

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AIIA Skills Hub grows to over 3,000 courses

The Australian Information Industry Association ([AIIA](#)) is thrilled to announce over 3,000 courses are now available through the AIIA Skills Hub through more partners. Having partnered with leading education institutions from around Australia, including RMIT, QUT, University of Queensland, Central Queensland University, University of Sydney and NSW and QLD TAFEs, the AIIA has proudly welcomed AIIA members Microsoft, IBM and AWS in making available courses on the Skills Hub to further support the upskilling of Australians.

With long held skills shortages in Australia's ICT sector, the Skills Hub is one measure to help improve the supply of skilled Australian workers as well as mapping employee skills to career pathways and relevant training courses. The nation is currently short of [2,300 workers in cyber security](#), with an expected demand of at least 17,600 additional professionals required in the sector by 2026.

For leading ICT vendors, the Skills Hub is a convenient platform to help train and develop staff.

AIIA CEO, Ron Gauci, said: "We are excited at the traction our Skills Hub has achieved since its launch in January. With the support from our members and universities around the country showing that having a skills academy providing re-skilling, up-skilling and career pathway building meets current and future needs of the sector. We already have hundreds of individual participants actively using the Hub to grow their skills and careers and we expect this number to grow significantly as the Hub is further expanded in the coming months.

"The response from Australian education providers and the ICT sector has been tremendous in supporting the Skills Hub. It has been widely forecast that Australia's skill shortage in the ICT industry is likely to increase significantly in the coming years. The AIIA is proud to be bringing a range of different stakeholders together to work towards building Australia's skills in the ICT sector.

"The AIIA Skills Hub is in active discussions with an additional 15 universities and TAFEs as well as industry courses from leading technology companies. Once these are onboarded, the AIIA Skills Hub will exceed 5,000 courses available to members by the end of 2021.

"The past 12-months has demonstrated the importance of a strong domestic labour force. It has been widely forecast that Australia's skill shortage in the ICT industry is likely to increase significantly in the coming years. In a post-COVID economy, we know that strong skills in the ICT sector will continue to be highly sought after by employers. We've seen the permanent adoption of digital services to the Australian economy triggered by the COVID pandemic that will shape the Australian economy for years to come," Mr Gauci said.

The AIIA Skills Hub has been built to support two AIIA industry and QUT co-designed micro-credentialing courses on cyber security and innovation in IT but will also provide a

central place where any VET or tertiary courses can be plugged in to the Hub where employees can map their skills gap and identify appropriate courses to meet their future career needs.

Courses from education institutions are mapped against the global Skills Frameworks for the Information Age (SFIA), an industry skills framework used by major Australian digital employers.

Individuals are able to create a Skills Passport to map and manage their skills for career development.

The AIIA is a not-for-profit organisation aimed at fuelling Australia's future social and economic prosperity through technology innovation.

ENDS

Note to Editors

Please see a video overview of the Skills Hub - <https://youtu.be/TVrc7Yi0d20>

Please see a video for how members will access their skills passport - <https://youtu.be/-XPVngYL2aM>

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About AIIA

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. Since 1978 AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favourable business environment for members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity. We do this by delivering outstanding member value by providing a strong voice of influence; building a sense of community through events and education; enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.