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Speech at Control Data Aust. P/L. Opening

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DATA CONTROL OPENING

I am sure all South Australians interested in development will join with the Government in welcoming the establishment of major operations by Control Data Australia Pty. Ltd. in South Australia because in doing so it is providing an important addition to this State's computer field.

Through the development of the Weapons Research Establishment at Salisbury, South Australia has built a reputation as a national leader in computer technologies.

For many years the W.R.E. has been involved in the use of important and advanced computer techniques, and has, as a result, built up digital and analogue computers and flight predictors sufficient to cope with its own specialised needs.

As a consequence of its activities it has provided a sound training base for computer experts unparalleled in Australia. It has produced a remarkable number of leading Australian computer experts and in fact the former General Manager of Control Data, Mr. Trevor Robinson, is an ex-W.R.E. man.

Another leading Australian computer expert, Professor Ovenstone of the Adelaide University, is also an old W.R.E. boy, and many of his computer course graduates are employed by Data Control.

The South Australian Government has a great interest in the development of the South Australian computer industries.

At the moment we are providing two-thirds of the cost of a software factory at The Levels, Pooraka, which is being jointly established by the South Australian Institute of Technology and I.C.L.

In addition, with firms such as Philips Electrical Industries, Texas Instruments and other smaller scientifically-based companies operating and expanding in South Australia, we believe that the State has the skills necessary to produce both software and hardware for the computer industry.

And so South Australia has the potential to become the first major centre for the development, manufacture and marketing of computers.

We have the skills and the technologies to see that this is done and it is here that organisations such as Control Data could play a most important role.

Control Data, as I have said, is not new to South Australia.

As a major supplier of computer equipment in Australia it has been closely associated with the South Australian Government in supplying the equipment for the State Public Service Automatic Data Processing Centre and for the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science computer.

The University of Adelaide, the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics in Adelaide, and the CSIRO are other users of Control Data computers in this State.

Control Data is currently expanding its services in Adelaide partly to provide additional support for the S.A. Public Service in the extension of its computer later this year.

Therefore, I am delighted to be involved formally in the opening of Control Data's own premises in this State.

I now have great pleasure in declaring this impressive building officially open.