



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT WELCOMES WORLD CLASS MARINE INSTITUTE

New South Wales now boasts one of the most advanced marine research institutes in the world, Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, said today at the official opening of major developments to Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS) in Mosman.

“Today we celebrate Sydney Harbour becoming home to a truly world class facility and I am proud that the NSW Government is a partner in this cutting edge centre,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“This Government has invested \$1.23 million in SIMS and remains committed to improving the management of the State’s marine and coastal environments to protect natural habitats and biodiversity.

“Over \$20 million worth of major improvements to the centre include state-of-the-art aquarium facilities, a new cell and molecular microbiological, field biology and geological laboratories, refurbished teaching laboratories, new lecture theatres and conference centre.

“This world-class marine research facility will advance our knowledge and understanding of the Australian eastern seaboard and oceans in Antarctica, and will also attract researchers and PhD students from across the State, the country and the world.”

The Minister said the financial and in kind support provided by the private sector and philanthropic foundations was instrumental in bringing the vision for the centre to life.

“The new improved SIMS is a fine example of a collaborative community partnership and what can be achieved when our universities join forces with State and Federal Government,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“Population growth, urban and industrial development and the impact of climate change present challenges for the management of our valuable waterways, which is why investment in this scientific research is so important.

“The research conducted at SIMS will make a major contribution to marine science that will see benefits stretch well beyond the shores of Sydney Harbour.

For more information on the SIMS go to <http://www.sims.org.au/>