



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Yancoal's STEM investment in our future**

The University of Newcastle's award-winning Science and Engineering Challenge will deliver three exciting days in Muswellbrook on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week. The event comprises of two Primary School days and one High School day, thanks to a partnership with Yancoal Australia.

Each day, up to 256 students from eight primary or high school teams will collaborate to solve real-world challenges such as building an earthquake resilient tower, linking efficient networks for high-speed rail or sending encrypted messages with light. Yancoal's investment in the program will ensure this program continues to be offered to students in the Upper Hunter.

Yancoal's Mount Thorley Warkworth mine has been a major sponsor of the University's Science and Engineering Challenge for many years and recently committed to a further two-years, ensuring the program continues through to the end of 2021.

Mount Thorley Warkworth General Manager Jason McCallum recognised the positive impact the challenge has on local students.

"We are proud to support a program that helps inspire students to consider a future career in science and engineering. It is initiatives like this that help educate and drive the next generation of leaders into our industry," said Jason.

The not-for-profit Science and Engineering Challenge program launched in 2000, delivers a unique and accessible program in every Australian State and Territory, stimulating interest in STEM fields by exploring scientific concepts with practical problem solving.

In 2018 the program was nationally recognised when it won the BHERT award for Award for Outstanding Collaboration in Community Engagement.

The new funding agreement will also continue to support the Science and Engineering Challenge's partner, the SMART program.

### **For more information please contact:**

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