacob F Baldwin, is an accredited trainer and assessor of wheelchair-accessible taxi drivers. Mr Baldwin was a foundation member of the Disability Council of NSW, which brought the first wheelchair-accessible taxi to Australia in 1980. He is also a presenter of national and international acclaim in the area of disability-related studies.

UniCab's founder, Chris Burrell, is a member of the Australian Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and a member of the Society of Automobile Engineers International and the Union of Concerned Scientists USA.

Mr Burrell is a pioneering consultant on social enterprise funding for charities and non-profit organisations. His area of specialty is universal design clean-air vehicles and integrated public transport. Early indications from the proof of concept testing of his Transcend technology indicates this is possibly the most cost-effective way to significantly improve the efficiency of all modes of public transport in any city anywhere in the world. It will seamlessly facilitate the movement of more people in less time, with fewer vehicle movements, less congestion and fewer greenhouse emissions.



Founder & CEO
Chris Burrell



Managing director
Jacob Baldwin

UniCo is free from commitments to particular vehicles and outdated manufacturing technologies. UniCo is in favour of fully hybrid electric vehicles and newer, cleaner, cheaper processes. To make this vision a reality, UniCo supports the integration of old and new auto manufacturing in a graduated transition. We call it the trans-hybrid auto assembly manufacture.

UniCo is excited with Australia's opportunity to pioneer the use of soft panels and light metal alloys developed to offer superior power to weight ratios for modern vehicles.

UniCo's engineer on the Tonsley Park project is William E. Gest, the vice-president, business development, of ESG Engineering of Tempe, Arizona.

ESG specialises in evaluating ideas for engineering feasibility and then designing them for high volume manufacturing and assembly. All its key executives are experienced in the automotive industry.

Mr Gest worked for General Motors for 20 years and was manager of body engineering for GM mid-size vehicles where he was responsible for launching GM vehicles at various assembly plants.

He holds nine patents, is vice chairman of the Arizona/Nevada chapter of the Society of Automotive Engineers, and has been an executive in the consumer products and mobility industries.



Engineer Bill Gest

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Helping others help themselves

UniCo is the trustee for EduCare, a charitable trust that prefers to help others by creating income streams from social enterprise royalties rather than asking for donations.

After retaining prudent levels of capital and paying generous dividends, UniCo will direct its share of profits back to EduCare, which is working to help disadvantaged children, teenagers, the aged and the disabled.

