



**NEW SOUTH WALES**

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**The Hon Frank Sartor MP**

*Minister for Planning*

*Minister for Redfern Waterloo*

*Minister for the Arts*

3 December 2007

## **CONSTRUCTION STARTS ON LANDMARK REDFERN PROJECT**

**State Plan Priority E5: Jobs closer to home**

Work has officially begun on a major new media hub at the Australian Technology Park (ATP) in Redfern, Planning Minister and Minister for Redfern-Waterloo Frank Sartor announced today.

Mr Sartor visited the site with Member for Heffron Kristina Keneally to turn the first sod of soil on the \$123 million project.

While visiting the site, Mr Sartor also announced that Global Television –facilitators of *Australian Idol* - would be a major new tenant at the state-of-the-art facility.

“This project will be the biggest commercial investment in Redfern for at least a decade,” Mr Sartor said.

“It is the direct result of the NSW Government’s efforts to drive new investments in the Redfern Waterloo area.

“Global Television will join other tenants including Chanel Seven and Pacific Magazines, ensuring that the ATP is one of Australia’s most dynamic media centres.

“These new production studios and commercial offices are expected to establish 2000 permanent jobs in Redfern and create up to 600 construction jobs, including 60 for indigenous workers.”

Member for Heffron Kristina Keneally welcomed the start of construction and said Global Television would bring extra jobs and opportunities to the area.

“This is a significant step towards the transformation of the site from disused railway workshops into a world-class technology and business centre,” Ms Keneally said.

“It will provide an important boost to the local economy and generate important job opportunities.”

It is estimated that by the end of 2009 the Redfern-Waterloo Authority will have helped to create more than 2600 permanent jobs at the ATP—a 20% boost to jobs in the whole area.

To date the RWA’s innovative Indigenous Employment Model has created 209 construction jobs for Indigenous workers in the area.