

Collaborations and Partnerships

AusNet Services Participates in Global Energy Startup Accelerator Program

The energy market has seen rapid changes in recent years with the rise of renewables, decentralisation of the energy system, regulatory uncertainties and disruptive new technologies and more proactive consumer engagement. To stay ahead, there is a strong need for utilities to source more innovation externally and consider the 'beyond utilities' business models.

This is why AusNet Services and Origin worked with like-minded global utilities to develop the Free Electrons global accelerator program. The program will bring together the global utility companies and energy startups to discover new opportunities, uncover new solutions and mutually benefit from each other.

The utility partners in Free Electrons are leaders in the clean energy movement, covering more than 40 countries, representing over \$148 billion in combined net income and access to over 73 million end customers worldwide.

Twelve startups will be chosen to participate in the Free Electrons Accelerator which consists of three separate week-long 'customer adoption' modules in Silicon Valley, Lisbon/Dublin and Singapore. They will have the opportunity to meet with investors, attend leadership trainings and engage with the utilities decision makers in the hope of landing a contract and/or strategic investment during the program or trialling their service with one of the utilities.

[Apply at freeelectrons.co](http://freeelectrons.co)



"Australians are innovative and resourceful, and we want to see the best local ideas and entrepreneurs get a global kick start."

Chad Hymas
Executive General Manager, Commercial Energy Services

Key Dates

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| 9 January 2017 Applications open | 29 April-6 May 2017 Silicon Valley Module |
| 28 February 2017 Applications close | 24 June 1 July 2017 Europe Module |
| 1 April 2017 Finalists announced | 16 -23 September 2017 Asia Module |

