



**SENATOR THE HON ARTHUR SINODINOS AO
SENATOR FOR NEW SOUTH WALES**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Quickstep Automotive Pty Ltd receives \$1.4 million for collaborative project

Senator Sinodinos has announced funding that will benefit Bankstown and the surrounding community by helping local industry and research institutions work collaboratively to develop a production solution for carbon fibre automotive products.

Quickstep Automotive has been awarded \$1.4 million in collaboration with Futuris Automotive Interiors Pty Ltd and Deakin University to improve the materials design and manufacturing processes for lightweight carbon fibre seats in cars.

Carbon fibre remains a niche product because of the high cost of materials and manufacturing, despite the benefits of it being lighter and providing better performance. Thanks to the Government's investment, however, this new collaboration will create higher production rates and better performance at lower cost, making this product more available and growing a local business.

The funding comes under the government's Cooperative Research Centre Projects (CRC-P) initiative, which supports short-term industry-led collaborations to solve industry problems and deliver tangible outcomes.

Seventeen projects Australia-wide, selected from 57 compliant applications, will share in \$34.5 million in funding.

With \$79.9 million in cash and in-kind inputs from more than 70 participating businesses, partnerships and research institutions, this represents \$114.4 million invested in outcomes-focused research.

The projects will apply high quality research to solving an industry-specific issue, or develop new products, technologies or services.

"This work supports the National Innovation and Science Agenda pillar to foster industry-research collaboration," Senator Sinodinos said.

As Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Senator Sinodinos also announced a third CRC-P round.

Applications for round three are open until 22 March 2017, with funding outcomes expected to be announced in mid-2017.

Information on the second round recipients, and how to apply for the third round, is available from: <https://www.business.gov.au/crc-p>

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