

ADM

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE MAGAZINE

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DEFENCE WEEK PREMIUM EDITION



The original Land 17 Phase 1C self-propelled artillery project sought to replace the M198 towed howitzers before it was cancelled. DEFENCE

GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER HOWITZER ACQUISITION STRATEGY

A decision can be expected later this year on how and when Defence will acquire the first of two regiments of 155mm 52 calibre self-propelled howitzers (SPH) and supporting vehicles.

JULIAN KERR | SYDNEY

Whether open tender, closed tender or Smart Buyer sole source, this will deliver on the government's surprise announcement during the 2019 election campaign that it will purchase 30 SPHs under Project Land 8116 Phase 1 Protected Mobile Fires.

"A Request for Information has been completed, with the information being used to develop an acquisition and sustainment strategy. This strategy will be considered by the Government in the second half of 2020," a Defence spokesperson told ADM.

Land 8116 Phase 1 essentially covers the same

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ground as the Land 17 Phase 1C self-propelled artillery project. This sought proposals for 18, 24 or 30 SPHs to replace the Army's 36 M198 towed howitzers but was cancelled in 2012 to save money.

Instead, Army received the consolation prize of an additional 19 M777A2 155mm ultra-lightweight towed howitzers to supplement the 35 that first entered service in 2011.

According to the 2020 Force Structure Review, the indicative cost for what is understood to be 30 SPH and 15 armoured ammunition resupply vehicles is \$900 million – \$1.3 billion.

**“THIS STRATEGY WILL BE
CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT
IN THE SECOND HALF OF 2020”**

The Government's May 2019 announcement said the future SPHs would be produced and maintained at Geelong – the location now earmarked by Hanwha Defence Australia as its manufacturing centre should its Redback be selected for the Land 400 Phase 3 Infantry Fighting Vehicle requirement.

Land 17 saw Raytheon Australia team with Samsung Techwin and its K-9 'Aussie Thunder' SPH in competition with Kraus-Maffei Wegmann and its PzH2000 teaming with BAE Systems Australia. The K-9 was reportedly favoured by Army prior to the project's cancellation.

Raytheon subsequently said it would resume the acquisition process should the Commonwealth decide to reconsider acquiring self-propelled artillery. However, Samsung Techwin was taken over in 2015 by Hanwha Defence whose Australian subsidiary has made it clear it will be the prime offering an improved 'Huntsman' variant of the K-9 together with K10 armoured ammunition resupply vehicles for Land 8116.

The K-9 is currently in service with South Korea, Turkey, Poland, Finland, India, Estonia and Norway.

Raytheon Australia declined to comment on its Land 8116 Phase 1 intentions, as have KMW/Rheinmetall and BAE Systems.

A second tranche of SPHs and support vehicles will be delivered in the late 2020s under Land 8116 Phase 2 at an indicative cost of \$1.5-2.3 billion, the spokesperson disclosed.

Furthermore, Army's 54 M777A2s would be replaced or enhanced under Project Land 8112 (Artillery Replacement project) with capability delivered in the mid-2030s, the spokesperson said. No costing was given.



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L3HARRIS

NAVANTIA COMPLETES LHD DESIGN UPGRADE

Earlier this month the baseline design drawings for Phase 2 (Forward Projector) of the Advanced Stabilised Glide Slope Indicator (ASGSI) project on the Canberra class Landing Helicopter Docks (LHD) were delivered by a team of Navantia Australia engineers, bringing the project to a close after over 10 long months and over 3,500 hours of engineering labour.

The Forward ASGSI system is now fully installed on both LHDs and was recently used to support the First of Class Flight Trials for the MH-60R helicopters.

A consortium of Navy, CASG, Naval Ship Management, Owen International, AGI and Navantia Australia collaboratively worked through an engineering change to install the new Advanced SGSI system in a very tight timeline. Navantia Australia performed the platform integration design necessary to integrate the ASGSI into the Canberra class LHD design.

The team began working on the project in September 2019 and delivered revisions to 27 LHD baseline engineering drawings, three Installation Work Packs as well as alignment documentation, test procedures, a detailed design report, Designer's Certificate, Validation and Verification artefacts, PDR and DDR design reviews, and all the ILS deliverables required for RAN to operate and maintain this system.

"This integrated effort has been a real credit to Navantia and a good indication to Navy of how well our team is working together," Navantia Australia's managing director Alfonso Garcia-Valdes said. "The ASGSI system had emerging obsolescence issues that were making supportability very difficult and causing concern for the LHD Aviation capability.



HMAS Canberra sails through Sydney Harbour.

DEFENCE

Navantia Australia's engineering design team were integral to achieving the change, readily accepted the challenge, but were agile in approach as problems such as material availability during COVID-19, [which] threatened restoration of the SGSI capability."

In June, Defence recognised Navantia Australia as a Design Authority for four classes of RAN ships under a Strategic Agreement Principles document. Under the agreement, Navantia Australia will provide platform system design and integration services, ensuring that the design integrity, configuration control, upgrades and modernisation of Navantia designed ships and supplied systems and equipment is fully supported in Australia.

More on this is available in the August/September edition of ADM.

"The ASGSI system had emerging obsolescence issues that were making supportability very difficult"

BOEING COMPLETES AUTONOMOUS FLIGHT TEST TRIFECTA

Boeing has conducted an end-to-end flight mission using three high performance test beds in outback Queensland, marking another successful milestone for the Autonomous Systems Platform Technology Project.

“The goal of our mission was to completely test out our mission system software from start to finish, using three high performance jets,” Emily Hughes, director of Boeing’s Phantom Works International, said.

During the flight, Boeing Australia successfully performed a number of tests, including the three jets taking off autonomously, achieving the required in air formations, departing from the formation and each autonomously landing.



The technology developed as part of this project is informing the Loyal Wingman program.

BOEING

"While we have previously flown larger numbers aircraft autonomously, this was our first opportunity to perform an end-to-end mission test with three high performance test bed aircraft, at speeds of up to 200 kilometres per hour," Hughes said.

"The test returned pleasing results, demonstrating our mission system is performing as intended, and it is a huge credit to our technical team, along with our suppliers RFDesigns who supported the flight mission on-site in Tara."

The Autonomous Systems Platform Technology Project is Boeing's second Advance Queensland investment partnership with the Queensland Government. Boeing and its

"THE TEST RETURNED PLEASING RESULTS, DEMONSTRATING OUR MISSION SYSTEM IS PERFORMING AS INTENDED"

partners are developing new on-board autonomous command and control technology to enable unmanned vehicles to perceive, process, communicate and act in accordance with their programmed mission – without input from a human operator. Boeing will continue flight tests for the project in Cloncurry later this year.

"We look forward to the company being the first user of the Cloncurry Flight Test Facility in North West Queensland; Australia's first drone flight test facility,"

Kate Jones, Minister for State Development, Tourism and Innovation, said. "We've invested \$14.5 million to develop the new facility, which we believe is critical to a UAS industry in the state, creating jobs and economic benefits in Queensland."

The technology developed as part of this project is informing Boeing's development autonomous aircraft, including the Boeing Airpower Teaming System, also known as Loyal Wingman.

DEFENCE SEEKS RECRUITMENT PARTNER

Defence is seeking an industry partner to assist with recruiting, growing and reshaping the future ADF workforce from Financial Year 2023/24 onwards.

Each year the ADF recruits thousands of people, partnering with industry to source its workforce of more than 86,000 people. Defence says the work undertaken to find the right people at the right time is large in scale, collaborative in nature and multifaceted.

The current recruiting services contract covers a broad range of services including marketing services, recruiting operations and candidate management, medical and psychological testing and assessment, ICT services, facilities, and administrative requirements.

"The preferred supplier must assist Defence to draw on the full potential of the Australian population and attract individuals from a broad range of backgrounds, skill levels and interest," Defence states.



Members of General Entry 382 Emms Division during their Graduation Parade held at Navy Recruit School.

DEFENCE

Defence Force Recruiting is currently managed from its headquarters in Canberra and has a candidate relationship management centre and 16 recruiting centres across Australia, processing more than 70,000 enquires annually to fill vacancies across all three service arms.

**“THE PREFERRED SUPPLIER
MUST ASSIST DEFENCE TO DRAW
ON THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE
AUSTRALIAN POPULATION”**

Defence says it is providing significant lead-time for the future contract with a focus on maximising industry engagement and ensuring competition in the bid for the work.


An open market Request for Proposal will be released before September 2020, with a Request for Tender to a shortlist of capable companies to follow in mid-2021. A decision on the future supplier will occur in October 2022.

The current Recruiting Services Contract with Manpower Group will cease on 31 October 2022. Defence has extended the contract until June 2023 while the procurement process is underway.

To engage with the project, email: dfr.rs2022tender@defence.gov.au.

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TRILATERAL EXERCISES IN THE PHILIPPINE SEA

Australia, Japan and the US are currently conducting a trilateral passage in the Philippine Sea on the way to participate in Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) in Hawaii.

An ADF Joint Task Group has joined the USS *Ronald Reagan* Carrier Strike Group and the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force's Akizuki-class destroyer JS *Teruzuki*.

With HMA Ships *Canberra*, *Hobart*, *Stuart*, *Arunta* and *Sirius* taking part, the activity includes replenishment at sea, aviation operations, maritime manoeuvres and communications drills.

**"THE RELATIONSHIPS WE'VE
DEVELOPED ENABLE US TO MEET
AT SEA AND IMMEDIATELY
OPERATE AT AN ADVANCED LEVEL"**

Commander of the Australian Joint Task Group, Commodore Michael Harris, said the opportunity to work alongside Japan and the US was invaluable.

"Maintaining security and safety at sea requires navies to be able to cooperate seamlessly," CDRE Harris said.

"The combined activities between our navies demonstrates a high degree of interoperability and capability between Australia, Japan and the US."

Captain Sakano Yusuke, Commander of Japan's Escort Division 4, said strengthening cooperation with the US Navy and RAN is vitally important for Japan and contributes to a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

"The experience in this exercise will give us tactical and operational advantages and make our friendships stronger, in addition to our regular joint exercises with both like-minded navies," CAPT Sakano said.



The trilateral passage is planned to conclude today.

DEFENCE

MOST READ ONLINE AT WWW.AUSTRALIANDEFENCE.COM.AU

1. [New leadership for Northrop Grumman in Asia-Pacific](#)
2. [Deronmont secures its largest ever defence contract](#)
3. [Northrop Grumman to build Triton testing centre](#)
4. [NIOA wins first stage of lethality systems project](#)
5. [NZ confirms C-130j selection and NH90 upgrade](#)

US Navy Captain Russ Caldwell, Commanding Officer USS *Antietam*, said the US Navy routinely exercised with regional partners, showing their shared commitment to regional stability and a free and open Indo-Pacific.

"The relationships we've developed enable us to meet at sea and immediately operate at an advanced level. This highlights the enduring nature of our alliances with Japan and Australia," CAPT Caldwell said.

"The US is fortunate to routinely operate alongside its allies across the Indo-Pacific and coordinated operations like these reinforce our mutual commitment to international maritime norms and promoting regional stability."

The trilateral passage is planned to conclude today.

The Joint Task Group left Darwin on 5 July to begin a regional deployment to Southeast Asia and Hawaii.

SOUTHERN LAUNCH PREPARES FOR LIFT OFF

The development of small satellite technologies (SmallSats) has ushered in an era of dynamic and responsive space systems.

Hundreds, and soon thousands, of these small platforms will be launched into Low Earth Orbits (LEO) every year. LEO are ideal for Earth Observation missions and other near-earth activities, including internet with global coverage. Approximately half of these SmallSats are projected to be launched into Polar Orbits with the other half orbiting around the equator.

According to recent estimates, close to 1000 SmallSats will be launched annually from 2025 onwards. These satellites will be inserted into new and existing LEO

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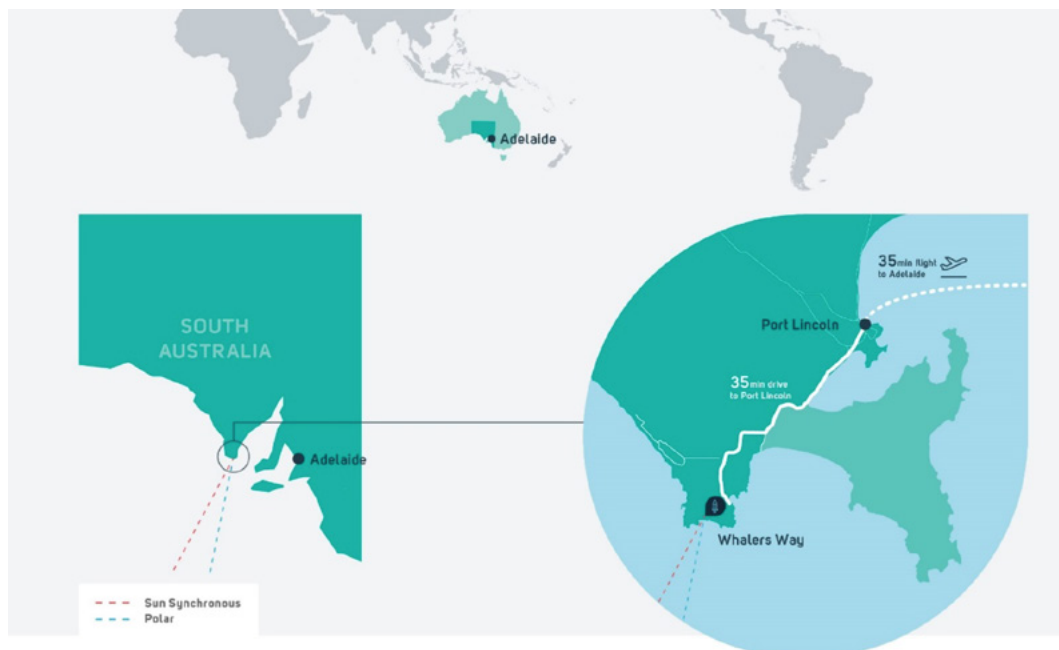
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VICOR

EVALUATE



Location of Southern Launch's planned Whalers Way Orbital Launch Complex

The launch site near Port Lincoln will take advantage of polar orbits.

SOUTHERN LAUNCH

constellations, offering innovative new services to the world while actively limiting the proliferation of space debris in orbits. SmallSats in LEO remain there for less than three years before burning up in the Earth's atmosphere.

Historically, launch sites have been constructed closer to the equator to support large satellites launches into equatorial orbit. However, direct launch to polar orbit is achieved most efficiently from launch sites nearer the poles, which have minimal interference from aviation and maritime traffic.

Southern Launch, founded in 2017, is developing a multi-user launch complex at the tip of the Eyre Peninsula in SA, offering a turn-key launch service solution to polar and sun-synchronous orbit.

In addition to providing the complete launch infrastructure, Southern Launch has the ability to undertake flight and range safety, vehicle design, avionics componentry and assist with launch permitting and other support services. The year-round temperate weather coupled with the highly skilled local workforce and a robust logistics supply network enables a launch site that offers high cadence launch operations at cost competitive prices.

The growing global demand for launch services and a unique launch location has attracted several early investors, with Southern Launch running an oversubscribed



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seed funding round at the end of 2019 with a larger Series A round to be finalised in coming months.

"The space industry is in the midst of a rapid transition seeing increasing impact of the private sector providing services to government agencies such as NASA," CEO, Southern Launch, Lloyd Damp, said. "Small satellites, in the class of one to 500 kg, are a major part of this transition and need suitable locations to be launched from.

**"WE ARE ON TRACK TO
REALISE THIS VERY REAL
OPPORTUNITY FOR AUSTRALIA"**

"Our Whalers Way site in SA meets this market demand and with the ongoing support from the Australian Space Agency and SA Government, we are on track to realise this very real opportunity for Australia."

Southern Launch is also cooperating with DEWC Systems to deliver the first fully Australian designed, developed, launched and operated Defence satellite system.

Construction of the Whaler's Way Orbital Launch Complex is scheduled to be completed ahead of the first launch in 2021, with Southern Launch already contracted for flights.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

MAJGEN (Retd) Maurie McNarn has joined RAFAEL Australia as the Manager of strategic relationship [sic]. Maurie will support the company's ongoing strategic marketing activities and cooperation in Australia and will serve as its lead point of contact for ADF and ministerial leadership personnel.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ADM EVENTS

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

- [ADM Women in Defence Awards](#) – 23 October 2020 | National Arboretum
- [Defence in the North](#) – 28 October 2020 | Darwin Convention Centre
- [ADM Space Summit](#) – 2 December 2020, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra
- [ADM Congress](#) – 3 February 2021, Hyatt Hotel | Canberra
- [ADM Defence Estate](#) – 23 February 2021, Hotel Realm | Canberra

STRATEGIC VISION 2020: THE ASPI CONFERENCE SERIES

DATE 22 July – 14 August 2020
LOCATION Online – Free registration
WEBSITE <https://www.aspi.org.au/event/strategic-vision-2020-aspi-conference-series>

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) is delighted to invite you to our virtual conference series, Strategic Vision 2020. Over the course of four weeks, join Australian Walkley Award winning journalist, Stan Grant, in conversation with global thought leaders and policy makers on the big, strategic challenges Australia and the world are facing.

IPSWICH INDUSTRY NETWORK UPDATE WEBINAR

DATE 23 July 2020
LOCATION Online
WEBSITE <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4518575383361782544>

You are invited to attend the Education, Research and Training webinar on Thursday 23 July from 11 am to 12.30 pm. A great opportunity to hear directly from industry panel via this interactive, informative and insightful webinar series. The Panel will share their practical insights on: how are they managing and their best practices through COVID-19 pandemic, any contingency tactic that helped them to remain competitive, and how industry and government partnerships assist to offer opportunities for SMEs.

2020 INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE WORKSHOP – BRISBANE

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

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.

2020 VERNON PARKER ORATION AND DINNER

DATE 13 October 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.

2020 ANI GOLDRICK SEMINAR – REMOTE AND AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS AT SEA

DATE 13 and 14 October 2020
LOCATION Adams Auditorium, Australian Defence Force Academy
WEBSITE navalinstitute.com.au/latest-ani-events-and-archive/

The 2020 ANI Goldrick Seminar will discuss a wide range of issues around Remote and Autonomous Systems at Sea. It will comprise six sessions over 1.5 days covering an overview of Remote and Autonomous Systems at Sea (RAS); RAS in the Littoral Domain; RAS in the Maritime Air Domain; RAS in the Undersea Domain; Measuring Effective, and Legal and Ethical Considerations.

4TH ANNUAL SYSTEMS MODELLING CONFERENCE 2020

DATE 27 October 2020
LOCATION Online
WEBSITE <https://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/conferences/SMC-2020>

The Capability Systems Centre runs one-day conference on the use of whole-systems approach to design and manage complex problem in socio-technical and socio-ecological systems. The daylong virtual conference on October 27th will feature showcases on the use of systems thinking and systems modelling in a wide range of areas. The event provides a platform for researchers and practitioners to communicate about scientific and practical aspects of real-world problems, receive feedback, and share learning lessons.

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.

2021

43RD COSPAR SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY

DATE 28 Jan-4 Feb 2021
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.

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.

LAND FORCES 2021

DATE June 1-3 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.

ROTORTECH 2021

DATE 15-17 June 2021
LOCATION Royal International Convention Centre, Brisbane
WEBSITE www.rotortech.com.au

The new dates for Rotortech will be Tuesday 15 June to Thursday 17 June 2021. The venue, the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane, is unchanged. Rotortech is the region's premier helicopter and unmanned flight systems showcase and forum, featuring more than 100 participating companies and key speakers from industry and government. We believe that deferring Rotortech to its new June 2021 dates will achieve this goal by moving the event to a time where the COVID situation will have improved and the current uncertainties will have passed.

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

AVALON 2021

DATE 23-28 November 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.

2022

PACIFIC 2020 BECOMES INDO PACIFIC 2022

DATE May 2022
LOCATION Sydney Convention Centre
WEBSITE www.pacificexpo.com.au

Reflecting the increasing importance of the Indo Pacific region to the entire world, the PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition will become the INDO PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition from 2022. Initially, there will be a new timing. Instead of the previously planned PACIFIC dates in August 2021, INDO PACIFIC will now, in the wake of COVID 19, initially be held during May 2022.

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.

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.