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# Our speed computes with best

Alan Lander | 12th June 2010

THE polities can argue all they like about the future of the National Broadband Network.

Because on the Sunshine Coast, we already have it.

Yesterday, Matthew Flinders College hosted the official launch of the Coast's new 100 megabit per second broadband network which would be able to provide speeds every bit as fast as the NBN promised for Australia.

With \$2.9 million of Federal Government funding matched by local stakeholders including Sunshine Coast council, the college signed up as first customer to the network, which will initially supply business, schools and allied health units, spreading to the domestic market as time goes on.

State Senator Mark Furner joined provider Allegro Networks, University of the Sunshine Coast and Mayor Bob Abbot, who symbolically cut an old piece of network wire to declare Connecting the Coast open for business and a showcase provider of what the rest of the country might enjoy in the future.

A new 29.5 km optical fibre link and wireless base will give access to more than 50% of Coast businesses spanning 800sq km.

Allegro Network managing director David Waldie said two years of work had come to fruition.

"It's a truly world-class service, built for a new generation," Mr Waldie said.

"The network is capable of common usage of 100mbps. That measure of speed is critical on networks.

"The Sunshine Coast has put daylight between it and almost every other region through this."

Council economic programs manager Michael Whereat said customers could test their present broadband speeds through using speedtest.net to see if they are getting the speed they should be.

"Then they can contact Allegro and do a line-of-sight check.

"Wi-max technology with this network relies on line-of-sight.

"It won't work everywhere on the Coast but more than half of Coast businesses should be covered."



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