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SURROUND AUSTRALIA PTY LTD WINS DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, and SCIENCE CHALLENGE TO CLASSIFY ELECTRONIC RECORDS

Project TABULA SERVANDA
"Record Listed For Classification"

In 2019, the Business Research and Innovation Initiative (BRII) Round 2 Challenges were released for open competition among small-to-medium Australian enterprise. SURROUND Australia was one of the four organisations selected to participate in the Feasibility Study Challenge "Automating Complex Determinations For Australian Government Information", proposed by the National Archives of Australia (NAA) to meet their requirement for the automation of the processes of classification, retention, and disposal of billions of electronic records (ERs) across the Australian Government.

SURROUND Australia has been developing a cloud-based Knowledge-as-a-Service (KaaS) platform. In the BRII Challenge Feasibility Study, SURROUND designed the **SORT™ Robot** (the SURROUND Ontology-powered Record Triage Robot) as a solution for the NAA's requirement to automate the accurate classification, retention, and disposal of ERs at scale.

On 10/02/20, the Minister for Industry, Science, and Technology, Hon Karen Andrews MP announced that SURROUND Australia is one of the two successful winners of the Proof of Concept phase of the BRII Challenge.

https://www.minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/karenandrews/media-releases/businesses-share-6-million-tackle-national-challenges

The BRII Grant of $1.1 million will be used to further develop and commence commercialisation of the **SORT™ Robot**. The Proof of Concept phase of Project Tabula Servanda commences in February 2020.

The **SORT™ Robot** is one of the products SURROUND is developing on its KaaS platform. The **SORT™ Robot** will provide the ability to:

- generate machine-readable regulations for automating the processing of ERs

- provide comprehensive ER search and discovery to users
- automate the classification of billions of ERs
- automate the sentencing of ERs to accurately determine whether they are critical to the preservation of Australia's cultural heritage, and must be retained; or, if they may be safely disposed of, when disposal should take place.

The **SORT™ Robot** will form one of a family of SURROUND products on the KaaS platform that enable agencies and other organisations to manage the full life cycle of knowledge, including:
- multi-dimensional contextual awareness – the ability to observe knowledge
- knowledge governance across existing and future knowledge
- advanced analytics and machine learning
- high performance task and process automation
- decision support (including traceable explanations using Explainable AI (XAI))
- compliance assessment and auditing

More information about the BRII Challenge may be found at:
https://www.business.gov.au/Grants-and-Programs/Business-Research-and-Innovation-Initiative

For further information and a demonstration of the **SORT™ Robot** or the SURROUND Knowledge-as-a-Service Platform, please contact:

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