

ADM DEFENCE WEEK PREMIUM EDITION

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE MAGAZINE
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Australia has down-selected the MQ-9B SkyGuardian.

GENERAL ATOMICS

MQ-9B SkyGuardian chosen over Reaper

Ewen Levick | Sydney

The government announced early this morning that it has down-selected the MQ-9B SkyGuardian remotely piloted aircraft over the MQ-9A Reaper.

The next phase will focus on developing the \$1.3 billion MQ-9B acquisition proposal, which is scheduled for government consideration in 2021-22. The project will deliver Australia's first armed Medium Altitude Long Endurance Remotely Piloted Aircraft System.

"Cutting-edge technology of this kind, with advanced sensors and systems, would complement advanced aircraft such as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and ensure that ADF maintains state-of-the-art capability," Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds said.

"Local companies that provide a range of innovative sensor, communication, manufacturing and life-cycle support capabilities will have the opportunity to showcase their capabilities throughout this development process," Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price said.

According to RAAF Director-General of Air Combat Capability Air Commodore Darren Goldie, the

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“The MQ-9B is able to be certified to fly in civilian airspace”

down-selection means his team can now focus on what the acquisition will look like, providing advice to government on provisioning, aircraft numbers, cost profiles and more to inform the acquisition decision in 2021-2022.

“MQ-9 is more about support to the land force and the littoral,” AIRCDRE Goldie told *ADM*. “So more customizable payloads, which are all about going after close electro-optic IR and signals intelligence.”

AIRCDRE Goldie also described the primary difference between the two variants under consideration for the down-selection.

“The big difference between the MQ-9A and MQ-9B is that the MQ-9B is able to be certified to fly in civilian airspace,” AIRCDRE Goldie said.

The main operator of the MQ-9B variant is the UK, which modified the aircraft and named it the ‘Protector’.

More on RAAF’s unmanned platforms will be available in the February edition of *ADM*.

Minister Price rejects AIDN criticism on AIC

Ewen Levick and Katherine Ziesing | Sydney and Canberra

Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price appears to have rejected AIDN’s call for an urgent review of the Australian Industry Capability (AIC) program.

The peak industry body made the call last week. According to AIDN, its members are reporting ‘significant frustration’ in getting Australian industry involved to the extent envisioned across major new defence programs such as Sea 1000, Sea 5000, and Land 400 Phase 2.



Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price rejected AIDN’s criticism at the announcement of RAN’s new 3D printing tech in Darwin last week. @CDUUNI_VC

"The AIC Program as implemented is not facilitating development of sovereign industry capability or business opportunities for the local Australian defence supply chain to the extent envisioned," AIDN National Board Chair Lestor Sutton said.

However, in response to a question asked during the unveiling of 3D printing technology for RAN's patrol boats in Darwin last week, Minister Price rejected AIDN's criticism.

"I don't agree with that. I don't agree with that at all, and in fact that's not my experience," Minister Price said. "As I said at the outset, every day I'm coming across new participants in our defence industry supply chain. So, I don't accept that at all."

Minister Price then acknowledged that the federal government needed to do more to pull local suppliers into major programs.

"We actually need to make sure we're identifying those companies who've got capability, and often they don't know they've got capability," Minister Price said. "So rather than waiting for them to walk through the door we, as the Federal Government, together with state and territory governments, have actually got to drag these companies through the door to make them realise that there are enormous opportunities across naval shipbuilding but also on Land 400."

In response to a question over whether Naval Group is preferencing French suppliers over Australian companies for the Attack class submarine build, Minister Price appeared to reference Rheinmetall instead.

"In recent weeks, defence suppliers have accused Naval Group... of selecting other French companies for lucrative contracts," a journalist said. "Are Aussie contractors missing out?"

"No, that is not my experience at all, and in fact, every day I'm coming across new defence industry players that are coming into our supply chain, not just with respect to shipbuilding but with respect to all the different Land 400 projects as well," Minister Price responded. "I mean, five or six weeks ago I announced another 11 contracts with Rheinmetall."

Earlier this week it was announced that Naval Group [signed Babcock International](#) for the design of the weapon discharge system for the Attack class.

ADM Comment: The Minister's comments are in line with the Government's stance since the release of the 2016 White Paper and partner documents. In a nutshell; we're doing it but it takes time.

As ADM as pointed out in previous articles, the [AIC plans](#) that are publicly released are vague and success is a relatively low bar with very little metrics behind them. It's easy to reach the goal and tick the box when it's a moving feast with no concrete numbers.

News this week that the giant integrated C2 program for the ADF under JP9111 has not seen one Australian company even get a look in is another example of the rhetoric not matching up with action. Surely if sovereignty is aim of government policy, this would be a perfect chance to grow a capability in country? There were Australian companies that bid for for this program. ADM understands that the usual suspects in terms of large international primes are in the mix and the program office has yet to conduct the formal debrief on the choice.

"But they have invited us to a workshop where they can still access our IP,"

"I don't agree with that. I don't agree with that at all"

one industry source close to the program quipped on the condition of anonymity.

Therein lies the other conundrum; no one is willing to bite the hand that feeds them by openly speaking about the issues facing Australian industry – about the dreaded O or Q words; offsets or quotas.

Defence is not a level playing field internationally. The majority of our Five-Eyes partners have varying levels of offset programs, either formally or informally, and there are a number of respected partners in this space that also have much tighter management of offsets and preference for their home markets.

Minister Price confirmed this week to *ADM* that both the CDIC and Defence Export Control bodies are being reviewed (keep an eye out for the *From the Source* interview with her in the Top 40 Defence Contractors/Top 20 SMEs in our December 2019/January 2020 edition) to make sure they are fit for purpose and delivering what needs to be done in a timely and efficient way.

Perhaps it is time to review more than just these two bodies when it comes to Australian Industry Capability that is teetering on the being of once again being Australian Industry Content – low value, simple and low technology. We can do more and be better.

MOST READ ONLINE AT WWW.AUSTRALIANDEFENCE.COM.AU



1. [Army's Tiger helicopters provide valuable fire assistance](#)
2. [Elbit nominates Port Melbourne site as development centre](#)
3. [Northrop Grumman puts out call for Air 6500 support](#)
4. [The seeds of collaboration – DSEI Japan 2019](#)
5. [RAN to deploy 3D printers for patrol boats](#)

Australia and Japan strengthen defence ties

Ewen Levick | Sydney

Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds made her first official visit to Japan to further strengthen bilateral defence ties with her Japanese counterpart Kono Taro and Japanese PM Abe Shinzo.

The ministers referenced increasing military cooperation in the form of exercises such as Bushido Guardian and Talisman Sabre 2019, which saw Japan deploy a recently-formed amphibious brigade that is designed to respond to a potential crisis in the Senkaku Islands, which are disputed with China.

“The Ministers committed to building on this momentum in 2020, deepening the Special Strategic Partnership between the two countries and aimed at contributing to a free, open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region,” Minister Reynolds said in a statement.

The two ministers also announced a number of agreements: regularising the



Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds and Japanese PM Abe Shinzo.

@LINDAREYNOLDSWA

Japan Air Self-Defense Force's (SDF) participation in Exercise Pitch Black from 2020 and fighter exercise Bushido Guardian in Japan; progressing the establishment of an Australian Army liaison officer in the Japan Ground SDF; and the establishment of a program to exchange defence scientists and engineers between Japan's Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency and Australia's DST Group.

The Ministers also 'reaffirmed their intention to develop defence cooperation among Australia, Japan and the US'.

The absence of India from the statement is notable given efforts in recent years to revive the Quad security dialogue between Australia, India, Japan and the US, widely seen as a mechanism to align the four powers in balance against a rising China.

The revival has yet to see all four powers conduct a joint military exercise, possibly because of India's unwillingness to antagonize China. The two countries have butted heads over disputed border demarcations in the Himalayas.

CEATAC and CEAOPS radars for Land 19 Phase 7B

Ewen Levick | Sydney

On November 15, the Commonwealth announced that Canberra-based CEA Technologies would be [providing radars](#) for Army's short-range ground-based air defence capability in a contract worth \$137 million.

The vehicle-mounted radars will be adapted from Active Electronic Scanning Array (ASEA) radars, identified as a Sovereign Industrial Capability Priority for Defence, that are already in RAN service. They will be delivered in long – and



The CEATAC radar on show at Land Forces 2018.

JULIAN KERR

“Seven CEATAC and three CEAOPS radars will be delivered”

short-range variants, with the short-range variant to be mounted on Thales HawkEye vehicles.

The Short-Range Ground Based Air Defence (SRGBAD) Capability being acquired under Land 19 Phase 7B is the inner layer of the land-based component of the Integrated Air and Missile Defence program, which is acquiring an enhanced version of the National Advanced Surface to Air Missile System (NASAMS) from Raytheon.

A Defence spokesperson confirmed further details of the contract to *ADM*, revealing that seven CEATAC and three CEAOPS radars will be delivered from Q3 in 2021. The program is aiming for Initial Operating Capability (IOC) in Q2 2023 and Final Operating Capability (FOC) in 2025.

No additional orders are planned, although the contract contains the option to purchase more.

The contract announcement means the CEATAC radar passed 12 months of risk mitigation activities that tested its technical compatibility with NASAMS.

US defence contracts: the shape of things to come

Ray Harvey | Melbourne

“The concept of a Cybersecurity Maturity Model Compliance (CMMC) framework arose in response to a series of high-profile breaches of DoD information.”

This quote from Susan Cassidy, a US Government Contracts Attorney [writing for Covington](#), signals an imminent change in how US defence contracts work.

If you are outside of the cyber security community you can be forgiven for missing this development, as it hasn't received much attention as yet. Hints were contained in a [Stars & Stripes](#) article in August of this year.

The article pointed out that from January 2016 to February 2018, nearly six per cent of US military and aerospace contractors reported data breaches. This is roughly one data breach for every 17 companies that are active in the supply chain.

More than 50,000 US companies actively contract through the defence supply chain in any one year. So six per cent equates to 3,000 data breaches across that two year period.

Essentially, the CMMC has arisen out of the US DoD's frustration with the ongoing, damaging leaks of military technical data and confidential information.

What is the CMMC?

Here's the condensed version to keep things simple. The CMMC is intended to “be a unified cybersecurity standard for DOD acquisitions to reduce exfiltration (theft) of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) from the Defence Industrial Base (DIB).”



There are questions surrounding the legal and treaty implications of the CMMC model.

SUPPLIED

The CMMC is intended to improve protection of US Federal Contract Information (FCI) and Controlled, Unclassified Information (CUI), as both exist and move through the supply chain. It combines various cybersecurity standards and 'best practices', and maps these practices and processes across five maturity levels that range from basic cyber hygiene to advanced. These maturity levels build upon the requirements of the levels below them, similar to the Australian Defence Industry Security Program (DISP) model.

The CMMC effort also builds upon existing regulation (DFARS 252.204-7012) that is based on trust by adding a verification component with respect to cyberse-

curity requirements. This is a "Trust, But Verify" model where the intent is for certified independent 3rd party organisations to conduct audits and inform risk. Audits will provide a "Go/No-Go on compliance" for each level of maturity. The goal is for CMMC to be cost-effective and affordable for small businesses to implement at the lower CMMC levels.

The expectation is that upwards of 90 per cent of all supply chain businesses will fall into the basic cyber hygiene maturity level at levels 1 to 3. It is inferred that CMMC will apply to all contractors involved in future US DoD contracts, regardless of nationality.

The full 90-page CMMC Draft V0.6 can be found [here](#).

"Contractors who cannot demonstrate compliance to the model cannot participate in US contracts"

Implications

From June 2020, CMMC will become a hurdle that businesses will need to address in RFIs for contracts of US origin. Businesses will need to be certified by an independent assessor who will use a CMMC specific tool to determine compliance.

Initial discussions regarding the certification of independent 3rd party assessors will not take place until November 19th. This doesn't leave a lot of time to determine how extraterritorial 3rd party assessors (those outside US) are going to be vetted and monitored. There are also questions surrounding the legal and treaty implications of such a model.

The structure of the CMMC means that contractors who cannot demonstrate compliance to the model, cannot participate in US contracts.

With Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds banging on doors in Washington to get more Australian content into the current F-35 program, the CMMC could present a significant obstacle.

In Part Three of this series, we'll analyse how CMMC is structured and in Part Four, what immediate steps you can take to be prepared.

Note: Ray Harvey works as a Custodial Information Security Specialist, BDM Defence/Aerospace/Space at Cider House ICT in Melbourne.

EPE wins award from NZ Minister for Defence

The 2019 Minister of Defence Awards for Excellence to Industry were presented on Monday by NZ Defence Minister Ron Mark at Parliament House in Wellington.

The awards were established by the NZ Defence Industry Advisory Council (NZDIAC) in 1998 to highlight and reward contributions made by industry to Defence.

EPE won the Award for Category 2: Provision of Product to Defence of less than \$15 million for delivery of the Counter Explosive Hazards (CEH) project.

“EPE was nominated because of their professionalism”

“The CEH Project is to enable an expeditionary bomb disposal capability for both Army and Navy,” Lieutenant Colonel Adam Modd from the NZDF Capability Branch explained. “Our personnel are required to go into harm’s way to protect people and property, and in doing so we’re trying to give them the best protection we can for them to achieve their mission.

“Working with a prime vendor such as EPE has allowed us to buy the right equipment in a timely manner and get it into service to meet the project timelines.”

“EPE was nominated because of their professionalism, they’ve gone the extra mile to be able to provide us with the information that we required,” Ministry of Defence CEH Project Manager Paula Brasovan commented.

“The Ministry of Defence Project Team working with EPE was able to deliver



Iain Swan, Andy Cross and Warwick Penrose from EPE with Paula Brasovan, CEH Project Manager NZ Ministry of Defence and LT COL Adam Modd, Capability Manager NZDF.

EPE

a capability that is scalable, interoperable, compatible with in-service equipment, with contemporary cutting edge technology,” EPE NZ Business Development Manager Andy Cross said.

The project gave EPE the opportunity to establish infrastructure in NZ, with a company office and a through life support workshop in the Wellington region, close to the Trentham Military Base.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

The Nova Group of Companies has welcomed Rebecca Humble into the role of Group Chief of Strategy & Capability and Tom Gleeson as Chief Commercial Officer. “Australia produces tremendous talent which is valued on the global stage – to be able to attract home-grown talent back and leverage it to the benefit of an Australian owned company such as Nova, as well as the broader industry is a win all round,” Greg Hume, Nova Group CEO, said.

Air Marshal (Ret) John Harvey was confirmed as a Director of DMTC at the company’s 2019 Annual General Meeting on 14 November. John will continue in all of his other current roles including as an advocate for the defence industry in NSW.

Lockheed Martin has appointed Steve Froelich as the vice president of Rotary and Mission Systems operations for Australia and NZ, and Programme Executive for Air 6500. He will be responsible for business performance and organisational transformation, and will join the local leadership team to build a foundation for future growth in the region.

P-8A Poseidon returns from watching Iran

The deployment of a RAAF P-8A Poseidon aircraft to the Middle East has successfully concluded with the aircraft returning to Australia.

Minister for Defence Linda Reynolds said this deployment was a ‘targeted and meaningful’ element of Australia’s broader contribution to the International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC).

The IMSC was set up by the Trump administration in response to Iranian provocations in the Strait of Hormuz, a pattern of behaviour that began after the US unilaterally withdrew from a nuclear treaty with Iran and re-imposed economic sanctions.

“Over the last month, the P-8A Poseidon aircraft has provided valuable maritime surveillance and reconnaissance to support the coalition partners in the IMSC,” Minister Reynolds said. “It is now time for the Poseidon to return home, having played a key role in supporting freedom of navigation and the free flow of shipping, which is crucial to regional security and stability.”

The deployment was the first time the aircraft had operated in the Middle East region. The aircraft will now contribute to maritime intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance duties around Australia.

“The deployment was the first time the aircraft had operated in the Middle East”



The P-8A Poseidon taxis for take-off on a mission at Australia's main operating base in the Middle East.

DEFENCE

A small number of ADF personnel will continue to provide liaison, planning and coordination support to the IMSC headquarters, and a RAN Anzac class frigate will deploy to the Middle East in January 2020 for approximately six months, in support of Australia's contribution to the IMSC and the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).

The CMF is the US-led maritime coalition against terrorism, piracy and drug smuggling.

The Australian government was criticised in some quarters for acquiescing to the US request to join the IMSC. Only three other states have done so – the UK, the UAE and Bahrain. Critics argued that the deployment distracted from more pressing Indo-Pacific issues and undermined the credibility of the rules-based order by endorsing a unilateral US strategy that seems to have created more geopolitical fires than it has put out.

Yet the return of the single P8-A Poseidon after just 30 days highlights the symbolic nature of the deployment, which will now involve ADF assets that were headed to the Middle East anyway under a long-standing counter-piracy commitment.

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PUBLISHED BY

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Forthcoming Events

ADM EVENTS

More detail on **ADM** Events can be found on our dedicated website:

- [ADM 2020 Congress](#) – 19 February 2020

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.

Rheinmetall Defence Briefing

Date 28 November 2019

Location HunterNet Offices, Newcastle

Website bit.ly/2qEBaNK

Rheinmetall's Australian Industry Capability team will hold a 45 minute briefing followed by a Q&A in the Hunter and will be pleased to meet with local company representatives for business to business discussions after the briefing.

AIC Industry Engagement Briefing

Date 02-05 December

Location Brisbane, Sydney, Perth

Website bit.ly/2KvQkel

You are invited by Bell/BAE Systems and Textron Systems to attend the AIC Industry Engagement Briefings; in Brisbane on December 2nd, Sydney on December 3rd, and Perth on December 5th. The purpose of the briefings is to engage Australian Industry and identify potential roles in the pursuit, delivery and support of the Bell and BAE Systems team pursuit of the Land 4503 Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH) Replacement, Textron Systems pursuit of Land 129 Phase 3 – Shadow 200 Tactical Unmanned Aircraft System (TUAS) replacement, and Sea 129 Phase 5 – Maritime TUAS.

The Road to Land Forces 2020

Date 04 December 2019

Location 123 Eagle Street, Brisbane

Website www.eventbrite.com.au

AIDN QLD, supported by Deloitte, have designed a workshop to assist AIDN QLD members and the wider Defence Industry community to plan their individual organisations' journey to Land Forces 2020. This interactive workshop will include targeted trade show and marketing information, and attendees will be provided with a number of electronic templates and tools.

Meet North Queensland's Major Contractors

Date 11 December 2019

Location Mercure Townsville

Website www.eventbrite.com.au

Are you a North Queensland business interested in participating in major contractor supply chains? The Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning invites you to attend our next Defence Hub North Queensland supply chain development event. The Meet North Queensland's Major Contractors forum will provide insight into how your business can get involved.

Townsville Industry Breakfast

Date 11 December 2019

Location The Ville Casino

Website www.eventbrite.com.au

Come along and hear from project leaders on future work and business opportunities in North Queensland, including the forward procurement pipeline, the Australian-Singapore Military Training Initiative, and the Queensland Defence Industry Hub.

2020

Defence Export Control Course (Perth)

Date 11 February 2020

Location 4 McGrath Road, Henderson.

Website www.stickytickets.com.au/UGCHD

Join us for a 1-day face-to-face training course to de-mystify the complex area of Export Control regulations. The course is suitable for SME's and will address ITAR, EAR and DEC, advice on employing dual and third country nationals, licensing requirements, and much more.

Defence Export Control Course (Adelaide)

Date 13 February 2020

Location 19 Young Street, Adelaide

Website www.stickytickets.com.au/UGCHD

Join us for a 1-day face-to-face training course to de-mystify the complex area of Export Control regulations. The course is suitable for SME's and will address ITAR, EAR and DEC, advice on employing dual and third country nationals, licensing requirements, and much more.

AIDN National Defence Industry Gala Dinner 2020

Date 19 February 2020

Location QT Hotel Ballroom

Website consec.eventsair.com/aidn-2020/dinner/Site/Register

AIDN National invite you to attend a defence industry gala event not to be missed. The dinner will include pre dinner drinks and canapes on arrival followed by a gourmet two course dinner served with premium beverages. Guests will enjoy an evening of networking, socialising and fun which includes a VIP guest speaker, presentation of the AIDN National Young Achiever Award and Silent Auction with all proceeds donated to Legacy

Certificate IV in Responding to Organisational Complexity | Adelaide

Date 19-21 February, 2020

Location to be confirmed

Website iccpm.com/events/certificate-iv-adelaide-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.

Certificate IV in Responding to Organisational Complexity | Canberra

Date 24-26 March, 2020

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.

Asia-Pacific Security Innovation Summit

Date 16-17 April, 2020

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.

AusCERT 2020

Date: 02-05 June 2020

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 16-18 June 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.

43rd COSPAR Scientific Assembly

Date 15 – 22 August 2020

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 workshoping with space industry – and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.

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.

Land Forces 2020

Date 01-03 September 2020

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

2021

Avalon 2021

Date 23 – 28 February 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.