



Mayor Peter Murrhiy with Geelong Manufacturing Council CEO Jennifer Conley and Co-Directors of Sequence Digital, Patrick Blampied and Raj Pandita.

Technology cuts the risk of compost fires

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Monday, 3 October 2022

An innovative Geelong company is helping to reduce the risk of fires in garden organics facilities thanks to a Clean Technology grant.

Sequence Digital is today launching a fleet of its new 4G, weather-proof, solar-powered temperature sensors in a pilot program that will reduce the risk of fires at the City of Greater Geelong's Garden Organics Processing Facility in Anakie.

The \$26,000 grant was awarded in 2019 through Cleantech Innovations Geelong, a business and industry support program funded by the City of Greater Geelong, the Victorian Government, and the Geelong Manufacturing Council.

The grant was used to develop the device, which can remotely measure and log the temperature of organic material.

The new devices will monitor 10,000 cubic metres of garden organics - the equivalent of four Olympic-sized swimming pools – collected from household green bins across Greater Geelong.

The new Geelong Garden Organics Composting Facility between Anakie and Lovely Banks processes up to 35,000 tonnes per year of green organics collected from garden waste bins.

The industrial temperature sensor has a ground-breaking design with the ability to operate in remote areas where the internet signal is weak, and the weather conditions are extreme.

Last month, Geelong was recognised as the 'International Smart City of the Year' at the World Smart City Expo held in Korea in recognition of similar initiatives and our ongoing commitment to being global leaders in smart and innovative projects.

For more information visit [Cleantech Innovations Geelong](#) or [Sequence Digital](#).

Mayor Peter Murrhiy, chair of the Innovative Solutions portfolio

“ Compost can get really hot and ignite so using remote, round-the-clock monitoring means we can improve safety on site and process organics more efficiently.

The data is available in real time so our staff know straight away if there's an issue with higher temperatures and they can take action quickly to cool down the material.

This initiative is an example of the clever and creative ways we are deploying smart technology to support better outcomes for our environment and community.

Innovative Solutions Deputy Chair, Councillor Sarah Mansfield

“ Around 50 percent of the rubbish Australians put in the garbage bin could be put to better use as compost and mulch. The temperature monitoring means we can safely and efficiently process organics while reducing our impact on the environment.

Co-director of Sequence Digital, Patrick Blampied

“ These devices are tough as nails and send critical temperature data to the cloud in real-time, rain, hail or shine, even in areas with patchy rural internet connectivity. The Cleantech Innovations grant made it possible to redesign our earlier prototype from the ground-up to make sure it could be used in the most remote outdoor organics facilities across Australia.

Is this information helpful? Yes No

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