

A new Centralized Automotive Research System for AutoCRC

The CARS system has been fully implemented and road tested by AutoCRC at its recent May workshop.

More than 35 attendees represented 16 organisations at the workshop which featured an enthusiastic keynote speech delivered by Ivan Deveson AO.

CARS is part of a focus by AutoCRC on delivering a streamlined project management process and it provides a combination of project management, planning, version controlled document management and reporting capability.

Amongst the key capabilities provided are budget and forecast validation, creating or amending Project Agreements, milestone tracking and approvals, invoice triggers, project snapshot reports, and many other features to smooth the start-up and management of Projects across the diverse geographic locations of AutoCRC researchers.

AutoCRC has a growing database of researcher capability maps across its university and industry participants, related CRCs, expert consultants and overseas linkages which is also managed in CARS and will be valuable for start-up projects to match

researcher capability to needs. Our Research Program Manager Dr Gary White can help out with this for those involved.

All current projects at AutoCRC have now been uploaded and validated into CARS which provides a secure area for reports and project intellectual property.

Special thanks for the success of the launch of CARS and the workshop which saw more than 40 computers on-line simultaneously goes to the development team who selected the best package for AutoCRC and managed the implementation. The team are:

- Ryan Kelly (software architect and lead developer)
- Daphne Mok (software developer)
- Chris Seeling (Project Manager)
- Sudarshan Ramachandran (Project Leader)
- AutoCRC Staff

CARS has rationalized much of the routine work in administering projects and we expect this to free up valuable time.

Any question about CARS should be directed to acr_portal@vpac.org.

AutoCRC to Launch LPG Conversion System for Heavy Diesel Trucks

A new clean, green, technology is poised for fleet testing in an Australian national truck fleet. It will be the first market deliverable by AutoCRC only two years after its inception and is expected to help cement the value of AutoCRC to Australia.

The new technology offers a conversion from diesel fuel to clean burning 100% LPG gas (Autogas) and produces more powerful, quieter, engines in heavy trucks.

The Chief Executive of AutoCRC Dr Matthew Cuthbertson says, "It provides an opportunity for Australia to lead the world in alternative fuelled LPG heavy trucks that are fully integrated into a diagnostic and maintenance system, in a global market where there are no other known parallel technologies.

More details will be posted at www.autocrc.com after the media announcement and launch of the new technology to market later in the year.



The Actros LPG engine conversion being run through test bed trials