

SGI supports marvels of the Australian sky

Silicon Graphics is pleased to announce its support of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) 2003 International Workshop, held in Geraldton, Western Australia from 27th July until 1st August 2003. Australia is contributing to the next generation radio telescope, the SKA, which will have a collecting area of one square kilometre (one million square metres) - about 100 times as great as the biggest present-day instruments. The new telescope is so ambitious that international collaboration is mandatory in its design, construction and operation. The SKA Workshop brings together scientists and engineers involved in planning for this next-generation telescope. Features of the workshop will include in-depth reviews of the SKA science case, concept prototyping and a half-day workshop devoted to SKA simulation studies. Included in this significant gathering is the Aboriginal Art Project which SGI is sponsoring. The art exhibition will be opened at the conference by The Hon Dr. Geoff Gallop, Premier of Western Australia, on Tuesday 29th July. It aims to promote a dual interpretation of the sky and formation of the universe from the traditional Aboriginal and scientific perspectives. Indigenous artists are producing paintings and stories of star patterns and some of the artworks have been paired with matched astronomical images by David Malin, a world-famous astronomical photographer. The art project has arisen out of discussions with Aboriginal representative groups regarding SKA siting and the formation of a radio-quiet reserve in inland WA. The peace required for long term-protection of an area for radio astronomy aligns with the peace sought by Aboriginal communities around sacred sites. The art exhibition represents mankind's endless fascination with the sky and the opportunities arising from community cooperation. For more information about the event, please visit

<http://www.atnf.csiro.au/projects/ska/events/geraldton/programme.html> * * * * * About SGI SGI, also known as Silicon Graphics, Inc., is the world's leader in high-performance computing, visualization and the management of complex data. SGI's vision is to provide technology that enables the most significant scientific and creative breakthroughs of the 21st century. Whether it's sharing images to aid in brain surgery, finding oil more efficiently, studying global climate or enabling the transition from analog to digital broadcasting, SGI is dedicated to addressing the next class of challenges for scientific, engineering and creative users. SGI was named on FORTUNE magazine's 2003 list of "Top 100 Companies to Work For." With offices worldwide, the company is headquartered in Mountain View, Calif., and can be found on the Web at www.sgi.com.