

ADM

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE MAGAZINE

SERVING THE BUSINESS OF DEFENCE

DEFENCE WEEK PREMIUM EDITION



A member of Army's Land Engineering Agency fabricates parts for a surgical face mask manufacturing machine belonging to Med-Con.

DEFENCE

POST COVID-19 – AUSTRALIA'S REQUIREMENT FOR A SOVEREIGN SELF-RELIANT DEFENCE INDUSTRY

There can be no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has shocked Australia into recognising the fragility of its supply chains across our entire economy.

BRENT CLARK | CANBERRA

The Australian community was understandably shocked to discover that many of life's essential items suddenly became scarce due to supply chain issues.

In the post pandemic environment, it will become imperative that Government moves to assure greater resilience of supply and self-reliance in order that potential future shocks cannot leave Australia without supply of critical items.

Any discussion of critical supplies must include defence equipment, technology and know-how.

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PROCUREMENT ENVIRONMENT

The Commonwealth's procurement of all departmental supplies is governed by the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs), a Department of Finance Policy that emphasises Value for Money (VfM) as the primary consideration for government. Further to this Defence has a variety of its own policies on the topic:

- 2016 Defence Industry Policy Statement
- 2018 Defence Industrial Capability Plan
- 2019 Defence Policy for Industry Participation

"ANY DISCUSSION OF CRITICAL SUPPLIES MUST INCLUDE DEFENCE EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND KNOW-HOW"

There are also a variety of fact sheets on various topics all centred on Defence Industry.

Given the widespread investment by other countries in their own defence industries, foreign owned suppliers often have pre-existing equipment and technology and established overseas supply chains.

Further complicating these long-established supply chains is the requirement in many countries for industrial offsets to be factored into contract awarding, or offsets. This in effect drives certain behaviours as it a requirement for the winning tenderer to provide contractually guaranteed work for industries within another country.

For example, Canada has the Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) Policy which;

- supports the long-term sustainability and growth of Canada's defence industry;
- supports the growth of bidders' Canadian operations as well as their suppliers in Canada, including small and medium businesses (SMBs) in all regions of the country;
- enhances innovation through research and development (R&D) in Canada;
- increases the export potential of Canadian-based firms; and
- promotes skills development and training to advance employment opportunities for Canadians.

This policy was introduced 2014, and the Canadian Government is claiming that positive results are being achieved. The effect of the policy is ensuring that any potential bidders are engaging earlier with Canadian companies to form partnerships and identify high quality business investments up-front on a project. Looking at recent contracts awarded, there is strong evidence that the ITB Policy is encouraging:

- higher levels of work directly related to products or services for the Canadian Armed Forces;
- earlier commitments to R&D investments; and
- early commitments in export sales.

Historically, Canada's defence offset policies have played an important role in leveraging economic benefit from defence procurements. From 1986 to 2017, the overall portfolio of ITB obligations includes 144 contracts valued at \$43.8 billion, with \$31.8 billion in business activities already completed, \$8.8 billion of activities in progress, and \$3.2 billion in unidentified future work opportunities.

As Canada enters a period of extraordinary procurement investments, the Government has established an aggressive target to increase by 40 per cent over 10 years the revenues earned by Canada's defence industry.

DEFENCE IS NOT A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

There are numerous examples of countries that have policies that contractually require this expenditure in the local supply chain, the US, UK and most of Europe have some form of policy that requires this.

Australia does not have a policy of offsets nor a requirement to include local suppliers into programs, however the policies it does have requires Defence to conduct analysis that justifies which companies are selected. There can be no doubt that unless

Defence adheres to the Government's own policies Australian industry will continue to find itself in more and more precarious positions.

On face value there appears to have been a rather simplistic assessment of VfM based on the short-term, upfront acquisition price and does not properly factor in the greater through-life support costs of being dependant on overseas suppliers nor the resulting lack of self-reliance. Government policy in this area requires that all Government departments undertake a broader benefit to the Australian economy and specifically that all officials are required to consider the economic benefit

of the procurement to the Australian economy.

It is unclear how defence meets this requirement however given the policy's specific requirement to undertake this review, Defence should be able to produce this analysis.

Defence to their credit have identified industrial capabilities that are critical, Sovereign Industry Capability Priorities (SICP) which must be developed in Australia and developed an Australian Industry Capability (AIC) policy that is intended to ensure overseas Prime Contractors develop a viable plan to ensure that Australian industry is properly considered in the development of the associated supply chains.

CURRENT STATE OF PLAY

Unfortunately, during actual defence procurement decision making, these policies do not appear to be scaled on the same level as short-term VfM considerations.

Often Defence is placed in a position where it must choose between meeting cost/schedule on the one hand, and meeting AIC/SICP considerations on the other. Only Government direction can break this nexus.

Prime contractors will often submit substantial AIC plans and these plans in the majority of cases are well thought out and require dedicated resources and time to implement. But again given the imposed constraints of cost/schedule, they find that it is simpler to employ established overseas supply chains to de-risk their programs. Given these competing issues, and invariably at short notice, Defence has little to no option to agree to departure from the submitted AIC plan during the contract negotiation phase.

This cycle of producing viable AIC plans only to have them systematically watered down has led to the situation where Australian industry is repeatedly frustrated at being

"THERE ARE NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF COUNTRIES THAT HAVE POLICIES THAT CONTRACTUALLY REQUIRE THIS EXPENDITURE IN THE LOCAL SUPPLY CHAIN, THE US, UK AND MOST OF EUROPE HAVE SOME FORM OF POLICY THAT REQUIRES THIS"

held out by these short-term VfM driven decisions that exclude Australian suppliers, whilst repeatedly being told by both Government and Defence that the pursuit of AIC is a policy requirement.

“UNLIKE HEALTH, THE COMMONWEALTH IS A MONOPSONY IN THAT THERE ARE NO OTHER CUSTOMERS FOR COMPLEX DEFENCE PLATFORMS IN THE COUNTRY”

THE SOLUTION

Government needs to insist that defence procurement decision-making be based on more than short-term financial VfM considerations and that the greater benefits to the Australian economy be a fundamental requirement to the decision making and that an auditable report is produced.

The resilience of supply chain for defence systems and the associated through-life support costs must be explicitly incorporated into procurement decision making and rank equally with the short-term cost/VfM considerations.

A cost premium reflecting the risks to national resilience and through-life support costs arising from offshore acquisitions must be formally factored into cost comparisons of competing bids. This cost premium needs to be fully understood by all parties.

The existing AIC policy framework is a good starting point for an adjusted procurement framework to match.

An independent party outside of the Defence procurement agency must be given powers of monitoring and enforcement of the policy.

Urgent intervention is required to achieve AIC in the current \$200 billion of major Defence acquisitions.

CONCLUSION

By comparison to other critical sectors (e.g., medical equipment), the Defence sector offers a strong prospect that actions taken now can positively improve national resilience. As the end customer is the Commonwealth, Government is in an inherently strong market position to drive the resilience outcome it seeks. Unlike health, the Commonwealth is a monopsony in that there are no other customers for complex defence platforms in the country.

The prior work conducted by Defence into its industry structure, including into identifying SICPs and crafting AIC policy, provide a mature starting point for the Resilience Working Group's own recommendations.

In addition to generating national resilience, these recommendations will yield a massive economic dividend, which given the likely state of Australia's economy post

MOST READ ONLINE AT WWW.AUSTRALIANDEFENCE.COM.AU



1. [Defence provides update on Hornet disposal plans](#)
2. [First Loyal Wingman handed to RAAF](#)
3. [Submarines and manned-unmanned teaming](#)
4. [Defence provides update on OPV build](#)
5. [First local production lot of F-35 ammunition complete](#)

COVID-19 will be vital to ensure that the country recovers in a timely manner and that the lives of the ordinary Australian taxpayers can recover financially as quickly as possible.

Defence's Integrated Investment Program (IIP) has \$200 billion of expenditure outlined, of which under current approaches could potentially lead to around 60 per cent of the value of these activities going offshore. An increase of 25 per cent Australian industry content will lead to an increased \$50 billion of economic manufacturing activity in Australia.

Decisions being made on major programs over next six months will "lock in" overseas supply of approximately \$450 billion – and once again, leave Australia exposed to the vulnerabilities of overseas supply of critical defence systems for the next 30 years.

Government already has the policy framework in place to ensure that this activity is undertaken in Australia by Australian companies, it merely has to enforce compliance to its own policies.

Note: Brent Clark is the new CEO of AIDN National, CEO of Industry Voice and has worked for both Primes and SMEs after his career in the RAN as a submariner.

WEDGETAIL NOTCHES UP A DECADE OF SERVICE

The RAAF's Boeing E-7A Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) capability celebrated 10 years of operational service on May 5.

NIGEL PITTAWAY | MELBOURNE

On that date ten years ago, the first two E-7A aircraft were handed over to the RAAF at Williamtown, after being operated in an interim capability by Air Force and Boeing crews since the previous November. The Wedgetail is operated by No.2 Squadron, based at Williamtown and supported by industry partners which includes Boeing Defence Australia (BDA) as the platform steward.

Australia received six Wedgetail aircraft under Project Air 5077 Phase 3 and although the first aircraft made its maiden flight in the United States in May 2004, technical problems with the Northrop Grumman MESA radar and other equipment significantly delayed its introduction to service and subsequently resulted in it being placed on the Projects of Concern list.

"IT HAS BEEN A COMPLEX PROGRAM AND THE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT UNDERTAKEN BY DEFENCE INDUSTRY IN AUSTRALIA IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CUSTOMER HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE"

Happily, since then, and through a great deal of hard work from Defence, CASG and the original equipment manufacturers, solutions were found, and it was ultimately removed from the Projects of Concern list in 2012. Today, the E-7A has matured into what many regard as the 'AEW&C of choice' in ongoing operations in the Middle East and continues to be in great demand wherever it is operating.

"In my professional opinion, both the Wedgetail

machine and the people who operate and support it are outstripping other AEW&C capabilities in the world at the present time,” said 2 Sqn Commanding Officer, Wing Commander Jason Brown.

In its decade-long career to date, the Wedgetail has supported operations and exercises around the globe, including Spate (ASEAN-Australia Special Summit) in March 2018, Atlas (Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast) in April 2018; and APEC Assist (support to the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum in Papua New Guinea) and Southern Indian Ocean (the search for MH370) in November 2018.

In September 2014, one Wedgetail deployed to the Middle East Area of Operations (MEAO) as part of an Australian Air Task Group for operations in Iraq against Islamic State forces, under Operation Okra. The deployment occurred even before Phase 3 Final Operational Capability (FOC) had been declared (in May 2015) and operations were subsequently expanded to include missions over both Iraq and Syria. A regular rotation to the MEAO under Okra has continued and the Wedgetail remains in great demand in the theatre.

“We have supported many of those operations concurrently and when we’re not on a named operation such as those, we’re usually at an exercise somewhere in Australia or around the world and, if we’re not doing that, we’re working locally with Air Combat Group or with Army or Navy,” WGCDR Brown added.

Boeing Defence Australia continues to support Wedgetail and is today responsible, together with the Commonwealth, for an ongoing series of upgrades to mission computers, systems and displays under Air 5077 Phase 5A.

“There have been plenty of challenges along the way, but the capability Wedgetail is providing to Defence in support of the warfighter is exceptional,” commented BDA director of Commercial Derivative Aircraft, Darryn Fletcher.

“It has been a complex program and the level of development undertaken by defence industry in Australia in collaboration with the customer has been extensive. Wedgetail has been a leading program in developing some cutting-edge sovereign capability in Australia and it has helped to generate a whole new landscape of complex program development, engineering know-how and innovative sustainment approaches.”



The RAAF's Boeing E-7A Wedgetail capability is celebrating 10 years of service.

NIGEL PITTAWAY

SUB PRESSURE HULL CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN 2024

Construction of the pressure hull for the first of the RAN's 12 Attack-class submarines is scheduled to begin in 2024 but details of the construction contract have yet to be decided, program head Greg Sammut has disclosed.

JULIAN KERR | SYDNEY

Sammut, general manager submarines in Defence's Capability and Sustainment Group (CASG), told *ADM* that work on the first-of-type's pressure hull at Osborne North would follow completion there in 2023 of a hull qualification section to prove procedures, equipment and skills.

"We may choose to sign a contract which combines detailed design, which is scheduled to start in May 2023, and construction of the first boat. This would enable Naval Group Australia and combat system integrator Lockheed Martin Australia to get into detailed design, produce the work instructions and have a seamless transition into construction," Sammut said.

While the number of submarines to be included in the first construction contract was still being decided "it will certainly not be for 12," Sammut commented.

"We would want to make sure that we've got the opportunity to look at updates to technology over the life of the program. We will also be considering the different pricing models that would apply to different stages of the program as we get more familiar with the build process," he added.

Sammut confirmed that cultural differences had resulted in different approaches to the disciplines involved in delivering the Attack-class, the first of which is expected to



Work on the first Attack class pressure hull at Osborne North is scheduled for 2024.

NAVAL GROUP

**“WE’RE ENSURING THERE ARE
STRONG PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES IN PLACE”**

be delivered to the RAN in 2032 for initial testing and the last in the early 2050s.

“We’re ensuring there are strong program management practices in place so we can deliver a submarine with the capability required by the Navy, on time and on budget,” he commented. “Those factors do make us a demanding customer. We don’t shy from that in discharging our responsibility.

“For a program this size we do need to be exercising very robust management and diligence at each stage so that we understand what the risks are, and we are taking appropriate steps to manage those risks as we move forward.”

DEFENCE LAUNCHES SATCOM RESEARCH COLLABORATION

Defence scientists are working with colleagues from industry and academia on a high-risk, high-payoff satellite communications (SATCOM) research venture that has the potential to significantly enhance military capability.

The project will see a cross-sector team exploring ways of integrating both laser-based optical and radio frequency (RF) communications technologies in a single SATCOM user terminal.

Known as Project CHORUS, which stands for Compact Hybrid Optical-RF User Segment, this is Defence’s first collaborative project to be launched through the SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre (CRC).

Funding for Phase 1 represents an investment by the SmartSat CRC and project participants of about \$1 million over 12 months.



Sailors assist contractors from EM Solutions during a trial of the Tri-Band SATCOM terminal during the installation of a new Wi-Fi network.

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With total funding worth \$245 million and involving more than 100 companies, start-ups and research organisations, the SmartSat CRC is the biggest space industry research-and-development (R&D) collaboration in Australia's history. The research consortium formally opened for business in February.

“THE END RESULT WILL BE THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS FOR INTEGRATING HYBRID OPTICAL-RF SATCOM TERMINALS”

Defence will contribute \$12 million in funding to the SmartSat CRC over seven years.

“The SmartSat CRC, in partnership with Defence, has established this project in order to develop world-leading Australian technologies that will improve the resilience of military satellite communications, and potentially provide leapfrog technology for commercial markets,” Professor Andy Koronios, CEO of the SmartSat CRC, said.

“By combining optical and RF communications, satellite operators will have more options to provide high-availability, high-capacity and high-resilience satellite communications services without requiring additional access to scarce and expensive radio spectrum.”

The research effort brings together experts from Defence Science and Technology (DST), industry partners EOS Space Systems and EM Solutions, Lyrebird Antenna Research and Shoal Group, and academic partners the Australian National University and the University of SA.

“We are seeking to provide satellite operators with the best of both worlds, combining the high data transfer rates and enhanced security promised by optical communications with the reliability of traditional RF communications,” Dr Gerald Bolding, Senior Research Scientist – Protected Satellite Communications within DST's Cyber and Electronic Warfare Division,” Professor Koronios said.

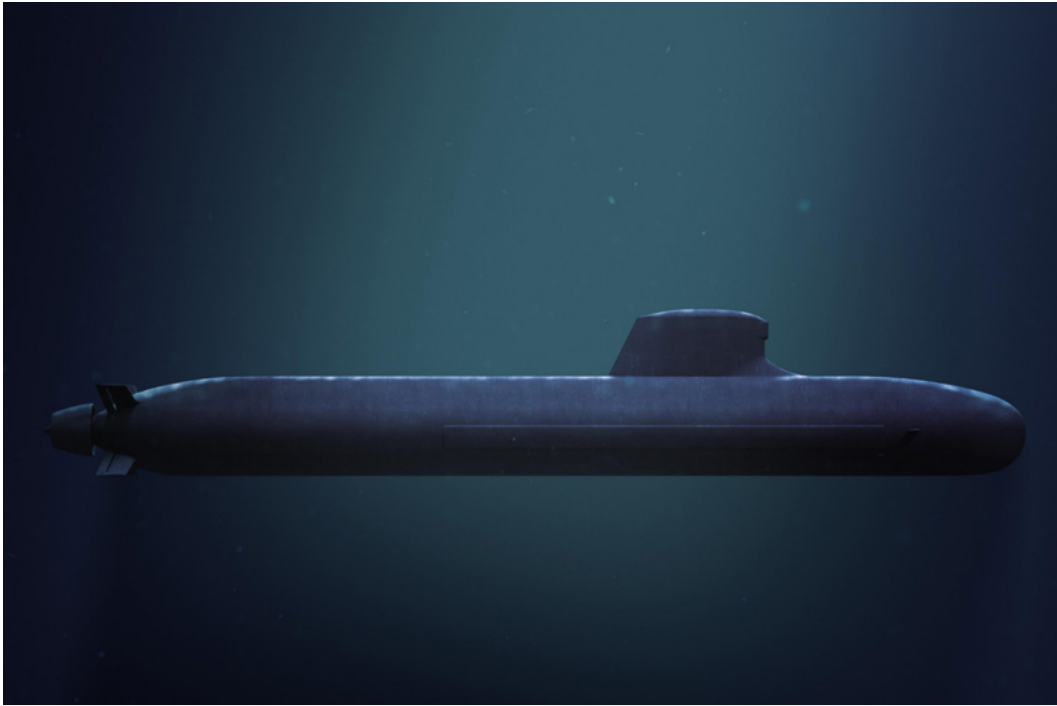
“The end result will be the development of innovative technology options for integrating hybrid optical-RF SATCOM terminals into military aircraft, land vehicles and ships.”

During the first phase of the research, the team will assess the viability of different design options and create a virtual representation, or ‘digital twin’, of the CHORUS concept to support the development of a demonstration terminal later in the project.

TWO AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES SIGNED FOR ATTACK CLASS SUBSYSTEMS

Two Australian companies have signed subcontracts for the design of key subsystems in the Attack class submarines program.

Safran Electronics subcontracted Adelaide-based Acacia Systems and Western-Sydney based Thomas Global Systems for the design of the Optronics Search and Attack, Navigation Radar and Navigation Data Distribution systems.



Safran Electronics subcontracted Adelaide-based Acacia Systems and Western-Sydney based Thomas Global Systems for the Future Submarines. NAVAL GROUP

“THE SUBCONTRACTS WITH ACACIA SYSTEMS AND THOMAS GLOBAL SYSTEMS WILL ALLOW US TO ACHIEVE OUR SHARED OBJECTIVE”

Under the subcontracts, Acacia Systems will deliver prototypes and interface simulators, enabling Lockheed Martin Australia to conduct test activities and validate the integrated performance of the combat system in its Adelaide-based Combat System Architecture Laboratory.

Thomas Global Systems will carry out the design of processing hardware for the optronics masts, navigation radar and navigation data distribution systems.

“The subcontracts with Acacia Systems and Thomas Global Systems will allow us to achieve our shared objective of actively transferring the design of key submarine technology to Australia and supporting local employment,” Safran Electronics & Defence Australasia’s CEO, Alexis de Pelleport, said.

Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price said the subcontracts allowed Safran to leverage the expertise of these local companies, demonstrating the important contribution of Australian businesses to Defence capability.

“These contracts are building Australian industry capability while also involving Australian industries and their workers in the delivery of the Attack class submarine,” Minister Price said.

RBI HAWKER EXPANDS HELICOPTER REPAIR OPERATION INTO AUSTRALIA

RBI Hawker is expanding their helicopter rotor blade repair operation into Australia.

The company will operate out of a 1,000 square metre facility in north Brisbane. It expects to be operational by the end of Q2 2020.

Currently operating out of the Middle East, RBI Hawker services commercial and military helicopter operators in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.

**“BRINGING THESE
CAPABILITIES TO AUSTRALIA
CONTINUES TO BUILD OUR
STRONG SERVICE SOLUTION”**

They have approvals across the entire range of Bell helicopters, as well as Leonardo AW139 and A109/119 models. It is an authorised Bell CSF and Leonardo Service Centre, offering the widest array of OEM-approved expanded repairs. With these extensive capabilities and OEM support, helicopter owners and

operators can benefit from better serviceability, quicker turn times, and easier track & balance, all of which adds to savings in maintenance and operating costs.

“Our goal is to bring service delivery as close to demand as possible,” Ian D’Arcy, Vice President Regional Operations – Middle East, Hawker Pacific & Pacific, Jet Aviation said. “With the world’s second largest fleet of helicopters based in Australia, coupled with its proximity to Asia, this investment brings tremendous value to our customers in the region.

“The new Australian facility will replicate the capabilities and services of our Dubai operations, while featuring the latest in advanced repair and static balance technologies. We aim to provide excellence in OEM approved rotary services while providing cost



The company will operate out of a 1,000 square metre facility in north Brisbane.

SUPPLIED

effective repairs and refurbishments of both helicopter main and tail rotor blades. We look forward to welcoming customers to our new facility in Brisbane in the near future.”

Mathew Hardy, General Manager of Rotary Sales and Support in Australia and NZ, Hawker Pacific, added, “Bringing these capabilities to Australia continues to build our strong service solution to the Pacific, enabling our customers to minimise operational downtime and repair costs to best ensure the value of their assets are maintained by OEM approved repairs.”

AIDN NATIONAL APPOINTS NEW CEO

The Australian Industry & Defence Network (AIDN), Australia's largest national defence advocacy group representing small business, has appointed Brent Clark as their new CEO.

Clark joins the organisation after a multi-decade career in defence and defence industry. He is a former submariner and has held a number of senior roles within Defence Industry.

“AIDN is thrilled to have Brent on board to help us develop as Australia's voice for defence industry,” AIDN National chair, Lester Sutton said. “Defence policy is an Australia wide concern and that obviously requires a strong voice in Canberra, which Brent will provide.”

Clark will continue in his role as CEO of Industry Voice, a complementary defence industry body that has taken a lead role in the debate around Australian Industry Capability (AIC) – particularly sovereign capability.

Industry Voice has joined AIDN as an Associate Member and signed onto the MOU to form a single national organisation representing small business in the sector.

“I congratulate Brent Clark on his appointment and I look forward to working in collaboration with AIDN to jointly further the cause for Australian small businesses,” Industry Voice Chairman, William Hutchinson said.



Brent Clark has been appointed to lead AIDN FILE PHOTO

MARINE CORPS ROTATION TO DARWIN REVIVED

Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds has confirmed that the 2020 US Marine Corps rotation to Darwin (MRF-D) will now go ahead.

The rotation was originally cancelled in early April due to coronavirus restrictions. At the time, Minister Reynolds indicated that she would consider a delay subject to conditions improving.



US Marines of Marine Rotational Force – Darwin 2019.

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Conditions, it would seem, have improved: in a conversation with US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper, Minister Reynolds said that a modified deployment will now go ahead, although a date was not specified.

“After careful consideration, the government has decided that a modified 2020 Marine Rotational Force – Darwin (MRF-D) can proceed later this year, adhering to strict measures in place to protect against COVID-19,” Minister Reynolds said. “The decision was based on Australia’s record to date in managing the impacts from COVID-19, as well as strict adherence by deployed US Marines to the mandatory 14-day quarantine and other requirements.”

Minister Reynolds also noted that special provisions will be made for Indigenous communities in the Territory.

The NT banned non-essential travel to remote communities as a protection against the novel coronavirus a week before the federal government invoked the Biosecurity Act to protect Indigenous communities across the Commonwealth.

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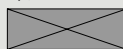
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ADM EVENTS

More detail on ADM Events can be found on our [dedicated website](#).

- [ADM Defence Estate and Base Services Summit](#) – 15 September 2020 | Canberra
- [ADM Women in Defence Awards](#) – 23 October 2020
- [Defence in the North](#) – 28 October 2020 | Darwin Convention Centre
- [ADM Space Summit](#) – 3 December 2020, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra
- [ADM Congress](#) – 3 February 2021, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra

2020 VERNON PARKER ORATION AND DINNER

DATE 17 June 2020
LOCATION Hotel Realm, Canberra
WEBSITE navalinstitute.com.au/2020-vernon-parker-oration-and-dinner

Sir Peter Cosgrove has kindly agreed to deliver the 2020 Vernon Parker Oration on 17 June. Sir Peter was Governor-General from 2014-2019 and former Chief of the Defence Force. In January 2020 Sir Peter accepted the voluntary role as chairman of the Business Council of Australia's Community Rebuilding Initiative in response to the 2019/20 bushfires.

PROJECT AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM 2020

DATE 25-26 August 2020
LOCATION Canberra Rex Hotel
WEBSITE www.pgcsymposium.org.au

PGCS 2020 is designed to help project and program managers, and their sponsors and senior managers, develop the skills and understanding needed to deliver projects success in the next decade. Now in its 8th year, PGCS 2020 will focus on ways to build the foundations needed to create project and program success.

2020 INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP – BRISBANE

DATE 27 August 2020
LOCATION QUT Brisbane, Gardens Point Campus, Brisbane City
WEBSITE <https://iccpm.com/events/2020-rtb-brisbane/>

The International Centre for Complex Project Management (ICCPM) invites project leaders to participate in the 2020 International Roundtable Series. Workshops will be held in key Australian locations and internationally.

LAND FORCES 2020

DATE June 2021
LOCATION Brisbane Convention Centre
WEBSITE www.landforces.com.au

The biennial LAND FORCES exposition is an international industry event to showcase equipment, technology and services for the armies of Australia and the Indo-Asia-Pacific. The Land Forces 2020 team is now setting about ensuring the event will achieve its goals of providing an effective platform for the exchange of ideas on key land forces issues and of taking Australian industry to the world.

AUSCERT 2020

DATE: 15-18 September
LOCATION: The Star, Gold Coast
WEBSITE: www.auscert.org.au/giveaway

The AusCERT Conference is the oldest information security conference in Australia. Each year, we attract in the vicinity of 800 participants and approximately 50 sponsors. AusCERT is hosting more than 50 speakers at AusCERT2020, as well as an array of tutorials, workshops, networking events & much more.

ROTORTECH 2020

DATE 14-16 October 2020
LOCATION Royal International Convention Centre, Brisbane
WEBSITE www.rotortech.com.au

RotorTech 2020 is the region's premier helicopter and unmanned flight systems showcase and forum, bringing together operators, manufacturers, suppliers, regulators and government across the Indo-Asia-Pacific. With a comprehensive three-day free industry conference program, RotorTech 2020 will also feature manufacturers technical workshops and an industry exhibition showcasing more than 100 helicopter and unmanned flight related companies.

MILCIS 2020

DATE 10 – 12 November 2020
LOCATION National Convention Centre, Canberra
WEBSITE <https://www.milcis.com.au>

In November each year, the Defence Chief Information Officer Group (CLOG) partners with the UNSW Canberra and the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) to present MilCIS. The annual Military Communications and Information Systems (MilCIS) Conference welcomes military and government organisations, academia, and defence industries to contribute to the future direction of military communications and information systems.

10TH BIENNIAL SIA CONFERENCE 2020

DATE: 17-18 November 2020
LOCATION Hotel Realm, Canberra
WEBSITE <https://www.submarineinstitute.com/sia-conferences>

The 10th Biennial SIA Conference will be held 17-18 November 2020 at the Hotel Realm, Canberra. This year's theme is 'Submarine Build and Sustainment Programs: The Strategic Nature of Reliable, Sovereign Supply Chains'. The Call for Presentations is available on the website.

AIRBUS DEFENCE AND SPACE INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT ROADSHOW

DATE postponed until further notice
LOCATION Various
WEBSITE www.airbus.com/space.html

The purpose of the briefings is to engage Australian industry and identify potential roles in the pursuit, delivery and support of projects of interest to Airbus Defence and Space such as but not limited to satellite and terrestrial communication networks, processing of imagery and data and surveillance sensors. Airbus are particularly interested in companies with the following capabilities, but not exclusive to: Advanced manufacturing; Electronics/Electrical engineering; Antenna design and manufacturing; Mobile Terminals; Electrical harness; Software development; Payload development; Infrastructure.

CYBER DEFENCE NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE CONFERENCE

DATE: postponed until further notice

LOCATION: Brisbane

WEBSITE: wp.csiro.au/cdng

The Cyber Defence Next Generation Technology and Science Conference, is a first of its kind scientific and technology focused Cyber Defence Conference. The aim is to have the community of cyber-security under the “Next Generation Defence Technologies | Cyber Research” program in collaboration with DST-Data61 and partner universities meet together, expose relevant research activities and discuss future collaborations.

CERTIFICATE IV IN RESPONDING TO ORGANISATIONAL COMPLEXITY | CANBERRA

DATE postponed until further notice

LOCATION to be confirmed

WEBSITE iccpm.com/events/certificate-iv-canberra-2020

Developed and offered exclusively by ICCPM (RTO number 41394), the Certificate IV in Responding to Organisational Complexity helps project leaders develop the skills and attributes they need to respond to complexity, as defined in the Complex Project Manager Competency Standards. This is a highly interactive course which introduces project leaders to useful tools and methodologies with a strong focus on the practical application of concepts to real-world situations.

WILLIAMS FOUNDATION SEMINAR: NEXT-GEN AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS

DATE postponed until further notice

LOCATION: National Gallery of Australia

WEBSITE www.williamsfoundation.org.au

Building upon the existing foundations of ADF capability, the aim of the March seminar is to explore the force multiplying capability and increasingly complex requirements associated with unmanned systems. From its origins at the platform level, the opportunities and potential of increased autonomy across the enterprise are now expected to fundamentally transform Joint and Coalition operations.

ASIA-PACIFIC SECURITY INNOVATION SUMMIT

DATE postponed until next year

LOCATION Queenstown, NZ

WEBSITE www.apsisummit.com/page/apsi-summit-2020

The theme of this year’s APSI summit, to be held in Queenstown on the South Island, is Strengthening Security Resiliency Through Partnerships and Alliances.

2021

43RD COSPAR SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

DATE 28 Jan-4 Feb 2022
LOCATION International Convention Centre Sydney
WEBSITE www.cospar2020.org

The Australian space research community enthusiastically extends the invitation to you, to meet with us for COSPAR 2020, and in so doing to forge the friendships and opportunities that will connect space research for global impact. The 2020 Assembly will combine the latest in space research findings with activities designed to enrich the global space research community – including helping equip our future leaders, and workshopping with space industry – and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.

AVALON 2021

DATE November/December 2021
LOCATION Avalon Airport

The Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition is one of Asia-Pacific's most prestigious aviation and aerospace events and the most comprehensive aviation, aerospace and defence exposition in the southern hemisphere. Avalon hosts multiple concurrent conferences and expo streams, across the spectrum of Defence, Airlines, Business and General Aviation, Sport and Recreational Aviation, Airports, MRO, Space, Unmanned Systems, Air Safety and Ground Equipment.

LOCATE21

DATE 30 March – 1 April 2021 (rescheduled dates)
LOCATION Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
WEBSITE <https://www.locateconference.com/2021/>

Due to COVID-19, Locate20 has been rescheduled for Locate21 happening in Brisbane March 30 – 1 April 2021. The event will focus on how geospatial technologies are intersecting with business, Government and defence to address national challenges. It's Australia's premier spatial conference with the inclusion of over 50 inspiring thought-leaders including speakers from government, academia, the defence force, technology, mining, natural resources and more. We believe this conference is of interest to defence personnel.

PROJECT AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

DATE 10 – 12 August 2021 (rescheduled dates)
LOCATION Canberra Rex Hotel
WEBSITE <https://www.pgcsymposium.org.au>

Foresight is more valuable than hindsight! PGCS 2020 is designed to help project and program managers, and their sponsors and senior managers, develop the skills and understanding needed to deliver projects success in the next decade. Creating the organisational capability needed to underpin the consistent delivery of successful projects in the 2020's starts at the top. Now in its 8th year, PGCS 2020 will focus on ways to build the foundations needed to create project and program success

VARIOUS DATES

NSW DEFENCE INNOVATION NETWORK'S REGIONAL ROAD SHOW

DATE: Various
LOCATION: Various
WEBSITE: defenceinnovationnetwork.com/din-regional-road-show-2019-20

NSW Defence Innovation Network and AIDN will be undertaking a series of small business focused regional forums across NSW. Register to attend and hear about the programs, grants, opportunities and services the NSW Defence Innovation Network (DIN) provides to the small business community across NSW. We encourage small businesses to engage with us and participate in opportunities across our networks, including DIN's seven partner universities, as well as with other state and federal agencies.

DEFENCE READINESS SEMINAR SERIES

DATE postponed until further notice
LOCATION Various
WEBSITE bit.ly/37fipjH

The Defence Readiness Seminar Series kicked off in November last year. If you are considering entering the Defence market, or have staff you consider require orientation to the Defence market, you are strongly encouraged to consider this invaluable series, shaped and developed by people in the Hunter that have worked closely in the Defence Industry over many years. Please see the website for more information on how to get involved.

2020 ICCPM INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE SERIES

DATE Various (August)
LOCATION Various
WEBSITE iccpm.com/2020-rs

One of the characteristics of complex projects is that they emerge over time. This creates uncertainty for project leaders. To support project success, project leaders need to understand how to manage risk in uncertainty and identify new opportunities. The International Roundtable Series is a Thought Leadership initiative that brings together senior project leaders and leading academics from different industries to share their experience and international perspectives. The outcomes report will share these insights to improve project success.

ICCPM ONLINE WORKSHOPS

DATE Various
LOCATION Online
WEBSITE www.iccpm.com/online-workshop-webinars

Designed to support project teams who are experiencing new challenges due to COVID-19 concerns – Learn how to mitigate new risk levels, effectively deploy virtual teams, manage messy problems and more. ICCPM Online Workshops and Webinars provide you with an easily accessible and engaging option to continue your training from anywhere in the world. These options provide you and your team with a conducive learning environment to support your complex project success.