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October 2015



NATIONAL NEWSLETTER
No 9 of 2015

Quote of the month

"You can never plan the future by the past."

- **Edmund Burke (1729-1797) British political writer**

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▶ AIDN NATIONAL NEWS



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings

To my fellow AIDN members..... hello.

Your AIDN National Executive has determined that we, via this column, we should communicate our activities, achievements and plans to you more directly. This was recommended by AIDN-Victoria's Executive and agreed in consultation with your Chapter Presidents. Whilst we are always looking to be in contact with members, the traditional communications path has been from your President attending the National Executive to your own Chapter Executive and thence to you. There is no suggestion this path will change. However, we all felt the need to ensure you were aware of the National Executive's, and your President as spokesperson, activities and achievements going forward. I hope you find this column informative and useful.

It is also useful that the column is starting during a period of intense internal examination of the role and achievements of AIDN National. Like the Defence Department, it has been 2 decades or more since we had any significant change in AIDN National's

approach, location, composition and strategic plan. A healthy and vibrant organisation must change, particularly with its customer, to remain relevant. AIDN National has initiated a process of deep self-examination which we will ensure emerges with a new Strategic Plan and supporting documents. I look forward to your insight in relation to where AIDN should head and how we should operate for the next 20 years.

AIDN must acknowledge member contributions to the National arena wherever possible so I will always acknowledge that our volunteers could not perform as volunteers without the permission and support of their companies, all of which are AIDN Chapter members, some are members of multiple Chapters. My own company Goal has given up many hours of my time over the last decade to support AIDN and been a sponsor of AIDN-NSW Young Achiever Award. Goal is a member of AIDN-NSW, AIDN-QLD and AIDN-WA. From personal experience I can urge you all to consider more activity in AIDN.

Acknowledgments

I acknowledge and congratulate the appointment of our new Defence heads, particularly the new Defence Minister Senator the Hon Marise Payne. You will be aware also that The Hon Mal Brough MP is Minister for Defence Materiel and Science and The Hon Darren Chester MP is Assistant Minister for Defence. Specific portfolio responsibilities have yet to be announced (at time of writing). However, AIDN congratulates the new team and pledges our focus to assist in ensuring a strong and viable Defence SME base in Australia for our national defence capability.

AIDN also congratulates Kim Gillis in his return to Defence as Deputy Secretary Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group. I was able to hear some of Kim's ideas and early plans at Pacific 2015 and I believe our membership should be excited and right behind Kim in his endeavours to make the CASG successful. AIDN recognises the challenges Kim faces and looks forward to assisting wherever it is seen to be helpful and relevant.

I acknowledge a change in the AIDN National Treasurer position. Michelle Brown AIDN-Victoria President (TXM) resigned and AIDN-NT President Gary Bettcher (MLA) has taken on the mantle of Treasurer. I take this opportunity to thank Michelle for her services to you at the National level as Treasurer. Michelle of course continues on the National Executive as AIDN-Victoria President.

President and National Committee Activities

This first column will address a longer period than a month and talk about the last 3 months or so to catch up.

During the last month, I took a month off. Sorry, but even the President must have holidays sometime! I was in Scotland when the government changes were announced and had the pleasure of watching England V Australia in the Rugby Union in London. I walked the Avenue des Champs-Élysées on a car free day in Paris! I walked an average of 10,500 steps a day in that month! I am back refreshed and focused on achieving the agreed path forward for AIDN National over the coming months.

Even with the break, I, with members of the National Executive, managed to fit some AIDN activities in for this last period as follows:

- AIDN held an Executive Committee meeting in Brisbane in June this year and attended an AIDN Queensland dinner. Arron Thompson AIDN Queensland President (Ferra) and Kev Carrol AIDN NT XO did a tremendous job and were delighted to watch Chris Jenkins (Thales) and I rushing to make it into our digs, clobber and attend the dinner....we made it!
- AIDN undertook a tender process to assist the AIDN Executive to understand market capability in relation to our Executive and Administrative Services. This was facilitated by Kevin Carrol (AIDN Queensland) and very professionally conducted thanks to him. I will also acknowledge with deep gratitude the contribution of Peter Smith (previously of Aerosonde) who gave voluntarily of his time to our process as the independent member of the RFP team. Many thanks Peter;
- I have commenced a review of our AIDN governance and commercial arrangements to ensure currency and compliance with best practice. The intent is to ensure that best practice governance is in place going forward;
- I visited a number of AIDN-WA members during a visit to Perth and Rockingham earlier this year. It is exciting to see what Serge DeSilva and his team are doing in the West. Goal is a member of AIDN-WA.
- AIDN National commenced planning for our 21st birthday celebrations in 2016. This is being coordinated by Graham Priestnall, Immediate Past President (QinetiQ), Rob Forbes AIDN-ACT President (CEA) Sue Smith our National Executive Officer and I;
- Commenced planning for the inaugural AIDN SME Summit in 2016 utilising the same team as above;
- Coordinated majority AIDN Chapter support for the Australian Made Defence Campaign, ably led by Chris Burns of AIDN-SA (DTC);
- Attended the SEA1000 Industry Engagement meetings in Canberra (Graham Priestnall) and Melbourne (myself);
- Your National Executive attended a number of SEA 1000 participant CEP briefings across the country;
- Sue Smith and I attended the Ai Group Defence Council Meeting at Pacific 2015;

- Serge DeSilva, AIDN-WA President, led AIDN WA's submission to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee;
- Sue Smith took the opportunity to visit the UK-Canada-Australia-U.S. Quadrilateral Conference in London during her trip to the UK this year. AIDN is hopeful we will host this Conference in Australia next round;
- Congratulations to those AIDN members who showcased Australia's maritime defence capability at the Pacific 2015 Maritime Exposition in Sydney. I attended Pacific 2015 and various briefings and meetings. I visited a lot of stands and apologies to those I could not visit, I had a very tight schedule of events those days. Thanks to John Small and Jenny Pitt (both AIDN-NSW) for mostly manning the AIDN stand and Sue Smith for her participation also.
- I have represented an AIDN member to Defence in relation to a significantly poor industrial situation. More on this later. This took a large amount of time but we will continue to unashamedly represent you and seek policy and approach changes where appropriate. Thanks to Graeme Dunk of Australian Business's Defence Industry Unit for working with AIDN on this matter.
- I attended the inaugural Industry/Government Consultative Group for the Industry Investment Plan (previously the DCP). I am hopeful this forum will continue under CASG as it seemed to have the right mix of industry and CASG personnel and was very productive;
- NSW President Medhat Wassef (Milspec) briefed the 2015 Defence Industry Study Course, on my behalf, on the subject of AIDN's role in Australia. I suspect I was sinking an English ale at the time so many thanks Medhat!.
- I represented AIDN members and other Defence SMEs as the SME co-chair of the Synthetic Environment Working Group at SimTecT in Adelaide. During that visit I took the opportunity to meet with the AIDN-SA management team (the DTC). What a wonderful achievement the DTC is for our SA SME members and I congratulate Chris Burns and his team for their achievements;
- Briefed the AIDN-Victoria President Michelle Brown and members of the AIDN Victoria Executive Committee in Melbourne. The dedication of this team to Victoria was very evident and I look forward to hosting our AGM in Victoria later this year.

Planned Activities

In the coming period, I will be hosted by AIDN-NT President Gary Bettcher, XO Jodie Cassidy and the AIDN-NT Executive for the 3rd Annual Northern Australia Defence Summit in Darwin. Given there will be a great deal of Defence money spent in the NT over the next 10 years, now is the time for AIDN to reinforce existing relationships with Defence, CASG and Primes, as well as develop new relationships. The Defence Summit and Dinner provides a timely and ideal opportunity to do so and I look forward to hearing about the exciting AIDN-NT initiatives in this area. I very much look forward to meeting up with as many AIDN-NT members as possible during my stay.

Significantly, the AIDN National Executive has determined that to remain relevant and refreshed we must undertake a period of deep "naval gazing". It is imperative for an organisation to revise and grow and given the major changes in our customer's organisation, AIDN determined it must also change. We initiated the first stage of that examination by an RFP process recently for a new Executive Officer and are, over the coming 3 months, looking deep and hard at our National footprint, Strategic Plan and national lobbying capability.

In line with our organisational examination, I am seeking appointments with the new Defence leaders to ensure our AIDN National focus remains aligned with that of our customer.

AIDN turns 21 next year. Our intent is to celebrate this milestone via two major events:

- A Defence SME summit is to be held immediately prior to the ADM Congress in Canberra, and
- A celebratory AIDN National dinner, also in Canberra.

I will ensure you get as much information as you can, as early as you can, to make sure these events are relevant and exciting for you all.

Unfortunately, I got involved in a sobering industrial situation with respect to one of our members this month. Whilst there is always two sides to all stories the reported behaviours towards this SME were quite simply horrendous. I am very relieved to advise there was no other AIDN member involved but the matter has had serious consequences to this talented SME and potentially lost capability to Defence in the future. In this new chapter of partnering with industry, this is not a good start. AIDN will work tirelessly to ensure this case is heard and its ramifications mean change to the ethics approach to Defence SMEs and how their contribution is recognised, and protected.

Our 2015 AGM is planned for Melbourne on Tuesday 8 December 2015. Sue Smith will send out advice to Chapters soon. I am hopeful many AIDN-Vic members will attend and hear more of our achievements and plans.

Finally we stand ready to receive and analyse the Defence White Paper and Industry Policy when released. More on this as events occur.

Theme for AIDN National – The Changing Landscape. Reorganisation for the future.

As you will all be aware, the Department of Defence is undergoing significant change. In particular the changes that are resultant from the First Principles Review are widespread and we note that not all planned changes have been accomplished to date. These changes are the most significant Defence changes in 2 decades or more. We welcome the new Defence leaders and pledge to work with them to accomplish these changes with our particular focus on industry policy and engagement as it affects the Defence SME.

In parallel with these changes, AIDN National is conducting a similar “first principles” review of our organisation, location, staffing and approach. We cannot be sure we have this right without your direct input and I urge all AIDN members to approach their Chapter Committees, or myself direct, to pass your ideas to us.

I have had the privilege of being in a senior AIDN position for over a decade and at the helm of your Network for the last 2 years. In that time I have had the distinct pleasure in working with some of the most dedicate and talented individuals I have met in my professional life. All have been focused on AIDN and its members. Most have been volunteers, which doesn't diminish from the excellence of the salaried or contracted staff. I am sure that our customer has the same view of its personnel. However, all organisations must change and evolve and given our customer's changes it is incumbent on your AIDN Executive to ensure we change to remain relevant and to stay abreast of the changing defence landscape. I acknowledge that change is challenging and daunting. Leaders must remain focused and recognise the emotional stress related to making decisions that have powerful consequences on employees, contractors and organisations. We in AIDN will emerge stronger and ready to represent our membership efficiently and powerfully in this period of change.

In the 1920s, H.P. Lovecraft said:

The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown.

Change is inevitable, healthy and necessary. Please work with us to bring AIDN National to the best position to support your requirements for the future. Give your ideas freely to me.

During Pacific 2015, we all heard many encouraging themes emerging from the new look Defence team. Not the least of which was the continuous shipbuilding program. There was an air of positivity at the show about the future of shipbuilding in Australia. I look forward to the commitment materialisation over the coming months.

It was very pleasing to hear our new Defence Minister talking of “putting an end to the boom-bust cycle” for our shipbuilding industry and that “we need the sovereign ability to maintain the future submarine over coming decades”. It was equally pleasing to hear the Chief of Navy express the view that “continuous shipbuilding is how the nation can ensure its naval vessels are acquired and sustained to guarantee preparedness. It is about building evolution into availability” he further stated that it “provides certainty for industry not just for the life of one project, but for sustained capability into the future. It is an initiative of national significance”. Like Katherine Ziesing of ADM, I wonder “what has changed in such a short time”. The answer is in my view “nothing material yet but the signs are very positive and encouraging”.

Rumours abounded last week that the release of the White Paper could occur as early as the end of next month while others suggested not until next year. There was also suggestions that the Industry Investment Plan (the old Defence Capability Plan) might not be released with the White Paper. The IIP will validate that the White Paper is fully costed and provides the basis for industry planning for the future. AIDN reiterates our call for a clear plan and policy to industry.

As our AIDN SA President Chris Burns stated recently, “Our defence industry has survived over six years of uncertainty since the release of the 2009 Defence White Paper. What we needs now is clear guidance and direction in order that it can get on with the task of ensuring our Defence Force has the capabilities it requires to secure our nation”.

AIDN will continue to work with the Australian Made Defence campaign to maximise the chances of a fully Australian based solution for all our major Defence programs. I have spoken to all three contenders for the SEA 1000 solution and all have great faith that Australian industry can cope. We need to prove it!

The recent success of fellow AIDN member Thales with the Hawkei program again demonstrates Australian capability. Congratulations to Thales and your SME team.

We must stop doubting this Australian industry capability exists and invest in it for all our futures.

The impacts of the First Principles Review on Defence are really being felt now. These changes herald a new era of much closer partnership with Defence from Industry. It also means Industry better “anti-up”. We cannot be demanding more of the pie and then not perform. I have heard many of the Australian Prime contractors and their great stories of partnerships with SMEs; AIDN looks to this to continue. Our bigger challenge is to ensure that opportunities for SMEs to contract direct with Defence are not lost in this major reorganisation. These opportunities, such as the CASSS Panel, allow Australian SMEs to provide their capability and innovation to Defence directly and must be sustained. AIDN will work tirelessly to ensure this

occurs.

Perhaps another growth path AIDN should assist our members with is SME clusters and their direct engagement by Defence. To do this Defence must overcome the perception in our SMEs that there is a current level of risk aversion to SME clusters and work with AIDN and our SME members to create the best engagement mechanism for the future. I will engage the new CASG senior staff in this discussion.

I look forward to hearing your views and am excited to lead AIDN in this period of change. I will keep you posted via this column and other means about our progress.

I apologise for the length of this first column from me but felt it necessary to bring you all up to speed.

Contact details

All members should feel at ease in contacting me directly about any issues. If the matter you raise is related to member services, I will ensure your issue is raised with the appropriate Chapter President. I can be contacted via my AIDN email address president@aidn.org.au or my mobile 0413014480 during working hours.

NEXT AIDN MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of AIDN National will be held on Tuesday 8 December in the AIDN offices in Ashburton, Melbourne.

▶ AIDN-New South Wales

NOVEMBER BREAKFAST

Details of the 12th November breakfast will be released shortly.

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

The Christmas function will be at the Harbour View Hotel on Thursday 3rd December. The invitation will be released shortly.

PACIFIC 2015

AIDN-NSW spent a productive 3 days at Pacific 2015 on the AIDN National stand. Many NSW members also exhibited individually or as part of the AIDN SME Showcase. Highlights included:

- Launch of the NSW Maritime Capability Directory
- Discussions with NSW Minister Anthony Roberts MP on further cooperation to support NSW SMEs.
- A successful Japanese Government and industry Submarine briefing organised by AIDN NSW and the Pacific 2015 organisation

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Your committee has not met for some time. Focus of recent effort has been on:

- Financial management activity including finalisation of BAS returns to the ATO
- The Anniversary Dinner and
- Production and release of the NSW Maritime Capability Directory

AIDN NSW LINKEDIN GROUP

Join the group and see the latest topics: [Click Here](#)

▶ AIDN-NSW MEMBERS' NEWS

Hello from the NSW chapter,
September 2015 was a busy month for us. We celebrated AIDN NSW's 21st anniversary at our annual dinner and had a full house. We were also encouraged by the level of our VIP guests including CDF, ACM Mark Binskin AC; DEPSEC CASG, Mr

Kim Gillis, The Hon Darryl Maguire MP, representing the Premier of NSW; and GM Commercial CASG, Mr Steve Wearn. We also had representatives for the Chief of Air Force and Commander Forces Command as well as many Defence Prime Contractors CEOs and senior representatives.

Our Defence Speaker Mr Kim Gillis, who was 9 days in his new position, outlined his three priorities: a stronger link with CASG's customer being the Defence services; a closer partnership with industry as a Fundamental Input to Capability; and improving the performance of doing business with and within CASG.

NSW Government speaker, The Hon Darryl Maguire MP, stressed NSW Government support and our industry capabilities to support Defence.

Our Industry Speaker Mr Chris Jenkins, CEO Thales Australia, offered some thoughts expressing Australian Industry current challenges and opportunities. During the night, we also celebrated our Young Achievers Award for this year won this year by Christine Chen of Thales Australia with runners-up Danya Henriksen of Petrolink Engineering and Ryan McKay of Forgacs-Broens. I congratulate them all for their outstanding achievements.

We also had a successful presence at the Pacific 2015 show including supporting the SEA1000 presentation by the Japanese Government/ Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and the DCNS teams. With the support of NSW Government, and the Joint Defence Industry Organisations (JDIOs), we produced for that occasion a directory featuring NSW Defence Industry Capabilities in the maritime sector.

I would like to acknowledge the great efforts by AIDN NSW team, and particularly John Small, Jenny Pitt and our VP Anna Murray to make all the above possible.

Regards,
Medhat Wassef
NSW President

 [AIDN-Queensland](#)

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▶ AIDN-Queensland NEW MEMBERS



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▶ AIDN-Qld MEMBERS' NEWS

Events

AIDN-Qld has come to the end of the monthly meeting schedule, with a meeting hosted by Sikorsky/Helitech and a presentation by new member DEPTH Logistics.

2015 will culminate with the AGM, to be hosted by the Staff and Students of Aviation High. The guest speaker for the evening will be Campbell Newman, former Premier of Queensland and former Lord Mayor of Brisbane.

Visiting AIDN members from other State Chapters are most welcome to attend for Mr Newman's address. Please contact Kev – kevjcar@tpg.com.au

The 2016 meeting program will commence with a member's meeting on 26 Jan 16.

Member News



Aerospace and Defence Australia Pty Ltd has formally changed the company name to:
Aero Defence Pty Ltd

More details will be available in the next newsletter

▶ DEFENCE TEAMING CENTRE (DTC)

DTC NEWS

INNOVATION THROUGH COLLABORATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PARTNERSHIPS

In July, Workforce Blue Print's Head Workforce Planner, Wendy Perry was recognised at the Edupreneur of the Year awards in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) category.

Following this national recognition, a key note presentation delivered by Wendy to an audience of 1000 people at the World Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) Conference in Sarawak, Malaysia on Innovation through Partnerships and Collaboration in TVET, was a career highlight.

FRAZER-NASH DEFENCE TEAM FLOURISHES

Frazer-Nash has appointed Steven Holloway as a Business Manager for Defence, with a focus on Air, Land and Joint programs. His appointment reflects the company's success and its commitment to expand support to Air, Land and Joint clients.

Frazer-Nash is supporting several Defence Land projects to achieve high value outcomes. For instance, they are supporting Army Headquarters (AHQ) develop their Health and Usage Monitoring Systems (HUMS) Policy. They are also providing systems engineering mentoring, advice and guidance to CDG, enabling knowledge transfer and the ability to reduce project risk across Defence, and supporting the Land 75 project to achieve Design Acceptance of a computer-based command and control system. The system utilises mobile data to give real-time information to support quality decision-making and inform battle tactics.

AXIOM PRECISION MANUFACTURING NOW HAS AS9100C CERTIFICATION

Following the merger of Diemould Tooling Service and Numetric Manufacturing to form Axiom Precision Manufacturing, this High Precision Machining company has recently been awarded AS9100C aerospace certification with the scope of registration for machining of components for aerospace and defence. Axiom has manufactured aerospace components for many years under our customers accreditation but now have the accreditation and capability to manufacture components under our own AS9100C.

DARONMONT SIGNS CONTRACT WITH LOCKHEED MARTIN CANADA

Daronmont Technologies is pleased to announce a significant contract award by Lockheed Martin Canada to supply communications band DF systems for the Royal Canadian Navy. Daronmont's Comm SECA Communication Detection System (CDS) will be fitted to the Royal Canadian Navy's new Arctic/Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS) fleet and follows the successful completion of a similar project for the Royal New Zealand Navy. Daronmont will supply six systems to Lockheed Martin Canada over the next three years.

RAYTHEON AUSTRALIA PRESENTS DARONMONT TECHNOLOGIES WITH SUPPLIER EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR WORK ON AUSTRALIAN SUBMARINES

Raytheon Australia has recognised trusted partner Daronmont Technologies for excellence in engineering and technical support on the Collins-class submarine program.

This follows a recent contract renewal between Raytheon Australia and Daronmont signalling the continuation of their role as engineering and technical support for the Collins Electronic Support Measure (ESM) system.

Daronmont Technologies successfully launched and implemented a significant upgrade to the Kestrel software and hardware ESM system, resulting in a smaller, more powerful search, intercept and direction finding capability.

ELMTEK PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA ON ROUND 19 CTD FOR TACTILE CUEING SYSTEM

elmTEK has partnered with the University of Canberra to develop a tactile flight display optimised for Australian Army helicopters under the CTD Program. The primary objective is to develop an information display using tactile perception to deliver rich multi-context Situation Awareness (SA) to Army pilots. Safety is improved by enabling operators to maintain eyes out the cockpit and still access hover drift cues as well as threat data in a more direct and intuitive manner.

ASC NAMED BEST WELDERS IN THE BUSINESS

ASC has been named Company of the Year by the Welding Technology Institute of Australia (WTIA) for its work on the air warfare destroyer (AWD) program.

ASC received the award in recognition of the measures it has taken to improve weld quality, train welders new to the shipbuilding industry and apply a culture of innovation.

ASC Shipbuilding Interim Chief Executive Officer Mark Lamarre said the award is a significant achievement for the company's highly skilled workforce.

"Just six years ago our shipyard and shipbuilding workforce did not exist and the transformation from greenfield site to a modern working shipyard has been incredible," Mr Lamarre said.

"In 2015 ASC has achieved a welding failure rate, as measured by combination of radiographic and ultrasonic testing, well below the industry standard," he said.

"This has been achieved through investments in training and education, a focus on weld failure analysis, enhanced feedback between supervisors and welders and by leveraging state of the art technology.

Mr Lamarre said ASC's focus at all levels of the organisation is to continue to improve shipbuilding productivity and apply the lessons learnt from the first AWD to follow ships.

"On a cost/percent complete basis, ASC is realising a greater than 30 percent improvement on Ship 02 over Ship 01, and a greater than 10 percent improvement on Ship 03.

"Importantly, welding and other shipbuilding skills, knowledge and expertise developed at ASC on this project can be applied to future shipbuilding projects," Mr Lamarre said.

Welding Production Superintendent Dan Millar was one of the original welding supervisors on the AWD project and says ASC's workforce has risen to the challenge of producing the most advanced and complex warships ever built in Australia.

"Our welders, and everyone else working on the project, have achieved this result through hard work and determination," Mr Millar said.

ASC has more than 100 welders working on the AWD program, and a further 30 on its Collins Class submarine maintenance program, many of whom were also involved in submarine construction.

RED BIKINI REBRAND

DTC member RedBikini have re-branded from a TV production company to a Video Content Agency. Appointing Creative Director Wayne Cunningham to oversee the agency's creative output, RedBikini has created a new business model that combines production company resources with an advertising agency's insight under one roof. MD Justin O'Brien said that the new model now makes branded video content delivery an agile and economical option for clients in both B2B and B2C environments.

▶ AIDN-Tasmania



HOBART HOSTS MULTINATIONAL NAVAL DIVING EXERCISE

A mine countermeasures exercise, involving seven Navies is drawing to a close in Hobart.

Exercise DUGONG 15 brought mine warfare and dive teams from Australia, Canada, the UK and the US together for two weeks to practice contemporary mine warfare and dive salvage techniques and procedures. New Zealand also took part, deploying headquarters personnel. Two Swedish officers and one Indian officer attended as observers.

Commander Australian Mine Warfare Clearance Diving Task Group, Commander Max Muller, said maintaining freedom of navigation and movement through sea lanes for legitimate maritime trade was of vital importance to Australia and our allies.

"Ninety-eight per cent of our trade by volume travels by sea – so it is important we preserve maritime security and remain at the cutting edge of mine warfare and salvage diving, to keep maritime traffic flowing," CMDR Muller said.

"During the exercise, each Navy demonstrated their latest equipment and skills, as we worked together to locate and deal with sea mines and underwater obstructions within a complex post conflict scenario, in some challenging environmental conditions.

"We also used the exercise as an opportunity to assess HMAS Yarra and Australian Naval Reserve Diving Team 10 against their required competencies.

"In practice, this involved operating our ships and equipment against some realistic training aids and sophisticated underwater sensors to provide units with in-stride analysis and feedback on their performance.

“Ultimately this helped improve the Task Group’s ability to locate, identify, exploit and dispose of underwater munitions, and to conduct salvage operations and obstacle clearance.

“It was a unique and valuable opportunity to work closely with our coalition partners, as the RAN values these relationships and being able to share our expertise,” CMDR Muller said.

The teams representing Australia at DUGONG are: Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Task Group, Sea Training Group, HMAS Yarra, DMS Seahorse Horizon, Mine Warfare Team 16, Australian Clearance Diving Team Four, the Defence Science and Technology Group, Australian Maritime Warfare Centre, the Mine Warfare Faculty and the Guided Weapons Sustainment Program Office, along with the Hobart based Australian Naval Reserve Diving Team Ten.

▶ AIDN-Victoria

AIDN-Vic NEW MEMBERS

AIDN-Vic welcomes the following new members:



Applied Fasteners and Tooling Pty Ltd

Applied Fasteners and Tooling Pty Ltd (AFT) was formed to support aerospace and Defence industries that require specialised product and technical support across a wide range of fastening technologies. Given the changes in manufacturing processes and materials in use today such as composite and bi metal structures, AFT has aligned itself with only the most innovative fastener related technologies and companies that push the boundaries of what is possible.

We offer military and commercial aerospace fasteners and assembly tooling and consumables supporting AN, MS, NAS, MIL, LM,BAC, and ANSA approved components, in addition to approvals by CASA and Australian Department of Defence (Cage Code Z0TF6).Our customers depend on us as a reliable partner known for exceptional quality, service and delivery for all of their fastener and tooling needs.

Ensuring that the highest levels of quality and service are maintained AFT has adopted an AS9120A based quality system.

Extel Technologies

Please contact:

Colin Campbell

CEO

Phone: 03 9939 8979

colin@appliedfastenersandtooling.com



Extel Technologies

Extel aims at offering its partners end-to-end solutions in design and development, manufacturing and service & repair of electronics. The company strives to understand their products and requirements in order to be the best partner to help them develop their business. Their 25 years of experience in the business enables them to provide a scalable expertise to their clients and accompany them in every step of their product life cycle.

Driven by their customer’s needs and expectations, Extel’s facilities and processes have met extensive industry certifications, regulatory registrations and compliancy levels. They focus on building strong relationships with their business partners and can meet all their requirements through its vertically integrated business model.

Combining a professional management team, with high-calibre engineers and designers, and diverse operational capability,

they are highly motivated to deliver solutions via modern, advanced and well-equipped facilities. They provide flexible, tailored solutions that add genuine value for your company.

Please contact:

Jeff Thomas

CEO

Phone: 03 8542 9200

jeff.thomas@extel.com.au



L-3 Communications Pty Ltd

L-3 Communications Pty Ltd. As the leading integrator for major Maritime platforms, L-3 has unrivalled experience and knowledge in electronics systems integration. Our innovative and interoperable secure tactical integrated solutions for Land, Air, Sea and Space rise to the most complex of challenges enabling situational awareness for every mission.

We bring commonality across platform types, customers and continents, while reducing your costs by streamlining maintenance training, supply and engineering support systems across the fleet.

Please contact:

Andrew Peterson

Head Australia & NZ Business

Phone: 03 8862 6340

L-3.Australia@L-3com.com

▶ AIDN-Vic MEMBERS' NEWS

NEW £7 MILLION LANDMARK CONTRACT WITH MAJOR GLOBAL AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE CONTRACTOR

Pennant International Group plc ("Pennant"), the Aim quoted supplier of integrated logistic support solutions, products and services, principally to the defence, rail, aerospace and naval sectors and to Government Departments, is delighted to announce that its wholly owned subsidiary, Pennant Training Systems Limited, has been awarded a contract worth in excess of £7 million by a major global aerospace and defence contractor which is a new customer for Pennant.

The contract includes further options which, if exercised will increase the total value to in excess of £9 million over the life of the contract.

The contract is for the development of Computer Based Training and electro-mechanical Maintenance Trainers.

Pennant's CEO Chris Snook said "This is a milestone contract for Pennant with one of the world's largest aerospace and defence contractors and we very much look forward to working in partnership to jointly deliver a value for money training solution."

PENNANT INTERNATIONAL GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT

Pennant is pleased to announce with immediate effect the appointment of David Banks as Director of Pennant Australasia Pty Ltd.

David brings to the role 30 yrs of Defence and industry experience which includes 14 years with Pennant. David will continue his instrumental role on the Defence Aviation Training Academy project and looking to work with the team to continue building the success of the recent period.

David Stephan will retain his role as General Manager of Software Services and is looking forward to providing a dedicated high level of service, product support, and maintaining our centre of excellence.



PENNANT'S VIRTUAL PARACHUTE WINS THE USA UNITE AWARD

At the recent Unite Awards in Boston, USA; Pennant were nominated for an award in the Visual Simulation category with Virtual Parachute Training Simulator (VPTS). Pennant are proud to announce that they were successful in winning the award.

You can see the Visual Simulation section of the awards show [here](#).

Pennant would like to thank all those who were involved in the making of VPTS, congratulations.

VPTS combines innovative software, hardware and mechanical design to provide a highly realistic, yet perfectly safe, training rig for parachutists. The jump experience is fully immersive, utilising a physical suspension rig, VR headset and sensor suit to provide real-time feedback. Each VPTS jump is unique as the conditions, terrain, equipment and problems which may be encountered by the student are controlled and observed by the instructor.

The Unite Awards are hosted by Unity® and showcase products built around the Unity Engine. Selection as a finalist is acknowledged industry-wide as a testimony to the innovation, imagination and creativity of the nominees. We are therefore doubly-delighted to have won the Best Visual Simulation Project (VIZSIM) Award.



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY TO TRIAL INNOVATIVE AUSTRALIAN DESIGNED VIDAR PAYLOAD FOR NAVAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (NUAS) OPERATIONS

Sentient recently announced that the RAN has procured a license for its Kestrel Maritime ViDAR wide area maritime detection software to support RAN UAS activities. The software is designed to be incorporated into a purpose built ViDAR payload that can be modularly applied to the existing Block D Scan Eagle currently being flown by the Navy.

“Kestrel Maritime ViDAR has the potential to be game changing for Naval UAS operations” said Simon Olsen, Sentient’s Director of Business Development, Strategy and Partnerships. “Small payload capacity and limited bandwidth restrict tactical UAS to primarily provide surveillance over objects of interest that have already been detected”. Typically detection of objects in the ocean requires manned aircraft with much greater payload capacity – aircraft which are often expensive to operate and deploy. “Kestrel Maritime ViDAR now gives a UAS like the Scan Eagle the crucial capability to search as well as to conduct surveillance, dramatically increasing its usefulness to the RAN” said Olsen.

“The Navy is looking at the Kestrel Maritime ViDAR trials to potentially support, among other systems, wide area maritime surveillance” said Captain Allen Whittaker, RAN.

Insitu Pacific Ltd (IPL) will be trialing the Kestrel Maritime ViDAR payload for the RAN as a part of their support to ongoing Navy UAS experimentation activity. “ViDAR provides a critical point of difference for the Scan Eagle UAS enabling it to now scan significant areas autonomously in both blue water and littoral environments”, said Andrew Duggan, IPL’s Managing Director.



AUSTRALIA CHOOSES HAWKEI

The Hawkei is set to become the latest addition to the Australian Defence Force fleet following the signing of a \$1.3 billion contract with the Commonwealth.

Soldiers on operations will benefit from increased protection and mobility in a powerful 4x4 vehicle, which can be adapted for different missions.

Hawkei follows the life-saving success of the larger Bushmaster vehicle, which has protected Australian and other troops in some of the most challenging combat environments on earth.

The Hawkei contract also reflects the unique Australian expertise at Thales's protected vehicles manufacturing facility in Bendigo, as well as its support centres in Brisbane and Townsville.

Chris Jenkins, CEO of Thales in Australia said: "This is a great day for the ADF and for Australian industry. Hawkei is a highly capable vehicle that will serve this country well for many years to come, and we are delighted that the Department of Defence has recognised the importance of this vehicle by reaching this milestone.

"We are proud to have been chosen to deliver this next generation of protected vehicles to our armed forces, and we stand by them ready to support and adapt it as their requirements evolve.

"We also thank our many suppliers on the program – companies in Australia and overseas that have been with us on this long journey, and who have played a significant role in shaping the Hawkei and contributing to its success. It's a great story about what Australian industry and international partnerships can achieve.

"As we move into the manufacturing phase, we will now be able to consolidate the work already begun across the Thales group worldwide to ensure the export success of this impressive vehicle."

The contract involves the delivery of 1,100 vehicles and over 1,000 trailers. The three and a half year production phase is scheduled to begin from mid-2017, with first deliveries expected towards the end of that year.

AEROSONDE AT WORK WITH US WILD FIRES

Textron provided an Australian made Aerosonde UAV, support equipment and personnel in support of a multi-day wildfire response effort in the Tepee Springs area of Idaho with the US Department of Interior and the Forest Service.

Tens of thousands of acres were involved in or threatened by the wildfire activity. Textron Systems operators worked along side the federal agencies to provide real-time situational awareness and data to support the speed and accuracy of decision making.

Information on burn intensity, fuels and heat concentrations were provided in real time. The Aerosonde aircraft was fitted with sensors to give responders real-time data on fire growth, burn intensity, fuels and heat.

DEAKIN'S ROBOTICS RESEARCH CENTRE TO WORK WITH GENERAL DYNAMICS IT

Deakin University's Centre for Intelligent Systems Research (CISR) will collaborate with US-based systems integration company General Dynamics Information Technology to help improve its advanced robotics and simulation capabilities.

The collaborative framework is centred on future research and development collaborations that will take advantage of CISR's expertise in haptic (force feedback) technology and General Dynamics IT's specialty in rapid graphical training environments, providing capacity for rapid immersive training scenarios in the Defence, Healthcare and Commercial sectors.

Deakin University Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Prof. Lee Astheimer and General Dynamics IT Senior Vice President of the Defense Solutions Division Al Whitmore signed the collaborative framework agreement at a ceremony in Fairfax, Virginia.

"From Deakin's perspective, General Dynamics IT, which is a business unit of General Dynamics, is a perfect fit for expanding our capabilities in advanced robotics and simulation into an international market," Prof. Astheimer said.

"We look forward to working with General Dynamics IT to engage new industries and communities where our research can have impact and make a difference."

CISR Director Prof. Saeid Nahavandi said joint projects would begin with the Haptically-Enabled Hot Fire Trainer program, which was developed for use for the United States and Australian Defence Departments, nuclear industry and fire fighters.

The program enables trainees to experience realistic training scenarios in a safe synthetic environment.

"The Hot Fire Trainer can accurately present heat, jet reaction and step-up forces along with sound and visuals to immerse a trainee in a real house, car, boat or aircraft fire," Prof. Nahavandi said. [Courtesy of ADM](#)

NEW ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF NAVAL ICON

Maritime Australia has announced the establishment of a \$10,000 scholarship award for young naval engineers.

The award will be run in conjunction with the Royal Australian Navy and be known as the Holthouse Scholarship, after the late Rear Admiral David Holthouse.

Innovative young naval engineers will be eligible for shortlisting with the winner's funds to be used for future professional development.

The award will be presented for the first time in 2016 and then at the PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition in 2017 and all subsequent PACIFIC events.

RADM Holthouse was the inaugural chairman of Maritime Australia and a long time board member of the Aerospace Maritime and Defence Foundation of Australia (AMDA).

Prior to that, he had a long and illustrious career in the RAN as a marine engineer.

He was a passionate advocate for his profession and the Navy generally and was a keen promoter of young engineering talent within the RAN.

The Maritime Australia board agreed to sponsor the award in memory RADM Holthouse for his outstanding contribution to his profession, this country and board of AMDA.

The scholarship is in keeping with AMDA's charter of promoting Australian defence capability and will serve as a fitting legacy of this outstanding professional. [Courtesy of ADM](#)



SIEMENS SIGNS WITH DST GROUP AND QUT TO ADVANCE GAME-CHANGING INNOVATION

In a ceremony recently at the Pacific 2015 Maritime Exposition, Siemens signed a historic research agreement with DST Group and QUT to advance the use of High Temperature Superconductor (HTS) technologies in Australia.

The partnership will conduct research into HTS and explore its applications to Australia's maritime defence and industrial power requirements with the intent to transition research findings into technology that can be trialled.

HTS technologies under development today in superconducting motors, generators and magnets can carry high-density currents with virtually no loss and have the potential to reduce the size and weight of conventional motors by more than 30 per

cent.

Siemens Australia CEO, Jeff Connolly, said the unique partnership reinforces Siemens' proud legacy of Australian investment and exemplifies the benefits of defence knowledge transfer and strong bilateral relations between Australia and Germany.

"For the Australian Navy, this partnership opens a pathway to more energy-efficient ships and more effective capacity utilisation. They will also have less environmental impact and will be cheaper to operate," Connolly said.

With this partnership, Siemens is investing 15 years of HTS knowledge into Australia to develop the next generation of HTS experts. An initial investment value of approximately \$2 million in equipment and resources and \$0.5 million in research and development (R&D) hours has been committed, which will increase as new research and development projects are initiated under the collaboration.

Connolly said the partnership is aligned to the Federal Government's vision for the future of the domestic manufacturing sector to be increasingly based on local R&D. He said the application of HTS technologies is not limited to defence industries and could revolutionise other high energy-use sectors such as power and transport.

DST Group has strategic alliances with 12 defence companies and research agencies. They partner with 28 universities across Australia to deliver game-changing capability for the future of the Australian Defence Force and continue to seek opportunities to expand this network.

Chief Defence Scientist Dr. Alex Zelinsky said the partnership will focus on transitioning research to outcomes that can deal with real world problems, starting with its potential applications to defence.

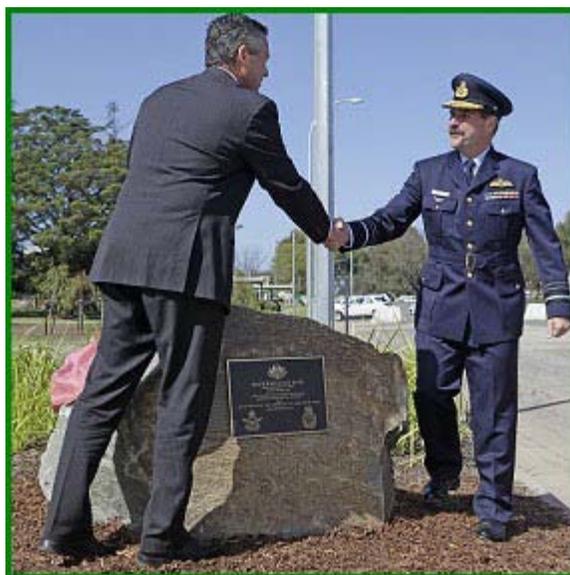
"This agreement is in line with our strategic goal to partner with the best talents in industry and academia to achieve a capability edge for defence," Zelinsky said.

QUT Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Commercialisation, Prof. Arun Sharma said the university was uniquely equipped to undertake this research and development because of its expertise and facilities, including the Banyo Pilot Plant Precinct, a leading specialist research centre for structural, mechanical and electrical engineering.

"QUT's purpose-built facility has specialist capabilities for large-scale engineering research, testing and validation," Sharma said.

"Our partnership with Siemens puts QUT at the international forefront of superconducting motor research, an area of research that has the potential to radically transform many industries including maritime propulsion and transport drive systems."

[Courtesy of ADM](#)



Assistant Minister for Defence Darren Chester and Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Leo Davies

RAAF BASE EAST SALE REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIALLY OPENS

The Assistant Minister for Defence Darren Chester and Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Leo Davies have officially opened the RAAF Base East Sale redevelopment.

Chester said that the day was an opportunity to celebrate the culmination of the past three years of the \$185 million construction project.

"With its former World War II-era buildings, RAAF Base East Sale was long overdue for new and upgraded facilities to meet both current and future training requirements," he said.

"This extensive redevelopment is also significant within the community for its considerable local economic benefits."

Chester toured the redevelopment, including new and refurbished accommodation for Air Force personnel, training facilities, commercial facilities including a café and post office, and an air-traffic control tower. The tour concluded at the new gym development with the official opening ceremony and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque.

AIRMSHL Davies said the new facilities would set up East Sale for future needs.

"RAAF Base East Sale is a significant base for our officer training, and is the location of several specialised flight-training schools," AIRMSHL Davies said.

"These new and improved facilities will serve Air Force and our dedicated men and women for many years to come." [Courtesy of ADM](#)

DSME SIGNS MOU WITH LOCAL PARTNERS FOR SEA 1654

DSME (Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering) sealed a partnership with BAE Systems Australia, BMT Defence Services, L-3 Communications and Saab with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony at the Pacific 2015 International Maritime Exposition in Sydney.

The MoU reinforces DSME's commitment to local participation in its tender response to the Sea 1654 Maritime Operational Support Capability Program. The proposal submitted includes a bespoke version of BMT's Aegir family of vessel designs, as well as a feasible, proven and cost effective strategy for the sustainment of the vessels.

AUSTRALIAN INNOVATORS RECOGNISED AT PACIFIC 2015

DMTC, an AIDN-Vic member, has now won awards at each of the past 3 Air, Land & Sea conferences. Congratulations.

Four Australian innovators, from a short list of 10 candidates, have been presented with Maritime Industry Innovation Awards at Pacific 2015, while a fifth has been judged 'Highly Commended'.

The winners include a new welding system for submarines and surface ships that will reduce the cost of construction and improve the quality; a new method of storing work and leisure craft above water level, to reduce corrosion and weed growth, while still leaving them in the water; an advanced hyperbaric chamber for rescued submariners that will prevent them developing the feared 'bends'; and a low-cost simulation system that has transformed the training of merchant marine deck officers, and can even be used as a virtual design tool for new ships and harbours.

The Innovation Awards, including two SME Innovation Grants worth \$10,000, were presented by Maritime Australia, organiser of the Pacific 2015 International Maritime Exposition.

The winners are:

- Defence Industry National Innovation Award – DMTC Limited (VIC)
- Civil Industry National Innovation Award – Air Berth Marketing Pty Limited (QLD)
- Defence Industry SME Innovation Grant – H.I. Fraser Pty Limited (NSW)
- Civil Industry SME Innovation Grant – Pivot Maritime International (TAS)
- Defence Industry National Innovation Award – High Commended – Aero medical Integration Pty Limited (QLD)

"Although the Australian government has encouraged greater industry innovation across all sectors, ours are the first national awards to recognise and reward the efforts and achievements of innovative Australian companies in the naval and maritime industry," Pacific 2015 CEO Ian Honnery said.

"Our purpose as a foundation is to promote the development of Australia's industry capacity in the fields of aerospace, defence, maritime and IT so we're putting our money – literally - where our mouth is," Honnery said.

"The fact that the awards have been won by such high-quality candidates speaks for the quality of the individuals, companies and organisations making up Australia's naval and maritime industry," he added. [Courtesy of ADM](#)

BABCOCK AND AMC TO DELIVER MARITIME TRAINING

Babcock International Group has signed an agreement with Australian Maritime College Search (AMCS) to jointly deliver specialist short courses in maritime studies.

Under the agreement, Babcock Training Academy (BTA) and AMCS will combine to offer high-end maritime short courses to students in areas including naval shipbuilding, ship design and complex naval systems. The AMCS/BTA team will help develop the next generation of defence and industry maritime project personnel, naval architects and designers to support the Australian NZ regional ship building & sustainment programmes.

AMCS is the commercial arm of the AMC and a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of Tasmania. AMCS is one of the Defence's key divisional suppliers and is responsible for tailoring training to meet industry needs. It delivers between five to 12 short courses per week, varying in length from one-day refresher courses through to longer 20-day block training sessions.

Recently launched in Australia, BTA already delivers courses in Canberra, Brisbane and Adelaide to students across subject areas including naval weapons systems, electronic warfare and engineering aspects of global positioning systems and will ramp up its activities to deliver between 20 and 30 courses by the end of 2015.

Babcock Australia and New Zealand CEO Craig Lockhart said the academy's core goal was to meet the naval sector's future skills requirements and teaming with AMCS would ensure quality content was delivered across Australia.

"Our agreement with AMCS presents students and industry with a compelling pathway into an exciting career in the maritime sector," Lockhart said. "The timing for these short courses could not be more advantageous for students as the industry is now the focus of enormous investment in Australia and overseas as governments seek to create a continuous naval shipbuilding capability."

AMCS CEO Dean Cook said the alliance provided an exciting opportunity to deliver Australia's largest range of maritime short courses into new markets.

"AMCS, in collaboration with Babcock Training Academy, is looking forward to working with industry to develop new training products to meet their training needs," Cook said. [Courtesy of ADM](#)

▶ DEFENCE INDUSTRY NEWS

AUSTRALIA, NORWAY SEAL JSM COLLABORATION PACT

Australia and Norway have entered an agreement to collaborate on the developmental Joint Strike Missile (JSM) for the Lockheed Martin F-35 fighter.

The deal will see BAE System Australia working with the Norwegian firm that developed JSM, Kongsberg Defence and Aerospace, confirms a spokesman at Australia's Department of Defence.

The weapon can engage targets on both land and sea, and can fit within the F-35's weapon bays, or be carried externally.

"The collaboration demonstrates one of the key benefits of being a partner in the global F-35 programme by providing an opportunity to work internationally on a weapons capability that is strategically important to both nations," adds the spokesman.

Australia and Norway have been in discussions for several years on the JSM. Oslo expects the weapon to reach operational readiness "in the early 2020s."



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE AIRBUS A330 MRTT REFUELS F-35 FIGHTER

An Airbus A330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (A330 MRTT) of the Royal Australian Air Force has successfully refuelled a F-35A Joint Strike Fighter of the US Air Force. During a four-hour sortie from Edwards AFB, California, the tanker, known in RAAF service as the KC-30A, conducted 59 contacts including five "wet contacts" during which 19,600kg (43,200lb) of fuel were passed. All the refuelling was performed using the A330MRTT's Airbus Airborne Refuelling Boom System (ARBS). The combat-proven A330 MRTT is the only new generation tanker/transport certified and in-service and the first to refuel the F-35A, underlining its full international interoperability with all Western front-line fighters

RHEINMETALL DELIVERS FIRST FLATRACKS TO NZ ARMY UNDER MHOV CONTRACT

Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles Australia (RMMVA) has delivered the first tranche of flatracks to the NZ Army as part of the company's Medium and Heavy Operational Vehicle fleet (MHOV) contract with the NZDF.

Each flatrack has been designed and manufactured by the Sea Box International, an Australian company which is also a key subcontractor to RMMVA for the supply of more than 2,000 heavy flatracks for the incoming Australian Army medium and heavy logistic military vehicle fleet.

Sea Box International is an Australian Systems Engineering company that designs and fabricates purpose-built flatracks and deployable facilities, shipping containers and derivatives. The company generates most of its business in the mining and gas industries in Australia.

RMMVA Managing Director Marco van Lieshout said he had been impressed by the quality of the products and professionalism of Sea Box International throughout the design and development phases for both the New Zealand and Australian programs.

"Sea Box International has developed an innovative and effective flatrack system which allows the user to store flatracks with a minimal footprint whilst retaining the full operational payload carrying capability of comparable products," van Lieshout said.

RMMVA was awarded the contract to supply the NZDF with 194 medium and heavy vehicles and specialist trailers in April 2013. The company delivered its final vehicle and trailer combination in June 2015.

In addition, the NZ MoD ordered the flatracks which will allow the NZ Army to rapidly transport and resupply its troops with logistic supplies such as weapons and ammunition, shelters and containers. [Courtesy of ADM](#)

ARMY INNOVATION DAY - ENHANCING HUMAN PERFORMANCE

The Second Annual Army Innovation Day (AID2015) took place at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra on Monday. On display for the gathered Army but also Navy and Air Force officers and industry personnel attending was a showcase of twenty-nine of the latest innovative technologies that could serve to boost the performance of the soldier in the field.

Industry presentations from twenty three industry groups showcased cutting edge technologies designed to enhance soldier performance – helping soldiers to out-think, out-perform and outlast an adversary. This included nutrition technologies, load-sharing equipment to reduce the weight burden carried by soldiers, physiological condition monitoring, 3D immersive and holographic simulation and land/air integration technology.

Head of Army Modernisation and Strategic Planning Major General Gus McLachlan, who was featured in ADM's From the Source article in September, opened the day saying that AID2015 was all about facilitating a closer, more regular relationship with industry and would help to inform Army, and indeed the other services, to understand what the human performance modernisation model would look like.

MAJGEN Gus McLachlan led by example at the event and was keen to try his hand engaging with "the enemy" in a 3D immersive simulation demonstrator. Credit: ADM Patrick Durrant.

MAJGEN Gus McLachlan led by example and was keen to try his hand engaging with "the enemy" in a 3D immersive simulation. Credit: ADM Patrick Durrant

McLachlan said he wanted to speed up the "flash to bang" time of the process at which new technologies were tested and delivered to the frontline troops and stated he was aiming to have some in service within twelve months. He also wanted to increase the number of such events to two or more per year.

The new Minister for Defence Materiel and Science Mal Brough and Chief Defence Scientist Dr Alex Zelinsky attended the event and toured the various industry stands.

"The Turnbull Government strongly supports maximising the opportunities for Australian industries to participate in defence acquisition and sustainment," Minister Brough said.

"In a global environment where the pace of technological change is rapid, innovative ideas and solutions are necessary to achieve the capability outcomes for our Defence Force." [Courtesy of ADM](#)

▶ GENERAL NEWS

PERSONNEL CHANGES

HAWKER PACIFIC in Australia has appointed Canberra based Doug Park as chief operating officer — Asia-Pacific.

ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUPS

Environmental Working Groups are administered through the Govdex website. Registrations for attendance, meeting agendas and useful environmental information such as Capability Development contact officers can be undertaken/sourced at this site.

For members who are not already members of the EWGs via Govdex please contact AIDN admin@aidn.org.au for assistance with registration.

Aerospace Environmental Working Group (AEWG)

The next AEWG will be held on Thursday 17 March 2016 in Canberra from 0900h till 1600h. This AEWG will focus on the 2015 Defence White Paper, Integrated Investment Programme, the progressive implementation of First Principles Review and Plan Jericho. More details will be provided on Govdex.

Land Environmental Working Group (LEWG)

The date for the next meeting of the LEWG will be advised when known. This is expected to be in the Sep-Nov 2015 timeframe when the DWP and FPR Implementation Plan are available.

Maritime Environmental Working Group (MEWG)

The MEWG Conference for 2015 was originally planned for 18 November 2015 however, due to the the SIA Conference in Adelaide scheduled during the same week it has been decided to move the MEWG Conference to Tuesday 01 December 2015 at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. Details of the MEWG Conference will be posted on the MEWG Govdex site when they become available.

C4ISREWG Environmental Working Group

The C4ISREWG Environmental Working Group meeting was conducted 09 September 2014 in Canberra. The date for the next meeting will be advised when known.

Synthetic Environmental Working Group (SEWG)

The next Defence hosted SEWG will be held on Friday 13 November 2015 at ANU in Canberra.

▶ UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MiICIS 2015

DATE: 10-12 November 2015,

TACTICAL DATA LINK
INTEROPERABILITY SUMMIT

New Zealand Defence Industry
Association Forum

Canberra

WEB: www.milcis.com.au

MilCIS is a unique opportunity for those investing in government and military communications and information systems.

The conference facilitates a continuing dialogue between Department of Defence employees, contractors, industry and researchers to discuss current and developing technological capabilities, project initiatives, and operational requirements.

Submarine Institute of Australia Technology Conference

DATE: 17-19 November, 2015, Adelaide Convention Centre

ORGANISER - David Nicholls (Executive Manager)

TEL: 0413 133 391

FAX 02 8076 3262

WEBSITE:

<http://www.submarineinstitute.com/sia-conferences>

Postal Submarine Institute of Australia, PO Box 180, Kippax ACT 2615

Over three days a wide range of issues will be addressed reflecting the theme of the Conference: The Future Submarine: Australia's greatest Science, Technology and Engineering Challenge? In a year where the Government has promised to select its design partner for the Future Submarine, the Conference acts as a pivotal week in the submarine calendar. The program includes tours of submarine-related industry and academic institutions, an Opening Reception and three days of high quality presentations from the cream of the submarine community.

For more details on overseas events please check the AIDN web site under Whats News/Defence Information.

DATE: 9 November 2015

The Tactical Information Exchange Integration Office (TIEIO), in conjunction with the Australian/New Zealand Chapter of the International Data Link Society (IDLSoc), is holding a Tactical Data Link (TDL) Interoperability Summit at the National Convention Centre Canberra (NCCC), from 0830 to 1700 on the 9th of November 2015.

Registration information: Delegate registration for the conference is via the TDL Summit Website at www.anzidsoc.com.au/TDL_Summit.php

Early bird registration closes 5 October 2015, to avoid disappointment visit the website to ensure you take advantage of the discounted conference fee.

Defence Human Sciences Symposium

Date: 23-24 November

Location: Melbourne

Organiser: Defence Science and Technology Group

Phone: 03 9626 7297

Email: dhss@dsto.defence.gov.au

Website: <https://dhss.net.au>

The Defence Human Sciences Symposium (DHSS) is the principal Australian forum for those interested in the application of human sciences research to enhance Defence capability. The rapid pace of scientific and technological progress means that future challenges for Defence must be anticipated now, rather than later. Emerging technologies and environments necessitate the evolution of new concepts and novel ways of doing business. The theme vadose 2015 is about positioning Human Sciences to enhance Defence capability for the future. Abstract submissions invited – due 25 September. Registrations close 9 November.

DATE: 17 – 18 November 2015

LOCATION: TSB Arena/Shed 6 complex, Wellington, New Zealand

CONTACT: contact@nzdia.co.nz

For more details on overseas events please check the AIDN web site under Whats News/Defence Information.

DMTC Annual Conference

Date: 16 and 17 March, 2016

Location: Shine Dome, Canberra.

The DMTC Annual Conference has become a key event in the defence calendar, providing the opportunity to learn about the latest advances in technologies and priority industry capabilities within the DMTC community. The conference will include keynote presentations by prominent Defence and industry guest speakers, synopses of the technical challenges facing the Army, Navy and Air Force and detailed technical presentations on the progress of DMTC projects.

The Gala Dinner will be held on the evening of 16 March at the Australian War Memorial and will include the presentation of the Awards for Excellence as well as a distinguished Guest Speaker.

Further details, including how to register, will be announced soon.

AIDN ACTIVITIES LIST FOR 2015

November	13	VDA-LS Alliance Network Event	AIDN-Vic
December	3	AIDN-NSW Christmas Function HarbourView Hotel	AIDN-NSW
	7	AIDN-Vic Special Awards Reception	AIDN-Vic
	8	AIDN National meeting Melbourne	AIDN

Contact your local AIDN Chapter for more info on the above activities:

AIDN National
Phone: 03.9885 0907
admin@aidn.org.au

AIDN-NT
Phone: 08 8999-6207
xo@aidnnt.com.au

AIDN-Tas
Phone: 03.9885 0907
admin@aidn.org.au

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winston.bucknall@gmail.com

AIDN-Qld
Phone: 041 222 7375
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AIDN-Vic
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Have you got a story or a news item to tell?

Anything from a recent success story to a new product or service, we want to hear about it.

Why? So we can tell all our Member Companies about it, and also the many other people with an interest in the defence, security and aerospace sector who receive the AIDN Newsletter.

Articles are to be limited in size and submitted by email to sue.smith@aidn.org.au. This is a free service to members.

CAN WE HELP YOU?

If you would like any further information or require any assistance with defence industry issues, please contact the AIDN office:

AIDN, PO Box 334, Ashburton Vic 3147,
Ph: 03.9885 0907

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