

Embargo Release: 9am Eastern Standard Time 20th September 2017

MESHED LAUNCHES LOCAL HOSTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE THINGS NETWORK

**“Free IoT gets a shot in the arm”
Australia to host global IoT network**

September 9am Eastern Standard Time 20th 2017

Meshed IoT Integrators has today launched the provision of local hosting infrastructure to support the global "Free IoT" initiative, The Things Network, making Australia a “first class region” and augmenting the network performance through higher network availability, lower network latency and higher data throughput.

This exciting announcement is great news for local IoT developers and start-ups to help them accelerate their IoT innovations, as well as communities and industries who are driving next generation smart cities, environmental management, intelligent asset management and industry 4.0 solutions.

Andrew Maggio, Director of Technology for Meshed, who has been leading the adoption of open standards in IoT states:

“Meshed has been a strong advocate for The Things Network and its global public access IoT initiative since the start. We have seen steady demand for TTN here in Australia over the past 18 months and we’re excited to be contributing to its continued growth. With Australia as a first class public region, we now have local infrastructure and resources in place to support more devices, more users and a more resilient service.”

More than 14 billion devices are connected to the internet world-wide, with a forecast to grow to over 26 billion connected units by 2020 and – possibly 1 trillion by 2035 (McKinsey 2015). Research undertaken by the IoT Alliance Australia has revealed \$116 billion of potential upside to the Australian economy by 2025.

The Things Network started in Amsterdam in October 2015, with the mission to build an open, free and decentralized internet of things (IoT) network. TTN is now a thriving global community network with over 24,000 members in 500 communities across 94 countries in cities such as Amsterdam, New York, Zurich, Madrid, San Francisco, San Paulo, London, Singapore and Sydney.

Since early 2016, Meshed has been delivering its Community IoT Network initiative enabling any-one within range of an IoT gateway to connect their smart sensor device to the internet for free, without the use of Cellular, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth or other wireless technologies. The Community IoT Network initiative uses the open standard technology, LoRaWAN™ which is a low power, long range wireless technology that uses the 915MHz Industrial Scientific and Medical (ISM) wireless spectrum band.

Maggio is also excited about the interoperability, flexibility and in built security features of LoRaWAN™. “The opportunities are significant. Meshed has been instrumental in activating IoT networks for Australia’s largest cities, including Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Wollongong and as far north as Cairns”.

Earlier this year, Southern Grampians Shire in Victoria, deployed a regional wide network across the major towns in the Greater Hamilton region. The network is being initially used to track environmental data including weather stations and air quality. It is also being mooted to support early flood warning systems and visitor interpretation on heritage trails in the future.

The CEO of the Internet of Things Alliance Australia (IoTA), Frank Zeichner has been a supporter of the Meshed Community IoT Network initiative.

“The Internet of Things has great potential for societal benefit beyond the evident benefits for the economy”, says Frank Zeichner, CEO, IoT Alliance Australia. “LPWAN technologies such as LoRa can enable citizens to simply and cheaply collect and share their own data within their community and participate in the managing of their environment.”

The TULIP initiative is a case example (tulipnetwork.org). Founded in September 2016 by UTS in partnership with Meshed, TTN, Smart Locale and the Total Environment Centre, TULIP is community and industry initiative to enable climate responsive neighbourhoods. TULIP’s aim is to fill the environmental data “void” by collecting real-time, hyper-local data on heat, air quality and noise through a growing network of environmental sensors connected to the LoRaWAN network in the Sydney CBD. The IoT platform is enabling innovation through a scalable open data exchange, for cities and its citizens. The projects principal partners include the City of Sydney, Frasers Group, Reekoh and IAG.

Catherine Caruana-McManus, Director of Strategy and Sales for Meshed sees the potential for LPWAN using wireless bands as the “last mile of connectivity” for regions and remote areas of Australia and to support industry and communities that currently need to rely on cellular networks for their remote operations, asset management, environmental monitoring and smart farming solutions.

For further information about Meshed please contact Catherine Caruana-McManus on +61 418 514 172, Catherine@meshed.com.au or for technical details contact Andrew Maggio on +61 407 202 577, Andrew@meshed.com.au.

For an overview of The Things Network and the “free IoT” revolution please refer to this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4UrXI-SGEo&t=2s>

About Meshed (<http://meshed.com.au/>, <https://www.facebook.com/MeshedAustralia/>)
Meshed is a Sydney based IoT integrator that helps clients build their own IoT networks and provides end to end IoT solutions including education and community enablement in IoT. Meshed clients typically improve business profitability through rapid deployment of innovative technology solutions for the industrial m2M, smart cities, energy and water management, environmental monitoring and intelligent asset management. Meshed is an active member of the IoT Alliance Australia (<http://www.iiot.org.au/>) and a partner of the Food Agility CRC (<http://www.foodagility.com/>) and TULIP (<https://www.tulipnetwork.org/>)