

OUT OF THE BOX?

From its innovative university to its internationally linked aeronautical and military precinct, the Region nurtures a habitat for innovation and demonstrates its capacity to profit from new knowledge and 'out of the box' ideas.

AN INNOVATION INVESTMENT REGION

- The Rockhampton Region is one of only two regions in Queensland and one of 10 in Australia, to be gazetted as an "Innovation Region" for investment priority by the Australian Government.
- Rockhampton Regional Council is a signatory to the CQ Innovation Accord, committing to ensuring Central Queensland is known and recognised as Australia's premier "Region of Innovation".

- The Region has a culture of collaboration and connectivity for innovation, and new technologies are trialled in the region by organisations such as Ergon Energy.

- Capricorn Tourism & Economic Development Ltd in partnership with the CQUniversity held the Inaugural "Capricorn Innovative Leadership Forum" on Friday 8th October 2010

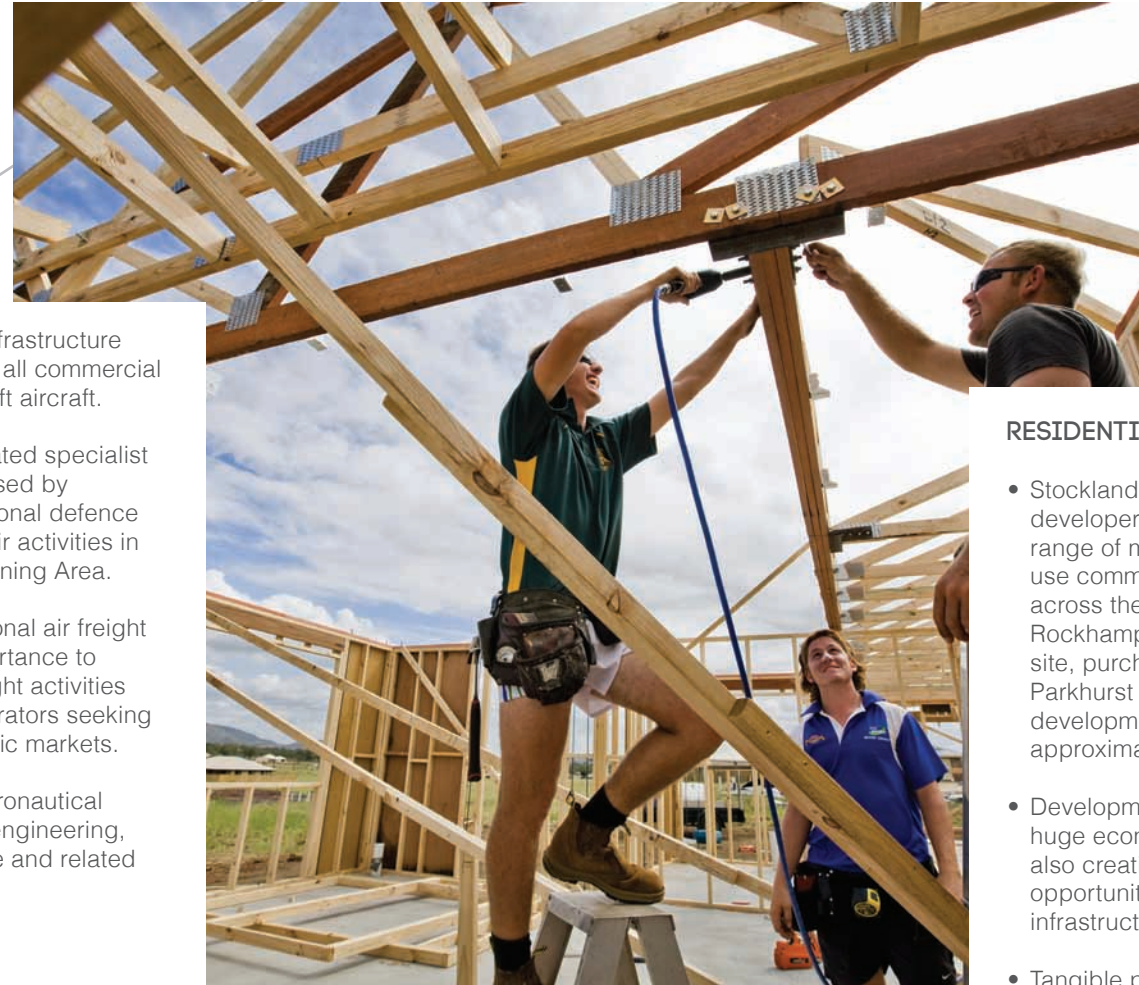
INTERNATIONAL AERONAUTICAL AND MILITARY PRECINCT

- Provides aeronautical and freight services for domestic passenger services to Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Townsville, Mackay and Gladstone with Qantas, Virgin Blue and Tiger Airways.

- Runway and support infrastructure that can accommodate all commercial passenger and heavy lift aircraft.
- The airport and associated specialist facilities are routinely used by Australian and international defence forces in support of their activities in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

- Domestic and international air freight capabilities are of importance to Australia's national freight activities as well as logistics operators seeking rapid links to Asia Pacific markets.

- An attractive site for aeronautical businesses; including engineering, manufacturing, defence and related industries.



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Stockland - the leading residential developer in Australia delivering a range of masterplanned and mixed-use communities in growth areas across the country – chose the Rockhampton Region as a prime site, purchasing 278 hectares in Parkhurst for a 1,900 lot residential development that will become home to approximately 5,000 people.
- Developments such as this are a huge economic boost to the Region, also creating greater employment opportunities for locals and improved infrastructure for this community.
- Tangible progress with businesses

working together with Council, industry and the community to create an environment conducive to interconnecting residential, business, sporting and cultural precincts throughout the Region.

KNOWLEDGE INDUSTRIES

- The Region is home to Queensland's most integrated education industry – and flagged for the state's first dual sector university integrating vocational and tertiary education through a merger of CQUniversity and TAFE. Ongoing transformations are enormously increasing the Region's capacity to produce appropriately educated and vocationally trained staff for state's resources and health sectors.

- Joint training initiatives between CQUniversity and Queensland Health through the Rockhampton Hospital, CQUniversity and mining/resource industry, and home to a University of Queensland facility at the hospital.
- Professional, scientific and technical services make up the Region's fastest growing sector with demonstrated successes providing domestic and foreign markets with mining, industrial, freight and transport services.
- Ergon Energy has chosen the Rockhampton Region for its trial of 'Smart Meter' technology - integrated broadband electricity meters. Ergon is using a site in Yeppoon as a pilot project for this innovative technology.



COMPLETE CONNECTIVITY

- The Region's telecommunications services are comparable to national capital cities.
- The Region has created an enabling environment for continued growth and is at the apex of broadband communication improvement plans, bolstered by its energy sector and health service hub roles.
- Embraces the National Broadband Network as it will significantly expand the Rockhampton Region's capacity to deliver services to Central Queensland particularly in the areas of health and education.

GROWING ENERGY SECTOR

- The Region already provides approximately 7% of Queensland's jobs in the 'Energy, Gas, and Water sector' and is home to very highly skilled technicians employed by major energy concerns like Ergon Energy and Stanwell Power Station.
- Employment in the sector has grown by approximately 77% between 2006 and 2010 within the region and also offers flow-on opportunities for business concerns providing associated services and facilities.
- Central Queensland was identified as a prime position for a large-scale solar power precinct, in the Queensland Concentrating Solar Power pre-

feasibility report, prepared by the Australian Government in partnership with the William J. Clinton Foundation's Clinton Climate Initiative.

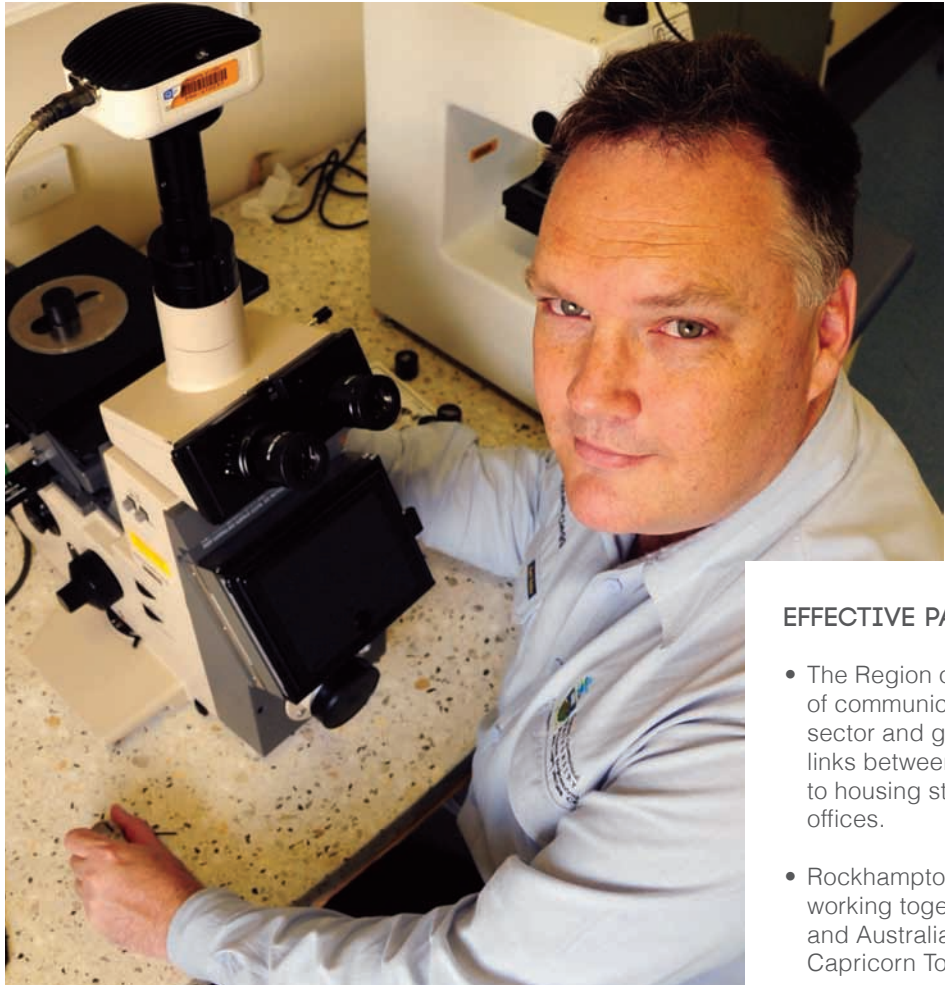
- This landmark study found large solar projects both technically and environmentally feasible, and found Central Queensland an optimal site.
- The Region is already linked to the entire eastern seaboard through high capacity transmission infrastructure due to the 1434 megawatt Stanwell Power Station.
- The Region offers outstanding viable sun, wind, water, and geothermal resources at sites close to the grid for further energy generation facilities.

SET UP  
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THE ROCKHAMPTON REGION IS COMMITTED TO FOSTERING INNOVATION AND OFFERS A DIVERSE RANGE OF VERY REAL OPPORTUNITIES.

"WE HAVE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL FOR EXPANDED INNOVATIVE CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY."

Geoff Clarke, Chameleon Research & Development



**EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

- The Region offers excellent vehicles of communication between the private sector and government, and strong links between government agents due to housing state and federal executive offices.
- Rockhampton Regional Council is working together with the Queensland and Australian Governments, Capricorn Tourism & Economic

Development, other councils and local businesses – supporting the continuing growth of a diversified, vibrant and innovative economy and high standards of liveability.

- The Region offers strong links to Australian and foreign agents for investment and promotion of local operators to Australian and foreign markets, and is home to dedicated government funded specialist Trade Queensland and AusTrade exporter services.

- Rockhampton Regional Council offers a 'one stop shop' for developers with streamlined planning processes, providing an environment which creates investor confidence.
- The Region has demonstrated an environment conducive to sustained investment and returns, supporting strong investor confidence and access to finance due to low risk ratings by lenders and mortgage insurers.



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**Disclaimer** While the information contained in this publication is thoroughly checked for accuracy, Rockhampton Regional Council would like to advise that details are subject to change.



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