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Crystallography beamline update - what is going on at MX?

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The Macromolecular Crystallography (MX) beamlines serve the scientific community by enabling research that could not be done elsewhere in Australia. In order to achieve this, we are in a state of continual improvement. Here we present an overview of recently completed, currently being rolled-out, and near future developments at MX1 and MX2. Projects that have been recently completed include a major upgrade of the sample mounting robots; new filter wheels for fine control beam attenuation; And roof-mounted HD gimbal cameras inside the experimental hutches. Future plans include a more reliable and user-friendly interface for remote access; and improvements to the area for incoming shipping dewars. Looking forward, a major upgrade to the MX2 optics is at hand during the next shutdown, involving a new channel-cut Si-crystal for improved beam-stability and a piezo-collimator for producing micro-beams at higher flux and with greater control than the current micro-collimator.

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