

# What Makes a Great Research Project in AutoCRC?

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# Today's Presentation

- Background
- Questions to ask before you start
- Size and Scope of projects
- What does not work
- What does work
- Project Review Committee
- Conclusions

# Background

This presentation is based on

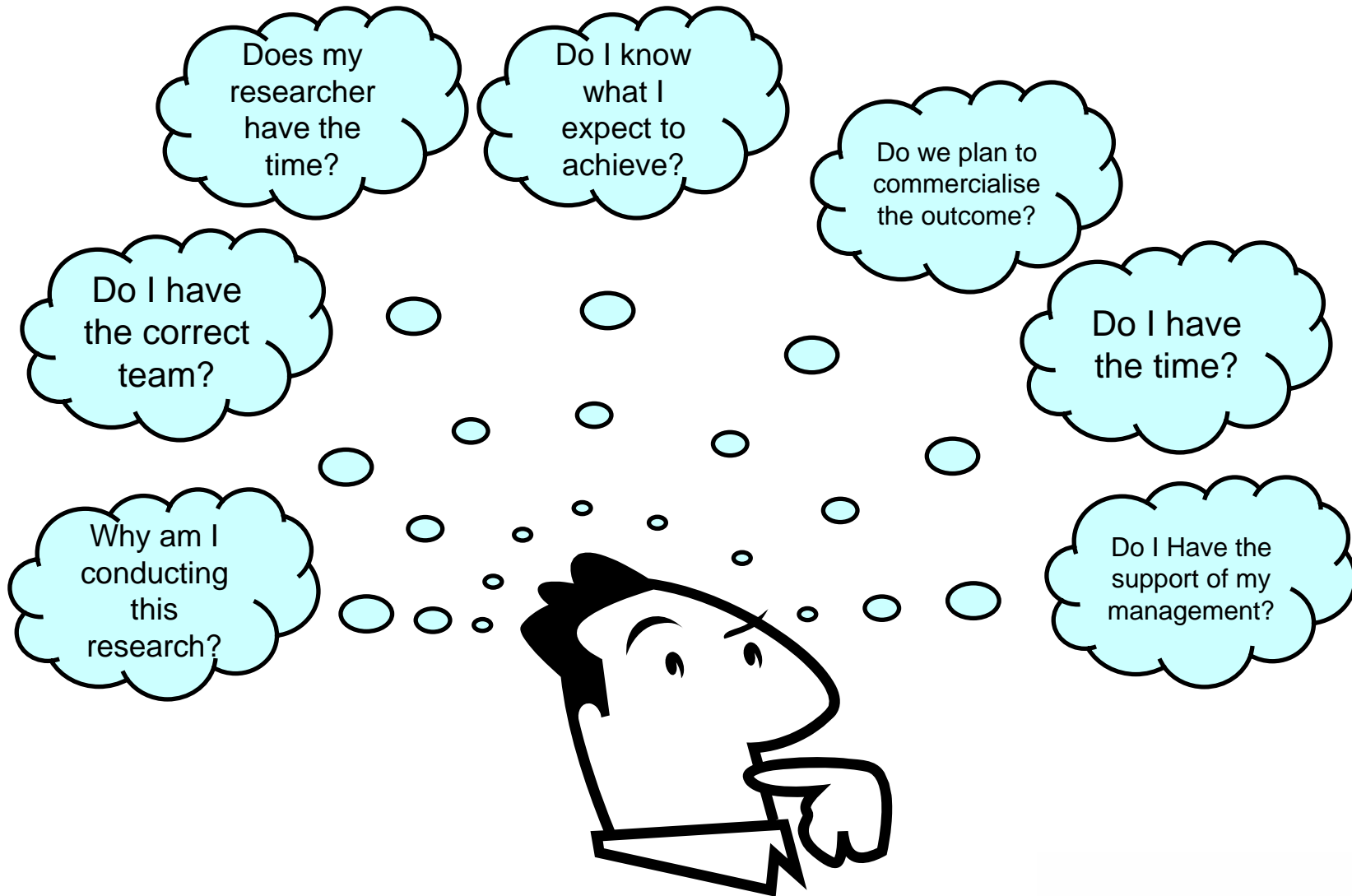
- Feedback for Project Leaders and Industry Champions
- A perspective of an Industry participant
- A perspective of a Project Review Committee member

Is Intended

- Assist in planning of AutoCRC projects
- Avoid potential pitfalls using insight from those have gone before

Ensure a successful outcome for all participants.

# Questions to ask before you start



# Size and Scope of projects

- AutoCRC projects range in size and size should not a limiting factor
- Ensure tight scope
- Duration is important must be balanced with size and scope
- Avoid projects with scope that is too broad, consider breaking up into smaller projects or phases
- Need to get the balance right



# Reasons why projects did not work well

- Lack of planning / scope definition
- Lack of Communication
- Access to data or equipment
- Incorrect partners
- Milestone completion Issues



# Reasons why projects did not work well

- Team was not cohesive or problems with location
- Recruiting delays
- Delays in starting project put it in conflict with other projects
- Researcher not abreast of latest technology developments
- Key researcher had too many projects



# What Worked

- Planning
  - ✓ Be prepared to spend plenty of time developing project scope
  - ✓ Develop a contingency plan
  - ✓ Flexibility to adapt to unknown scenarios
- Communication
  - ✓ Briefing stakeholders to address expectations
  - ✓ Secure agreement of all parties prior to start and if change is required
  - ✓ Regular reviews
  - ✓ Video conferencing

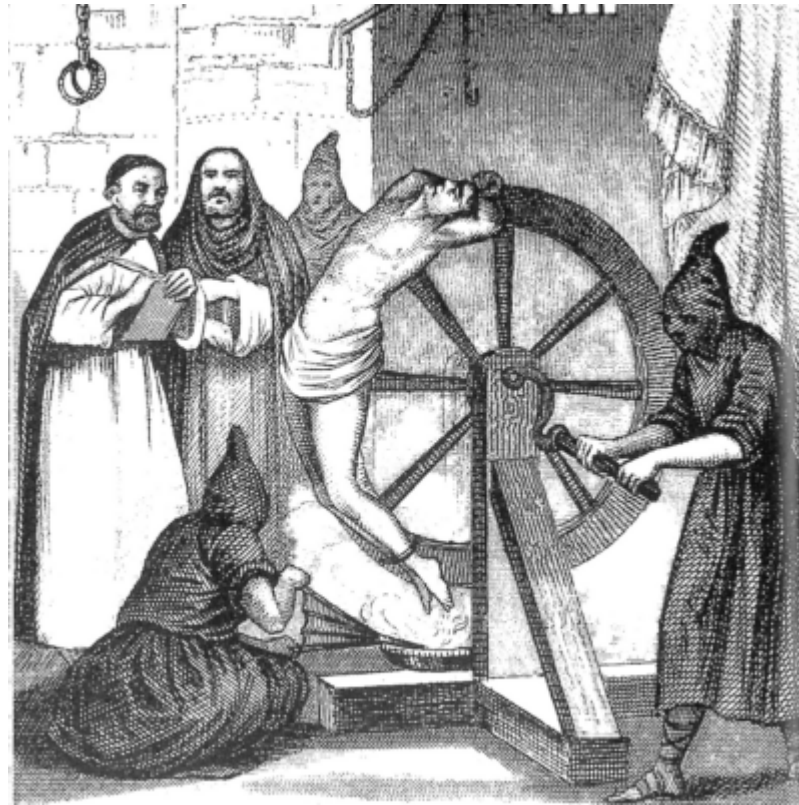


# What Worked

- Partnership
  - ✓ Industry partners makes facilities available
  - ✓ Make sure you have the correct partners
- Ensure strong research focused leadership
- Early experimental trials helps identify issues and adjust scope
- Talk to the AutoCRC



# Review process



Project Review Committee

# Project Review Committee - Members



Members	Organisation	Background	Status
Gary White (Chair)	Research Manager Auto CRC	Component Manufacturing, Vehicle Development, Drivetrain,	Member since inception
Matthew Cuthbertson	CEO Auto CRC	Component Manufacturing, Sensors, Materials Science, Informatics	Member since inception
Barrie Finnin	General Manager Advanced Engineered Components CSIRO	Component Manufacturing, Tooling, Materials Science, Powertrain, Virtual Engineering	Member since inception
Jeff Brown	ATW Manager, Advanced Structures, Simulation & Manufacturing Holden Innovation	System Design, Vehicle Development, Body Structures, Manufacturing, Computer simulation	Joined August 2006
Adam Groszek	Head of Technical Development GKN Aerospace	Project Management, Virtual Supply Chain, Virtual Maintenance, Virtual Engineering,	Joined in March 2007
Prof. Michael Cardew-Hall	Head of Engineering ANU	Component Manufacturing, Mechanical Engineering, Modelling, Design	Joined in October 2008
Irena Cosic	Dean Research & Innovation RMIT University	Product development, computing, international research linkages	Joined in December 2008

# Project Review Committee - Charter

- Project Quality and Relevance
- Identify potential or emerging problems
- Ensure projects are relevant to Government commitments
- including review of major capital investments
- Identify Potential IP
- Facilitate resource allocation and priority
- Identify additional linkages or alliances



## Charter - AutoCRC Project Review Committee

In accordance with the requirements of clause 17.4 of the Participants Agreement and Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Agreement, AutoCRC will establish a Project Review Committee with membership and charter as set out below.

### Membership

- AutoCRC Research Program Manager (Chair)
- AutoCRC CEO and Business Manager
- Core group of 3-5 x acknowledged technical experts with detailed knowledge and experience relevant to AutoCRC research themes.

### Meetings

Bimonthly meetings, including reviews of selected projects. The Committee should aim to review every AutoCRC Project at least twice per year.

### Charter of Committee

The Committee is an Advisory Committee to the AutoCRC Executive Team, formed to

- Monitor all AutoCRC research projects for quality, relevance and achievement against agreed objectives. The Committee will also approve significant changes and transitions as appropriate, including review of major capital investments
- Report quarterly to AutoCRC Board (through Research Program Manager) on progress with all projects, and identify potential or emerging problems.
- Maintain overview of broad research Outcomes and Milestones for reporting to the Commonwealth.
- Develop strategies for early identification and capture of valuable Intellectual Property generated from the AutoCRC research program.
- Develop and communicate tools (eg risk assessment and economic impact models) for oversight of the research portfolio, to facilitate resource allocation and priority setting.
- Identify additional linkages and alliances needed to achieve AutoCRC research objectives, with particular attention to the identification of new synergies and opportunities for development across the participating research organisations.

### Committee Members

- Members must be recognized experts in relevant technical discipline/s and have experience with high level strategy and commercial technology development. Import technology areas include:
  - > *Advanced materials*
  - > *Sustainable manufacturing systems, supply chain management*
  - > *Virtual design and engineering*
  - > *Powertrains, fuels and emissions*
  - > *Vehicle safety and accident prevention*
  - > *Human-machine interfaces, sensor networks and communications technology.*
- Institutional knowledge and awareness of capability of AutoCRC Industry and of R&D Participants.
- An understanding of the strategic challenges facing the Australian auto industry, and a strong level of commitment to the objectives of AutoCRC.

Holden. Go better.



# Project Review Committee - Operation

- Every project is subject to the review process during its life, at least once each year and in many cases twice each year.
- Project Leader and Industry Champions submit a presentation on the review template in advance of the review meeting
- Meeting focuses on issues where assistance is required to keep project on track to its milestones and to maximise impact and IP
- Project team receives feedback and support where required
- PRC also has visibility of project information via the CARS portal if required.



# Conclusions

- The AutoCRC has completed or has in progress approximately 55 industry lead projects.
- The AutoCRC and its support committees are here to help you have a successful research outcome.
- If you take two things away today
  - ✓ Planning
  - ✓ Communication