

"... we have a moral duty to remove the barriers to participation, and to invest sufficient funding and expertise to unlock the vast potential of people with disabilities' Professor Stephen Hawking (Forward in World Report on Disability 2011)

## why is HabITec needed?

There are millions of products, technologies and devices that could be used by people with disabilities to improve their lives, support their recovery and promote independence. Technology is advancing at a rate faster than we can manage. Innovations often take a long time to translate into useful products and processes for people with disabilities or chronic conditions. So only a few people with disabilities benefit from significant advances in technology.

## what is HablTec?

HabITec aims to ethically expedite the process of applying technology to rehabilitation and independent living by creating a sociotechnical space where consumers, practitioners, funder, developers and researchers can work together to develop and test rehabilitation tools and technologies. HabITec will improve access to consumer-centric technological solutions. The physical HabiTec Lab has been developed in partnership with Occupational Therapy and The Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South Health and is located at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

## how will HabITec improve lives?

**Ensuring** a practical space for sharing and integrating ideas among all stakeholders

**Stimulating** new design and development to suit end-users' lives over time **Providing** support for practitioners and end-users to trial technology in a safe place.

Allowing opportunities for developers to test, trial and refine new technologies in practice.

**Enhancing** ongoing support for continued updating and use of new technology. **Providing** evidence to assist choices and applications of technology.



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