

DEFENCE WEEK PREMIUM EDITION



Treasurer Scott Morrison delivering Budget 2018

SCOTT MORRISON VIA TWITTER

No surprises for Defence in Budget 2018

Katherine Ziesing | Canberra

The headline figure of \$36.4 billion for Defence spending is on track to meet the government's commitment of two per cent of GDP funding by 2020/2021.

The headline figures for the 2018 Budget will come as no surprise for many *ADM* readers: \$36.4 billion (including ASD, which is now a stand alone agency answering to the Defence Minister, led by Mike Burgess and LTGEN John Frewen,

the ADF's newest 3 star) and \$160.7 billion over the forward estimates period of four years.

Operational funding has dropped from \$903.1 million last year to \$750.1 million this year, down 17 per cent, mainly due to the wind up of fast jet operations in January this year under Okra in the Middle East.

In the era of the Defence Integrated Investment Program and a lack of detailed supporting websites, the Budget has become the go to place for program numbers and how major programs for both acquisition and sustainment are progressing. Big announceables for the Budget seem to be a thing of the past, with the government preferring a constant drip feed of decisions as they are made rather than saving them up.

IN THIS ISSUE No surprises for Defence in Budget 2018 Ukraine proposes a spaceport for Australia **Emerging and Disruptive** Technologies in Human Biotech 6 Hofmann wins more maritime work: ADM's Review 8 KC-390 suffers runway excursion during testing 9 First UAS training program arrives in Australia 11 Forthcoming Events 13

"The Budget has become the go to place for program numbers and how major programs for both acquisition and sustainment are progressing

Perhaps the biggest shock in the papers is related to people. The numbers surrounding the Defence workforce have dropped significantly, particularly around the APS. Figures last year showed the head count stable at 18,200 APS across the four years. The 2018 figures tell a different story. Even accounting for the loss of the ASD headcount, the drop will have a noteworthy affect on how the department does business.

The Budget papers themselves offer no insight into the thinking behind this move apart from 'reshaping programs to align the workforce with the priorities outlined in the 2016 Defence White Paper' or 'Machinery of Government' for those who speak public service lingo. There is also a glaring omission of contrac-

tor or PSPs levels in the Budget papers this year.

Total full time defence workforce average for both uniformed and APS is forecast to be 76,167 (down 99 people from 2016-2017) and is forecast to stay around that level across the forward four years of estimates, with growth in uniformed numbers rather than APS.

- Uniformed (78.5 per cent up 2.5 per cent from last year)
- Navy 14,689
- Air Force 14,295
- Army 30,810 (green)
- APS 17,970 (21.5 per cent)

Budget papers this year, as mentioned previously, now lack figures on the level of contractor, consultant and service provider support into the Department. Angela Diamond, acting chief financial officer for Defence, commented that given the flow of people across these three categories it was difficult to keep track of head count numbers, with the department using a dollar figure instead. However, she confirmed that the First Principles Review supported the outsourcing model.



The 2018 Budget includes \$41 million in funding for Australian space industry

SCOTT MORRISON VIA TWITTER

Steven Groves, currently the chief operating officer at the Department of Home Affairs, will be taking up the Defence CFO role in the coming weeks. He replaces Philip Prior who left the organisation earlier this year after 12 years in the role.

The new Major Service Provider panel framework is still bedding down but there are early questions being raised as to how the system will work in a practical sense, particularly for SMEs.

Space

The Government will provide \$41.0 million over four years from 2018-19 to grow the Australian space industry, including by establishing a National Space Agency. The Department of Industry Innovation and Science will manage this funding.

This includes: \$26.0 million over four years from 2018-19 to establish a National Space Agency, which will coordinate domestic space activities for Australia;

and \$15.0 million over three years from 2019-20 to establish the International Space Investment project, which will provide grants to strategic space projects that generate employment and business opportunities for Australians.

"The Space Industry Association of Australia welcomes the Commonwealth Government's long term commitment to the space," Michael Davis, chair of the Space Industry Association of Australia said.

"The benefits of a National Space Agency and an investment in a Space Based Augmentation System (as set out in two <u>SIAA White</u> <u>Papers</u>) have been the subject of detailed research and lobbying by the SIAA and other key players in the Australian space sector over the last 18 months.

"Our advocacy for the establishment of a national space agency and a program of investment in space infrastructure, such as the SBAS system, and has been recognised and we now know that these programs will be funded.

"We were pleased to be involved in the Expert Reference Group on Australia's Space Industry Capability chaired by Dr Megan Clark. We look forward to the release of that report and the Commonwealth Government's response.

"It is vitally important that the recommendations of the Expert Reference Group be accepted and implemented. This will ensure that the new Agency has the necessary support from both government and industry to achieve the long term goals of industry engagement and economic development by promoting collaboration and investment nationally and internationally," Davis said.

Universities around the nation have welcomed the move and have already begun positioning themselves to host the new Agency.

"This is an investment which allows us to compete in the global space race, and the Space Industry Association of Australia predicts we can increase our share in the market from 0.8 to four per cent within 20 years," Flinders University space archaeologist Dr Alice Gorman said. "We are talking about an industry that will need engineers, scientists, researchers, archaeologists, and even writers and artists. Some skin in the game also gives our voice credibility on issues like space junk and space treaties."

"We are talking about an industry that will need engineers, scientists, researchers, archaeologists, and even writers and artists"





An artist's rendering of a Biarri satellite containing components built by DST Group and UNSW.

DEFENCE

Ukraine proposes a spaceport for Australia

Ewen Levick | Sydney

Much of the coverage of the 2018 Budget has focused on the \$41 million the government has allocated to Australia's space industry, which includes seed funding for the establishment of a national space agency.

Yet Australia's growing investment in the space sector has already been noticed overseas. In late March, reports emerged suggesting that the government of Ukraine wants to build a spaceport in Western Australia.

The State Space Agency of Ukraine has highlighted the Curtin air base in the Kimberley, near the town of Derby, as a potential site. The proposal is backed by WA senator Linda Reynolds and has spurred plenty of excitement from town officials and state representatives.

ADM got in contact with Ukrainian ambassador Mykola Kulinich to find out more.

"We are at the very beginning of our dialogue with Australia," Ambassador Kulinich explained. "We've made the first steps, exchanged notes of interest.

"Happily, we have a newly-formed Australian space agency that is in charge of Australia's space program. We have had some successful dialogue with experts and the Ministry of Industry and Innovation, so we have some preliminary cooperation."

He was keen to stress, however, that there are not yet any concrete plans.

"We have something to propose to the Australian side, but I'm stressing we are not starting yet."

Nevertheless, the Ambassador highlighted the strength of the proposal given Ukraine's expertise in launch technology and Australia's burgeoning investment in the space sector.

"We have know-how, we have ideas, and we have projects, and you have territory, you have investment possibilities. We should cooperate on this.

"This is a trend of your economy and scientific work. Australia definitely wants to be a space country, and we started a dialogue. We have our proposal from the Ukrainian side, and I've transmitted it to your government, to [Senator] Linda Reynolds."

One of the reasons Ukraine is seeking to build a new launch site is that the country no longer has access to Russian sites following the breakdown in relations in 2014. The following year, Brazil unilaterally withdrew from a decade-long

"My message is strong — we are ready for cooperation in the space sphere"

joint project that would have seen Ukrainian Cyclone-4 rockets launched from the Alcantara spaceport, citing questions of cost and market viability.

"Before we worked with Brazil and had joint plans to build a launch site," Ambassador Kulinich explained. "Unfortunately we also have difficulties with the Russian Federation. They were a partner, but starting in 2015 we stopped any cooperation with Russia and now we cannot use any launch sites. So we are looking for a partner."

Ukraine's fortunes turned in 2017 when it signed a memorandum of understanding to provide launch vehicles for Canada's first spaceport, which is currently under construction in Nova Scotia. The Canadian government hopes to launch eight commercial satellites a year beginning in 2022. Ukraine also has a launch agreement with the US.

The deals with Canada and the US could serve as a template for a future Australian spaceport. The Ambassador highlighted the countries' common strengths.

"There are not many countries in the world that have, geographically, a good location for a space program. In Australia you have an ideal geographic location and spare territory to make a launch site," Ambassador Kulinich said. "We also have our joint venture with the US, and we are supplying the launch stage for their rocket launchers. So why not Australia?"

When asked what the spaceport would be used for, the Ambassador said that it would be for civilian purposes only.

"100 per cent scientific and commercial programs. For example, communications satellites, any other commercial satellites, or for weather, meteorology, and so on. There is a big line for those waiting to launch commercial satellites, so this is a very good market."

Whilst there is no timetable currently in place, Kulinich said that the Ukrainian space agency will send a delegation to Australia to continue discussions.

"We plan it this year, and we can propose some kind of menu of what we can do. The second step is for your government to consider what we can do from this list. So we are waiting for our delegation to come and launch a negotiation about possible future programs.

"My message is strong – we are ready for cooperation in the space sphere. We are waiting for signals from the Australian side."



One of the teams during a workshop session aimed at defining future human measurement and modification technologies. ADM/NIGEL PITTAWAY

Emerging and Disruptive Technologies in Human Biotech

Nigel Pittaway | Adelaide

The Defence Science and Technology Group (DST Group) hosted the **Emerging and Disruptive Technology Assessment Symposium (EDTAS)** on Human Biotechnologies on May 3 and 4.

ETDAS is funded under the Defence Industry & Innovation Next Generation Technologies Fund and aims to explore a science and technology subject which may have a major impact for Defence and national security in twenty or thirty years' time.

The two day human biotechnologies symposium was held at the Adelaide Zoo and hosed by DST Group in partnership with the University of Adelaide and Neotic. Keynote addresses were delivered by Chief Defence Scientist Dr. Alex Zelinsky (via video link from Canberra) and Brigadier Craig Schramm, Director General Health Capability and they were followed by a series of presentations

> from experts in the field of human biotechnologies from across academia.

> "We have great people working in our organisation, but we don't employ all the best people in the country and so it's really important for us to have the very best advice on where technologies move, particularly disruptive technologies," Dr. Zelinsky said. "So technology fore-sighting and horizon scanning has become a critical function for us. We're trying to understand the strategic environment we're finding ourselves in and the opportunities for science and technology to make a difference."

The symposium was divided into two parts, the first day considering

"EDTAS is our vehicle by which we start to look into and assess possibilities for Defence





TOP: Brigadier Craig Schramm, DG Health Capability, delivering his keynote address.

ADM/NIGEL PITTAWAY

ABOVE: Professor Ewa Goldys from the University of NSW discussing measurement technologies.

ADM/NIGEL PITTAWAY

what human measurement technologies might exist in 2040 and the second looking at human modification technologies which may have the potential to enhance or degrade human performance or resilience.

Measurement technologies under consideration included bioinformatics (mathematical and computer science techniques of understanding human data); biochemistry, genomics, nano-robotics and bio-sensing technology. Human modification technologies canvassed included metabolic engineering; genetic engineering, delivery systems and physiological enhancement and augmentation.

"EDTAS is our vehicle by which we start to look into and assess game changing possibilities for Defence and what we are seeking to do with game changing technologies is either to create strategic surprise or prevent strategic surprise," Dr. Zelinsky added.

"It's clear that disruption will occur through technology and so we need to be at the forefront of that, and that's part of the reason we're sponsoring these workshops. For Defence we're always looking for an unfair competitive advantage and are there ways to use human biotechnologies to make our warfighters more resilient, healthier and potentially superior to the opposition?"

A more detailed report from EDTAS will appear in the July issue of ADM.

Hofmann wins more maritime work: *ADM*'s Review

Nigel Pittaway | Melbourne

Fincantieri Australia announced on May 4 that it has <u>awarded a contract</u> to Hofmann Engineering for two transverse tunnel thrusters, to be used in cruise ships built by parent company in Italian shipyards.

"Our commitment is total and we are placing orders regardless of whether we are successful for Sea 5000"

The order is valued at up to 1 million euros and two further options could see the company produce up to six thrusters under the agreement. The two transverse tunnel thrusters under the firm contract will be delivered in 2019.

The work follows the awarding of a pilot contract to Hofmann by Fincantieri in October 2017, for the supply of a bow thruster for a landing helicopter dock (LHD) vessel the Italian shipbuilder is constructing for an undisclosed customer in the Middle East.

Fincantieri and Hofmann have also signed an MoU to jointly cooperate in the development of the market for the manufacture of marine systems and components, which the Italian shipbuilder estimates is worth 250 million euros over the next five years.

ADM spoke with Fincantieri Australia chairman Dario Deste this week to find out more.

"We are committed to transferring technology to design, build ships, and the equipment within Australia to create an export market," Deste said. "By transferring the knowledge and technology directly to Australian workers, management, institutions and businesses, Australia will gain the capability and independent control to design and build new vessels and the advanced equipment within



The launch of the 8th Italian FREMM in Genoa by Fincantieri.

NIGEL PITTAWAY

them. Fincantieri's decision to place additional orders with Hofmann Engineering demonstrates this transfer at work."

Fincantieri is one of the three shortlisted contenders for Australia's Future Frigate program, Sea 5000, which will oversee the construction of nine antisubmarine warfare – optimised ships in Adelaide.

Deste told *ADM* that no matter the outcome of Sea 5000, the work enables Hofmann to join Fincantieri's network of 80,000 global subcontractors.

"Our commitment is total and we are placing orders regardless of whether we are successful for Sea 5000 or not," Deste added. "We have been consistent with what we have promised, to create new capabilities and provide a market for them.

"Hofmann began producing a bow thruster for Fincantieri's naval market and we're now addressing the civilian cruise ship market."

KC-390 suffers runway excursion during testing

Nigel Pittaway | Melbourne

Embraer's KC-390 multi-role airlifter program suffered another significant setback on May 5, when the first prototype suffered a runway excursion during ground testing at the company's flight test facility at Gavião Peixoto, Brazil.

The incident is the second to involve the first of two flight test prototype aircraft, which had only <u>recently returned to service</u> following an incident during icing trials last October. Last month it had participated in the Feria Internacional de Aire y del Espacio (FIDAE) air show in Santiago, Chile.

This most recent incident occurred during ground testing at Gavião Peixoto



The aircraft (not the one pictured) continued past the other end of the runway.

EMBRAER



A KC-390 conducting an airdrop

FMBRAFR

and images show the aircraft in long grass well beyond the threshold of Gavião Peixoto's 4,967 metre (16,295 ft) – long runway and close to the airport perimeter fence.

In a statement released to media immediately following the incident, Embraer said that the test crew were not injured and were able to deplane safely.

"The flight operations support team responded immediately and Embraer has already initiated an investigation into the causes of the incident," the company said. "The incident was reported to the Brazilian Air Force's aeronautical accidents investigation and prevention bureau (CENIPA)."

The earlier incident resulted in the aircraft being overstressed during the recovery manoeuvre after suddenly and unexpectedly stalling. Despite landing safely the aircraft was grounded for several months while inspections and repairs were carried out.

The KC-390 achieved Initial Operational Capability (IOC) on 20 December 2017 and was planned to achieve Final Operational Capability (FOC) in the fourth quarter of this year, followed shortly afterwards by with the first delivery to the launch customer, the Brazilian Air Force. It is not yet known if this latest incident will have an impact on this schedule.

MOST READ ONLINE AT WWW.AUSTRALIANDEFENCE.COM.AU



- Fincantieri expands Australian
 partnerships ahead of Sea 5000
- 2. Sub design to move to Adelaide in 2022
- 3. F-35A training equipment delivered to Williamtown
- 4. EOS announces 12 million RWS contract
- Special Report: Sea 5000 and ASW capability

 making sense of a complex picture

First UAS maintenance training program arrives in Australia

Aviation Australia has partnered with one of the premier aerospace colleges in the US, Northland Community & Technical College (NCTC), to deliver the first Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) maintenance training program in Australia.

"The course will enable Australian industry to train maintenance staff to support multiple commercial and military UAS platforms"

The course is designed to educate and up-skill qualified aircraft maintenance engineers into UAS maintenance technicians. It will educate students with a broad understanding of commonly used UAS platforms at a functional level, and will be compliant with key international and Australian regulatory requirements, enabling graduates to leave with multiple domestic and international outcomes.

"There has been significant growth in the usage and application of unmanned aerial systems in Australia. There is a clear need for skilled and well-trained maintenance engineers to support this growing industry," Bill Horrocks, CEO of Aviation Australia said. "Aviation Australia is thrilled to be developing this capability with Northland Community & Technical College, who are a leading

aerospace training provider in the US."

The course will enable Australian industry to train maintenance staff to support the multiple commercial and military UAS platforms that are evolving in Australia. Under Air 7000 Phase 1B, the RAAF is expected to be the first international partner to field the MQ-4C Triton, a US Navy maritime surveillance UAS built by



The first operational MQ-4C Triton comes in for a landing at Naval Base Ventura County in the US

Northrop Grumman, and this will require in-country sustainment.

Northrop Grumman identified the need to up-skill Australian aircraft maintenance engineers with UAS training to support unmanned capabilities and made the initial connection between the two training organisations. The company has previously provided NCTC with 14 Bat UAS aircraft and associated equipment for use at their campus in Minnesota.

A range of NCTC-owned UAS training assets will be shipped to Aviation Australia's Brisbane campus in late 2018 for use in the practical portion of the first Australian based UAS course.

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Forthcoming Events

ADM EVENTS

More detail on ADM Events can be found on our dedicated website: admevents.com.au

- ADM Women in Defence Awards 27 July 2018
- ADM STEM in Defence Summit 21 August 2018
- ADM Defence Estate & Base Services Summit 19 September 2018
- ADM Defence in Northern Australia Summit 10-11 October 2018

CDIC Introduction to the Defence Market Seminars (May)

1-15 May 2018

Locations Perth, Darwin, Katherine & Adelaide

Register Business.gov.au

The Centre for Defence Industry Capability is delivering a nationwide series of seminars for businesses that are seeking to learn about opportunities in the defence market.

ASDEFCON TD/IP Roadshow

Location Sydney, Melbourne, Newcastle, Cairns, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin

Date 2 May - 5 July

Register procurement.ASDEFCON@defence.gov.au

Following the official launch of the new ASDEFCON Technical Data/ Intellectual Property (TD/IP) framework on 11 April, roadshows have been scheduled around the country from May to July 2018. The roadshow is open for both Defence and industry personnel to attend. Each roadshow will comprise a general overview of the new framework and interactive sessions.

Policy vs Practice: How Diversity Sparks Innovation

15 May 2018

Location National Press Club, Canberra

Website https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/Event/

policy-vs-practice-how-diversity-sparks-innovation

Christine Zeitz, CEO of Leidos Australia, will draw on her experience as the CEO of a technology/engineering based company to discuss the links between a diverse workforce and innovation and how to narrow the gap between policy and practice. She will discuss the important role of leaders in establishing the right settings to promote diversity and put rhetoric into action.

Meet the Chiefs — Secretary of Defence

Date 18 May 2018
Location Canberra
Register DefenceWatch

Defence Secretary Greg Moriarty will speak at the National Press Club for the first time since taking on the role.

International Conference of Robotics and Automation

Location Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Date May 21 - 25

Register https://icra2018.org

The world's leading experts in robotics research are on their way to Brisbane for the International Conference of Robotics and Automation (ICRA) 2018, a premier international forum for robotics researchers to present their work. 2100 of the world's leading robotic and automation experts, including 300 Australians, are attending. Members of the public can hear from distinguished experts on popular and cutting-edge topics in the field of robotics and automation through the free ICRA-X series of talks

Association of Old Crows conference 2018

Date 28-30 May 2018

Location Adelaide
Website AOM events

The Australian Chapter of the Association of Old Crows will hold its biennial Electronic Warfare (EW), Electromagnetic Spectrum Management Operations, Cyber Electromagnetic Activities (CEMA), Information Operations (IO) Convention focusing on the "Interoperability and Collaboration in the Indo-Pacific Region", seeking to investigate both organisational and technical interoperability and collaboration across EW, CEMA and IO battlespace.

PASA MRO for Procurement Conference

Date 5-6 June 2018

Location Stamford Plaza, Brisbane

Website https://procurementandsupply.com/events/pasa-mro/

This two-day special event will give your organization the insight to gain greater control of your MRO and spare parts inventory spend, address your key issues with MRO and spare parts inventory management and unlock the significant hidden costs-savings associated with MRO procurement. The conference examines issues such as who should own and control MRO and spare parts, why most companies underestimate its importance, and how to develop a good MRO strategy that can improve your bottom line.

Building Australia's Strategy for Space: ASPI

13-15 June 2018 Location QT Hotel Canberra Website www.ivvy.com.au

The conference will bring together distinguished international and Australian experts for two days of debate on Australia's long-term strategic plan to grow its burgeoning space industry.

IFRS Next

Location Canberra Date 28 June

Register https://www.regionalsecurity.org.au/event-2861870

Future strategic leaders will deliver six-minute bursts about a topic they're passionate about and they also feel is of importance to Australia's national security. Expect innovative thinking and insights, even some controversy. It runs for one hour in the arthouse-style setting of Palace Electric Theatre, and is followed by a networking event. It is your chance to engage in conversation with Australia's future security leaders.

Defence + Industry Conference and Gala Awards 2018

1 August 2018 Location Canberra Website CASG

The annual CASG and Defence Industry gathering in Canberra to discuss policy and programs with a range of speakers gathering to discuss the way forward. A Gala Awards night will take place on the evening preceding the event, where ADM's Essington Lewis Awards will be presented, recognising excellence in collaboration.

Project and program management symposium

Date 14-15 August

Location UNSW @ ADFA, Canberra Register www.pgcsymposium.org.au

The annual Project and Program Management Symposium provides a forum that brings together project management people to share knowledge and improve the governance and controls skill sets available to deliver successful project outcomes for the nation. A highlight of the symposium is its access to thought leaders from the USA and Europe. Each year, selected speakers from overseas are brought to the symposium to share knowledge and provide an international perspective on project and portfolio management.

Hunter Valley Defence Conference 2018

Date 30-31 August 2018

Location Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley

Website HunterNet

The 2018 Defence Conference will focus on driving collaboration and engagement between Defence Primes, the region's SME's, academia and Defence. A highlight of the conference will be the spectacular low flying aerial show from Matt Hall Racing, followed by a gala dinner.

Land Forces 2018

Date 4-6 September 2018

Location Adelaide

Website www.landforces.com.au

Presented in collaboration with the Australian Army, LAND FORCES 2018 is an international industry exposition to showcase equipment, technology and services for the armies of Australia and the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

9th SIA Biennial Conference 2018

Date 7-8 November 2018

Location Canberra

Website www.submarineinstitute.com/sia-conferences

The theme for the Conference is Collins Life of Type Extension - Issues and Opportunities with the Program. The opening reception will be held on 6th November at the Canberra Rex Hotel.

MilCIS 2018

Date 13-15 November 2018

Location Canberra

Website www.milcis.com.au

In November each year, the Defence Chief Information Officer Group (CIOG) partners with the UNSW Canberra and the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) to present MilCIS.

TEAM DEFENCE AUSTRALIA EVENTS

- **SOFIC 2018** 21-24 May 2018, Tampa, US
 - **Eurosatory 2018** 11-15 June 2018, Paris, France
- AUSA 2018 8-10 October 2018, Washington DC, US
- **Euronaval 2018** 23-26 October 2018, Paris, France
- Indo Defence 2018 7-10 November, Jakarta, Indonesia

For more information go the business.gov.au TDA webpage here. TDA EOIs will open a few months prior to the event – to keep up to date register for the CDIC newsletter.