

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** - CSIRO

#### **DEST Question No. E959\_04**

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### **Question:**

I preface my next question by referring to the advice previously provided to this Committee that agencies could not refuse to answer questions on the basis of “commercial in confidence”.

You have previously indicated that there have been no changes to normal work arrangements with DSTO (and other security related programs) “other than confidential arrangements in the commercial space.” What are these changes?

Do such confidential changes affect any other CSIRO work in this program, or in any others?

#### **Answer:**

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *Security Issues*

Dr Garrett made this statement in an interview with journalist Peter Pockley in October 2003. The intention of the answer, made in response to a question on secrecy provisions covering CSIRO’s work with DSTO, was that any changes that may have occurred would be considered “commercial in confidence”. However, CSIRO is able to confirm that no such changes have taken place, other than to put in place a multi-disciplinary “Customer Service Team” (CST) whose purpose is to better coordinate current and any future commercial engagement with DSTO. CSTs are an integral part of the organisation’s “one-CSIRO” business development strategy.