



DR ALEX ZELINSKY

Dr Alex Zelinsky was appointed Chief Defence Scientist and head of Defence Science and Technology Organisation (now Defence Science and Technology Group) in March 2012.

Before joining Defence he was Group Executive for Information Sciences at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Director of CSIRO's Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Centre.

Dr Zelinsky was Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of Seeing Machines, a high-technology company developing computer vision systems. The company is listed on the London Stock Exchange and was a start-up from the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, where Dr Zelinsky was Professor of Systems Engineering.

Dr Zelinsky researched in robotics and computer vision at the AIST Electrotechnical Laboratory in Japan and has taught and conducted research in computer science at the University of Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia. He started his career as a Systems Engineer with BHP Steel International.

Dr Zelinsky has extensively advised Federal and State governments in Australia, including as a member of the Australian Government's Defence Industry Innovation Board. He has served on the advisory panels to the Australian Research Centre (ARC) Centre for Vision Science, the ARC Centre of Excellence for Autonomous Systems and currently the ARC Centre of Excellence for Robotic Vision.

Dr Zelinsky completed his Bachelor of Mathematical Sciences (Honours) and Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Wollongong, NSW.

In 2009, Engineers Australia named Dr Zelinsky Professional Engineer of the Year (Sydney Division) and he has been included in Engineers Australia's list of the 100 most influential engineers since that year. He subsequently received the Engineers Australia M A Sargent Medal 2015 - the most prestigious award made by the College of Electrical Engineers. In 2013 he was awarded the prestigious Pearcey Medal, the ICT industry's premier prize for lifetime achievement.

Academic qualifications

Dr Zelinsky has been awarded a:

- Bachelor of Mathematical Sciences (Honours), University of Wollongong
- Doctor of Philosophy, University of Wollongong
- Graduate Diploma, Australian Institute of Company Directors
- Completed Advanced Management Program, Harvard University
- Honorary Doctor of Science, University of Wollongong

Achievements

Dr Zelinsky's contributions to science have been recognised by numerous science and industry awards including:

- Australian Engineering Excellence Awards, 1999 and 2001
- Business-Higher Education Round Table Award, 2001
- Australian Information Industries Award (iAward), 2002 and 2006
- Australian Eureka Science Prize, 2002
- US R&D magazine Top 100 Award, 2002
- ATSE Clunies-Ross National Science & Technology Award, 2005
- Professional Engineer of the Year (Sydney Division), 2009
- IEEE Inaba Technical Award for Innovation Leading to Production, 2010
- Warren Centre, Innovation Hero Award, 2012
- Pearcey Foundation, Pearcey Medal for lifetime achievement in ICT sector, 2013
- Engineers Australia M A Sargent Medal, 2015

Dr Zelinsky has been elected as:

- Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (FTSE)
- Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (FIEEE)
- Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia (FIEAust)
- Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD)

The World Economic Forum named Dr Zelinsky a Technology Pioneer in 2003, 2004 and 2005.