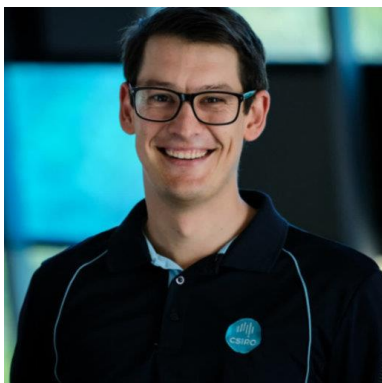




# Heliostat Consortium Seminar Series

Brought to you by the Resource, Training, and Education (RTE) topic area



**Mike Collins**

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Mechanical Engineer,  
Commonwealth Scientific  
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**Host:** Dr. Jeremy Sment

**Title:** What's Looking Up  
Down-Under? Progress of  
Australian Solar Thermal  
Research Institute (ASTRI)  
Heliostat Activities

**When:** March 30<sup>th</sup>  
3-4 PM MDT

**Zoom:**

[https://nrel.zoomgov.com/  
j/1613396360?pwd=TVVw  
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## **Abstract:**

ASTRI (Australian Solar Thermal Research Institute) Heliostat R&D activities have been running since ASTRI launched a Heliostat cost-down scoping study in 2013, along with capacity building activities across Australian Universities. Since then, a multi-disciplinary team from CSIRO and Australian Universities have been guided by industry to address technology and research gaps to reduce CAPEX, OPEX and increase bankability of heliostat systems. ASTRI members are now joining HelioCon to further contribute to global efforts to see CSP systems deployed. An update will be presented on ASTRI members' targeted research and development in:

- Heliostat wind loads and aerodynamics
- Heliostat soiling and O&M
- Heliostat facet design and metrology
- Heliostat control and calibration

## **Bio:**

Mike Collins is a mechanical engineer and project leader in the Solar Technologies Group of CSIRO Energy. He has over a decade of experience in mechanical, optical and thermal design, construction, commissioning and operation of solar thermal collectors and receivers. He now manages the Heliostats Project within ASTRI and leads mechanical design and commercialization of CSIRO's heliostat technologies. He led a \$2.4M collaborative project to develop heliostat technologies suited for deployment in remote Australian conditions. Mike is the recipient of the 2017 John Philip Award for excellence in Young Scientists.