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Media Release

Australian AgriFood Data Exchange announces technology pilot partners

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange, and Meat & Livestock Australia who is coordinating the participants, today announced that AxisTech, Eratos, Rezare Systems and a consortium led by Telstra supported by IBM, have been selected as technology partners to deliver four initial test use cases, or experiments, for the data exchange.

Over the next three months, these technology partners will deliver separate pilots across data compliance for the sheep sector, biosecurity the for the viticulture sector, benchmarking for the grain sector, and compliance and traceability for the lobster sector.

On 30 March 2022, each technology partner will appear at a Demo Day in Melbourne to present the outcomes of their pilots to an audience of agrifood industry stakeholders.

Chairman of the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange, the Honourable Andrew Robb AO said: “We are delighted to be moving forward to the next stage for the AgriFood Data Exchange with the selection of these outstanding technology partners. They will play a key role in the establishment of a transformational resource for Australia’s agriculture sector.”

“These partners have been selected following an exhaustive process and represent a good mix of an international agricultural data exchange provider, an Australian data exchange provider, and a consortium-based provider that bring capability across data, IT, telecommunications, agriculture and academic research. The variety of these vendors across four experiments will allow the Data Exchange to get the diversity needed to obtain key learnings and inputs for the next stage of business case in the Data Exchange program. We look forward to seeing what they can deliver over the next three months.”

The technology partners were selected via an open “Request for Information”, by an Independent Evaluation Team with oversight from an independent chair and professional probity advisors. All submissions received before the closing date were provided to the Evaluation Team – who identified the respondents that best demonstrated the capacity to meet the Data Exchange objectives.

Pilot Experiment	Technology Partner
Centralised Data for Compliance and Certification: Addressing the cumulative burden of compliance for producers through to processors operating in the sheep sector (meat and wool).	Rezare Systems
Biosecurity and contamination information: Strengthening biosecurity in the viticulture sector through standardised, accurate traceability data.	Eratos

Voluntary benchmarking for comparisons and decisions: Benchmarking to identify gaps and opportunities for improved performance pre harvest, in the grain sector.	Axis Tech
Compliance and Traceability: Timely lobster quota accounting and pre-fishing information exchange	Telstra supported by IBM

Ben van Delden, Partner and Head of AgriFood Tech at KPMG Australia, who are the project management office for the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange added: “There was a strong response to our call for technology partners, with the RFI attracting more than 20 submissions from both national and international organisations. The evaluation team were highly impressed with both the breadth and quality of submissions.”

“The experiments are designed to deliver pilots to test the viability and feasibility of the prioritised use cases, and to understand different approaches and solutions taken by vendors, which will ultimately help inform a business case to support the operational and funding requirements for a Minimum Viable Product. Demo Day on 30 March will provide he selected vendors with an opportunity to profile their solutions and demonstrate their experiments’ outcomes to the Australian agrifood industry.”

Following the pilot project process, an open Request for Proposal will be issued to identify a master technology partner to help build the overall platform for the AgriFood Data Exchange.

About the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange

The Australian AgriFood Data Exchange has a vision to create an interconnected data highway for Australia’s AgriFood value chain. It seeks to provide a digital platform that enables:

- The permissioned exchange of data between AgriFood industry participants
- Timely access to information that supports decision making for the AgriFood value chain
- Release management capacity
- Standardisation and consistency of industry data assets
- The capacity to adapt, incorporating new use cases for data exchange that deliver value and support resilience of AgriFood value chain participants
- Increased transparency of AgriFood industry data to support multiple use cases (e.g. regulatory compliance, collaboration between public & private data sets)

Supporters of the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange include The Australian Government, Meat & Livestock Australia, Charles Sturt University, Food & Agriculture Growth Centre (FIAL), The Victorian Government, Fisheries Rural Research & Development Corporation, The Western Australian Government, The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australian Wool Innovation, Agrifutures, Australian Plant Phenomics Facility, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation, Cotton Rural Research Development Corporation, Elders,, Federation University, Grower Group Alliance, Australian Eggs, The New South Wales Government, Coles, Wine Australia, New South Wales Wine, Vinehealth

Australia, National Farmers Federation, Western Rock Lobster, Indian Rock Lobster, Geraldton Fisherman's Cooperative, and KPMG.

To register interest in attending Demo Day on 30 March 2022, or for more information about the Australian AgriFood Data Exchange, visit www.ozagdx.com.au

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