



Mr Larry Lopez Director of Accelerating Commercialisation

Mr Larry Lopez was appointed Director of Accelerating Commercialisation in January 2016. In this role he provides support and advice to the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Innovation and Science on the delivery of the Accelerating Commercialisation element of the Entrepreneurs' Programme.

A key role of the Director is to increase the visibility of Accelerating Commercialisation in terms of its offerings and opportunities to help Australian projects address the challenges associated with commercialising novel intellectual property. Importantly it also includes oversight of the creation and promotion of the Accelerating Commercialisation portfolio of companies.

Larry has extensive experience speaking at industry conferences and working with the media. He has been featured in numerous print articles and on BBC World and Bloomberg Financial live broadcasts on stories related to innovation and the globalisation of venture capital.

Raised and educated in Silicon Valley, USA, Larry began his involvement in financing early stage and emerging growth companies in the late 1980s when he joined Silicon Valley Bank. Prior to joining the bank, he worked in trade finance and commercial lending supporting family owned businesses and small and medium sized enterprises.

Larry has been involved with hundreds of start-ups, early stage and emerging growth companies and has worked across the spectrum of early stage funding including:

- venture capital investment
- investment banking
- pioneering the use of venture debt.

His experience includes working with companies and investors across the USA, Europe, Israel, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

Larry has extensive experience in executive management and strategic planning and has been the founder of several successful companies. He has been involved as a director of many venture capital funds, start-ups and early stage companies. Larry has also worked closely with numerous innovative companies through his funding activities.

Since moving to Australia in 2006, Larry has focused on commercialising innovative ideas and technologies. He has worked with professional investors, universities, governments, corporate investors and innovators across Australia.

He is the Chairman of the OzApps/West Tech Fest Organising Committee and Curtin University Commercialisation Advisory Board. He is also a director of the Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia and the Centre for Entrepreneurial Research and Innovation. Larry currently serves as a director of several private and not-for-profit organisations and companies in Australia and California.

Entrepreneurs' Programme

The Australian Government's flagship initiative for competitiveness and productivity at the firm level—the Entrepreneurs' Programme offers tailored support and access to the best advice and networks including experienced Advisers and Facilitators sourced from the private sector who work directly with businesses to help them grow.

The advice, support and services offered under this programme are free of charge for applicants that meet the eligibility criteria. Successful applicants are required to invest their time, which we understand is a valuable commodity.

The programme offers support to businesses through four elements:

- Accelerating Commercialisation
- Business Management
- Innovation Connections
- Incubator Support.

Accelerating Commercialisation is for entrepreneurs, start-ups, research organisations and small and medium sized businesses. It provides expert guidance and connections through specialist Commercialisation Advisers to help applicants find the right commercialisation solution for their novel products, processes and service. Funding is provided through matched grants of up to \$1 million over two year for commercialisation activities.

To contact Mr Lopez email:
epdirector-ac@industry.gov.au

"The stars are aligning to take the innovation ecosystem in Australia to the next level. Through my involvement in Accelerating Commercialisation I hope to help create and enable a new generation of globally successful companies based on the outstanding innovative projects now emerging in Australia."

- LARRY LOPEZ