Australia Innovates
an on-line guide to innovation in Australia’s industries

A century of innovation

Agriculture and food
Federation wheat 1903
Sunshine header harvester 1914
Rotavator rotary hoe 1923
Vegemite 1924
Toof cane harvester 1961
Wine cask 1966
Dynamic Lifter fertiliser 1972
Miniboil water heater 1981
Nematodes for pest control 1981
Nogall pest control 1989
Buffalo fly trap 1992
Partial Rootzone Drying 1999

Communications and IT
Automatic totalisator 1913
School of the Air 1951
Fluid head camera mount 1954
Moldflow design software 1978
Bara Sonobuoy Sonar 1980
Cochlear implant 1983
ISYS text retrieval software 1988
Mountbatten Brailler 1990
Eddie special effects software 1991
Ericsson phone queuing system 1992
SmartModem 1992
Passport Security 1995

Energy and Environment
Cactoblastis moth 1926
Snowy Mountains Scheme 1949
Solahart water heater 1953
Atom engine ignition 1976
Permaculture 1979
Rib Loc pipe 1980
Landcare 1989
Clean Up Australia Day 1990
Buried contact solar cell 1991
Fire-Brake foam 1993
Orbital engine technology 1995

Health
Helena Rubinstein cosmetics 1902
Royal Flying Doctor Service 1928
Both respirator 1937
Penicillin 1944
Disposable syringe 1949
Begg orthodontic technique 1956
CSL antivenoms 1956
Sola plastic lenses 1960
Microsurgery 1973
National Trachoma Program 1976
Ultrasound technology 1976
CPAP sleep apnoea control 1981
IVF freezing 1983
Relaxin birth hormone 1989
G-CSF immunity booster 1991
Relenza flu treatment 1999

Household and clothing
Brick veneer house construction 1928
Speedo swimwear 1929
Shepherd castors 1946
Splayds cutlery 1946
Hills clothes hoist 1948
Victa mower 1952
Wool technology 1957
Staysharp knife 1970
Triton workcentre 1976
Dual flush toilet 1982
Mambo designs 1984
Balarinji designs 1989

Leisure
Early Australian cinema 1905
Surf lifesaving movement 1906
Sydney Opera House 1973
Super Sopper 1974
World Series Cricket 1977
Fairlight CMI synthesiser 1979
Racecam TV sport coverage 1979

Manufacturing
Froth flotation process 1904
Humespun pipe 1910
Hardwood pulping 1927
Warman slurry pumps 1938
Owen gun 1941
Ore slurry probes 1972
ISA Process 1979
Coalscan coal analysis 1982
Durable heavy rail technology 1982
Isasmelt ore smelter 1983
Jameson Cell ore process 1985
Plastic banknotes 1988
EXELGRAM anti-counterfeiting technology 1992
Casting thin sheet steel 2000

Research
X-ray crystallography 1912
Flame Ionisation Detector 1957
Atomic Absorption Spectrometer 1962
Australia Telescope 1988
Polilight forensic lamp 1989

Transport
Michell thrust bearing 1907
The Ute 1934
Australian six cylinder family cars 1948
Black box flight recorder 1961
Bishop steering systems 1971
SCATS traffic flow system 1975
ATPD pedestrian button 1984
Wave Piercing Catamaran 1984
Baby safety capsule 1984