

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **3DMEDiTech Partners with Victorian Government to create world class advanced medical manufacturing facility and MedTech Innovation Centre**

3DMEDiTech will partner with the Victorian Government to expand its advanced manufacturing capability and establish Australia's pre-eminent MedTech Innovation Centre in Fishermans bend in Victoria. The investment will transform the scale and capability of medical device innovation and manufacturing in Victoria, fast tracking commercialisation opportunities.

### **Expansion of advanced MedTech manufacturing facility and creation of over 90 new jobs**

3DMEDiTech has committed \$27 million for stage one of an expanded advanced manufacturing facility designed to produce personalised medical devices at scale. The investment will fund industrial grade 3D printers capable of high precision production of polymers and metals, automatic digitisation, AI and robotics. Over 90 new collar jobs in technology and advanced MedTech manufacturing will be created.

The facility will be one of the largest, most advanced 3D personalised medical manufacturing facilities in the world and the only facility of its kind in Australia. 3DMEDiTech will start commercial production of personalised medical devices including hip, spinal and knee implants. The end-use products will improve patient outcomes and reduce Australia's reliance on imported devices.

### **Pioneering technology to support response to COVID-19**

The investment will also see 3DMEDiTech rapidly scale the testing solutions they created during the Covid-19 response, where from Victoria they helped Australia's national response. Under 3DMEDiTech's Mediswab brand, the business manufactures 3D printed nasopharyngeal and saliva swabs which were designed in collaboration with the Doherty Institute, The University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

### **New MedTech Innovation Centre for Personalised Medical Devices**

The MedTech Innovation Centre will see 3DMEDiTech partner with The University of Melbourne to create a Joint Research and Training Centre. The partnership will see students and academics from the University's Department of Biomedical Engineering undertake research and development, working in a commercial setting. It will also involve collaboration with St Vincent's Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery (ACMD), leveraging their leadership in surgical research and bringing new health technology to market.

The MedTech Innovation Centre will facilitate collaboration between industry, academia and a leading hospital group. It will drive innovation and commercialise medical technology backed by scalable advanced manufacturing capability in the Fishermans bend precinct in Melbourne.

### **Commenting on the announcement, Paul Docherty, Executive Director and Founder of 3DMEDiTech said:**

*"Working in lockstep with the Victorian Government's commitment to building our knowledge economy, our world class manufacturing facility and MedTech Innovation Centre will create over 90 new collar jobs over the next 3 years. The investment will put Melbourne on the global map as a leading centre for personalised medical device innovation and commercialisation.*

*"3DMEDiTech has a track record of taking innovation in MedTech to scale. Our new investment coupled with our partnership with the Victorian Government and The University of Melbourne will take our advanced manufacturing and commercialisation capability to the next level."*

**Australia deserves to have a world class health industry**

**Commenting on the creation of the new MedTech Innovation Centre, University of Melbourne Vice Chancellor Professor Duncan Maskell said:**

*“The University of Melbourne is excited about establishing the Joint Research and Training Centre in Medical Technologies with 3DMEDiTech. In particular, I would like to thank 3DMeditech and their investors whose funding will enable the training of 13 PhD students and the recruitment of two Research Fellows. The Centre will be a place where industry, hospitals and researchers from the University come together to collaborate on research projects that will make a big difference in people’s lives.”*

**Toby Hall, CEO of St Vincent’s Health Australia added:**

*“The 3DMEDiTech initiative is exactly what Victoria and the health sector needs. Through St Vincent’s Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery, we look forward to collaborating with the Victorian Government, 3DMEDiTech and The University of Melbourne to unlock value from our surgical research and bring new health technology to market.”*

**About 3DMEDiTech**

Established in 2016, 3DMEDiTech, housed at Fisherman’s Bend in Melbourne, is globally recognised for its speed in creating PMDs manufactured at scale through advanced 3D printing, AI and robotics. It has an established track record of successfully incubating new businesses.

3DMEDiTech has developed three separate and successful medical device businesses in the last 4 years, SmileStyler, Serkel and Mediswab. SmileStyler is the world’s best clear aligner treatment. Serkel produces innovative orthopaedic bracing including helmets for babies and Ankle Foot Orthotics (AFOs) for kids with cerebral palsy.

Under 3DMEDiTech’s Mediswab brand, the business manufactures 3D printed nasopharyngeal and saliva swabs which were designed in collaboration with the Doherty Institute, the University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Mediswab contributed 10% of swab testing kits the National Medical Stockpile (the only Australian provider), as well as to most State Governments and pathology labs across Australia.

Mediswab has most recently designed the world’s first 3D printed saliva swab for rapid testing during the pandemic. 3DMEDiTech worked directly with the Victorian Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory (VIDRL) to design our cutting edge Mediswab saliva swab.

**[www.3dmeditech.com](http://www.3dmeditech.com)**

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