Greetings

AIDN-Vic membership continues to grow and we currently have 260 members.

AIDN-Vic has recently conducted a series of very successful networking events, with anywhere between 50 to 120 attendees on the following topics:

- LAND 400 Project Team - Industry Engagement
- EY Government Incentives Briefing
- Digital Alliance – Plan Jericho Briefing
- DCNS on ‘Next Steps’ with Project SEA 1000
- BAE Systems LAND 400 - Industry Engagement
- Australian Advanced Manufacturing – Toward Greater Competitiveness and Growth
- Thales Land 400 Industry Engagement Day
- PwC’s Defence Industry Briefing: the current and future international trade landscape
Planning is now underway for our major event for the year, the AIDN-Vic Defence Update and Golf day on Tuesday 25 October.

The Victorian Defence Alliances are continuing to recruit members for the Aerospace, Digital, Land Systems, Maritime and Submarines alliances. There have been a number of committee meetings for each of the Alliances and a number of networking events have been conducted over recently months and more are planned for August and September, including exhibiting at Land Forces.

The AIDN National Executive Committee met on Wednesday 27 July. The main topic for discussion was how does AIDN National better position itself to provide Advocacy for Australian Defence Industry SME’s in the heart of Canberra. Approval has been given by the AIDN National Committee to pursue possible options to deliver National Advocacy and over coming months the plan will be refined to attempt to deliver an outcome.

Regards
Stephen Harvey
AIDN-Vic President president@aidnvic.org.au

**SAVE THE DATE**

AIDN-Vic has already booked the Riversdale Golf Club for the annual Defence Update and Golf Day on Tuesday 25 October. So please put this date in your diaries while we develop an interesting program for you.

**AIDN-VIC MEMBER OFFER FROM MATTHEW FLINDERS HOTEL**

The Matthew Flinders Hotel is offering AIDN-Vic members $100 off the room hire when they mention they are part of AIDN-Vic.

Please contact Madeleine for more information:

Madeleine Cooper
Functions Manager
The Matthew Flinders Hotel
03 9568 8004
w -matthewflindershotel.com.au

**AIDN-VIC NEW MEMBERS**

AIDN-Vic welcomes the following 11 new members:

**All Sat Communications**

P I PLUS Pty Ltd trading as All Sat Communications was established in 2000. We specialise in Satellite Communications and our main focus is providing satellite communication safety products.

We can provide a safety solution for lone and remote workers or anyone who ventures into the outdoors.

We are Australian Distributors for:
- rescue ME range of products
- SPOT Gen 3
- Delorme in Reach
- RAM Mounts
- Seahorse Cases

We can also provide Iridium, Globalstar & Thuraya satellite phones to complete your satellite communications needs.
We can also offer satellite data solutions too. We have a solid background in distributing to retail stores, Government & corporate customers.

Our team is committed to providing excellent customer service and back up support for the products we sell.

Please Contact:
Ian Veitch
Director
Phone: 1300 747 587
Email: sales@allsat.com.au

AMAOERO
ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING

Amaero Engineering

Amaero Engineering is a world leader in Additive manufacturing in Aerospace and Defence. We have the ability to print larger form factor components in a range of materials.

We have the unique ability to develop new materials for our machines and have extensive experience with Defence Primes.

Please Contact:
Ben Batagol
Business Development Manager
Phone: 03 9905 3895
Email: Ben.batagol@amaero.com.au

Arrow Electronics Australia

Arrow Electronics Australia is a global provider of products, services and solutions to industrial and commercial users of electronic components and enterprise computing solutions. Arrow serves as a supply channel partner for more than 100,000 original equipment manufacturers, contract manufacturers and commercial customers through a global network of more than 460 locations serving over 85 countries.

A Fortune 150 company with 17,000 employees worldwide, Arrow brings technology solutions to a breadth of markets, including defence and aerospace, telecommunications, information systems, transportation, medical, industrial and consumer electronics.

Arrow provides specialized services and expertise across the product lifecycle. Arrow does this by connecting customers to the right technology at the right place at the right time and at the right price.

Please Contact:
Chris Tsernakis
Marketing Manager
Phone: 03 9737 4917
Email: Chris.tsernakis@arrowasia.com

Austest Laboratories

Austest Laboratories is an INDEPENDENT, product and component testing and certification company offering the most comprehensive and publicly available environmental, EMC and electrical product testing facilities in Australia and NZ.

Fully accredited Testing includes: Environmental product and component standards ranging from vibration and shock, temperature and humidity, UV, Ingress Protection for Dust and Water and corrosion, through to Electrical safety and EMC radio frequency emissions (up to 40GHz) and susceptibility (200V per metre to 18GHz).
C&L Sales & Services Pty Ltd

C&L Sales & Services Pty Ltd have been in the aviation refuelling, oil and petrochemical industry before 1994. We service and supply all major oil companies and into defence.

We distribute exclusively for Meggitt, PECOFacet, Gammon, Aljac and ISOIL. We have a large range of quality control equipment as well as refuelling equipment.

C&L work out of both Sydney and Melbourne airports.

Please Contact:
Nigel Wooster
Phone: 02 9667 0506
Email: sales@candl.org

Hydrix

Hydrix provides advanced engineering capabilities as a service to Clients who seek to develop, manufacture and deploy bespoke high-technology systems as turnkey solutions.

We have a team of over 65 systems and product design and development engineers with deep knowledge and experience in:

- System Requirements development, System Architecture and System Design for mission and safety critical applications, eg:
  - Development of (Tier I to Tier IV) system requirement traceability cost effectively within complex software programs.
  - ASDEFCON complex procurement programs/ Able to develop SEMP’s to the strongest of customer expectations when needed including DMO/CASG etc.
- Integration of Speciality Engineering (Safety/HF/ILS/RAMS/Security) with the maturity to take in such requirements from a large program and apply them to any sub-system development performed by Hydrix.
- Software testing and verification competencies.

We have a track record of delivering well documented, production ready product designs for rail, mining, scientific and medical device industries and can also take on supply of required.

Please contact:
Peter Lewis
Phone: 03 9550 8103
Email: peter.lewis@hydrix.com
McCullochs Hydraulics

McCullochs Hydraulics is a family owned business located in Bendigo Victoria in its 70th year of operation.

McCullochs specialise in the design, manufacture, supply and repair of hydraulic and pneumatic equipment to the following sectors: Defence, Transport, Food, Agriculture, Mining, Drilling and Construction.

We are currently supply components and Assembly's to Thales for the Bushmaster and Hawkei Vehicles.

Please contact:
Jeff McCulloch
Phone: 03 5445 6900
jeff@mccullochs.com.au
Radio Frequency Systems

RFS is a global designer and manufacturer of cable and antenna systems plus active and passive RF conditioning modules, providing total-package solutions for wireless infrastructure.

RFS serves OEMs, distributors, system integrators, operators and installers in the broadcast, wireless communications, land-mobile and microwave market sectors.

We provide RF Systems solutions for cell-based mobile communications, in-building, in-tunnels, television & radio, radio-link networks, LMR/PMR and HF & defence.

We are represented on six continents, with ten manufacturing centre-of-excellence (Germany, France, US, Brazil, Russia, China, Denmark, Mexico and Australia) and 36 technical support and sales offices.

As an ISO compliant organization with manufacturing and customer service facilities that span the globe, RFS offers cutting-edge engineering capabilities, superior field support and innovative product design.

Please Contact:
Jonathon Lyons
Business Development Manager – HF & Defence
Phone: 03 9751 8577
Email Jonathon.lyons@rfsworld.com

Rubicon Associates

Rubicon Associates is an international engineering and project management services company. We are built on our core values and provide a range of engineering advisory, and asset integrity management services to the oil and gas, commercial ship building and Defence industries worldwide.

We provide multi-disciplinary teams that can provide independent, concept-neutral and unbiased tender or project evaluation and support related to all types of naval platforms.

Though we are a very young company, the highly specialised knowledge of our employees along with their many years of industry experience, make Rubicon Associates a competitive business. Becoming a member of AIDN will open gateways into the industry and allow mutual benefit for fellow member’s growth along with ours.

Please Contact:
Goran Dubljevic
Phone: 0411 282 723
Email goran@rubiconassociates.biz
Sutton Tools

Sutton Tools is renowned for its high-quality cutting tools and power tool accessories for a wide range of specialised industrial applications and the hardware market. The majority of tools are produced in Australia across two manufacturing sites in Victoria, and overseas in company owned facilities in New Zealand, India and Europe.

Please Contact:
Jenny Racovalis
Phone: 03 9280 0837
Email jracovalis@sutton.com.au

Vappro Corrosion Control Australia Pty Ltd

Vappro Stands for Vapour-Phase-Protection, which is the foremost state-of-the-art technology in corrosion prevention available today. Vappro’s innovative VCI (Vapour Corrosion Inhibitor) technology has earned the recognition and confidence of its customers world-wide; ranging from the Armed Forces to the Oil and Gas industry. Vappro’s products conform to the U.S. Military specifications and are listed in NATO MCRL and manufactured under ISO9001 & ISO14001 certifications. The superior quality, integrity and cost-effectiveness of our products has earned the company several major long term contracts in the Military field around the world. Based in Melbourne, Vappro Australia is readily able to supply our products across Australia and New Zealand.

Please Contact:
Nigel Gordon
Phone 03 9558 2980
Email nigel@vappro.com.au

AIDN-VIC MEMBERS’ NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO CABLEX VICTORIAN MANUFACTURING HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

AIDN-Vic congratulates a long standing member, Cablex, on being inducted into the Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame on 9 June.

Founded in 1985, privately owned Cablex is a leading Australian manufacturer of custom cables assemblies, harness assemblies servicing the aerospace, defence, transportation, electronic and telecommunication industry sectors.

With AS9100C and ISO 9001:2008 quality accreditation Cablex is a vertically integrated company for both complex and standard cable solutions, with value-added integration, design support and onsite test.

Cablex has been successful in establishing and maintaining several ongoing long term global supplier and customer partnerships with over 30% per cent of the products being exported.

Today, Cablex has a proven track record, as a low risk, established local and global supply chain partner for companies such
as Airbus France, Airbus Military Spain, Alstom Australia, Thales Australia and The department of defence’s CASG. (Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group).

**TXM, FINALIST AT 2016 VICTORIAN MANUFACTURING HALL OF FAME**

AIDN-Vicalso congratulates TXM Lean Solutions on being selected as Finalists for the Professional Services Award at the 2016 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame. TXM was nominated by.

TXM Managing Director, Tim Mclean said that “reaching the Finalist stage at the 2016 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame clearly recognises TXM’s valuable contribution in working with companies to enable them to innovate and grow in the manufacturing sector in Victoria. Increasingly we are an international business working across industry in sectors such as Oil and Gas, Logistics and Industrial Services, however we are all manufacturing people and our heritage is in manufacturing. We are immensely proud of the contribution we have made to Victorian manufacturing and very grateful to the industry for the exciting and challenging careers it has provided us.”

TXM has worked for over a decade assisting hundreds of Victorian and Australian manufacturers large and small to improve their competitiveness using Lean thinking. TXM has assisted hundreds of manufacturers, large and small to increase productivity, reduce waste, improve customer service, increase flexibility and reorganise their factory layouts. Most importantly, TXM has helped unleash the potential of these businesses enabling them to innovate and grow. Several of TXM’s customers have doubled their sales following implementation of TXM Lean business processes. It has also helped develop a generation of Victorian Lean Leaders, both through coaching at the enterprise level as well as through the Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence programs we have presented for over five years in collaboration with Geelong Manufacturing Council and AIDN-Vic.

**NON-HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM-FREE CHEMICAL COAT CONVERSIONIS NOW SUPPORTED BY RUAG AUSTRALIA AT WINGFIELD.**

Combine improved corrosion protection and conductivity performance with your commitment to environmentally responsible standards.

**Reliable and repeatable processing**

Entirely chromium-free, this environmentally friendly method satisfies both your Corporate Social Responsibility and functional performance requirements. Excellent corrosion resistance with retained electrical conductivity are validated on aluminium components by in-house salt spray testing. Time-saving, as well, the exceptional 6737L tanks are 4.8m in length allowing for the simultaneous processing of multiple elements, even the racking together of parts of different shapes and sizes. The fully automated processing line ensures work is completed to your exacting specifications with precision and repeatability.

**Nearby and fully equipped**

Installed in April 2016, we expanded our range of metal surface finishing infrastructure and capabilities to feature Non-Hexavalent Chromium-Free Chemical Coat Conversion on your behalf.

Conveniently located at our facilities at Wingfield, South Australia, you enjoy immediate access to this new process, saving you time and investment.

**Turnkey finishing solutions**

Offering a complete in-house solution, RUAG Australia at Wingfield provides a full range of metal finishing capabilities, including Aluminium and Titanium Pre-Penetrant Etch, Stainless Steel Passivate, Sulphuric Acid Anodising, Titanium Pickling and Conversion Coating. Prime and paint, specialised masking and non-destructive testing can all be performed to demanding military standards. With five sites located in four states, RUAG Australia is proud to provide excellence in special processing, engineering, MRO and manufacturing across the country.
SENTIENT SECURES UAS SOFTWARE AGREEMENT WITH INSITU

Sentient Vision Systems has announced the signing of an exclusive global distribution agreement with Insitu for ViDAR (Visual Detection and Ranging) software for systems in the tactical unmanned aircraft system (UAS) weight class.

Insitu will incorporate the ViDAR payload into its fleet of unmanned systems, Sentient said in a statement, beginning with its Scan Eagle. The software is built into the Scan Eagle pay load by the Hood Technology Corporation.

“The inability to find objects on the ocean’s surface has placed a huge limitation on the utility of tactical UAS,” said Simon Olsen, Sentient director of business development, strategy and partnerships.

“ViDAR literally changes the game; fast boats, rubber rafts or even a person in the water - ViDAR finds them all - and does so at a fraction of the size and cost of existing technologies.” Courtesy Australian Defence Business Weekly

A field image of an Australian designed and manufactured AAI Aerosonde 4.7in operation with US Special Forces. PICTURE: US

AEROSONDE 4.7 WINS BIG US SPECIAL FORCES CONTRACT

The US Special Operations Command has awarded a US $ 35m contract to AAI Corporation to supply Aerosonde UAVs for a one-year indefinite-delivery/ indefinite quantity contract for mid endurance unmanned aircraft systems, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance services.

The services are to be provided worldwide, as specified in individual defence tasking orders.

Aerosonde 4.7 UAVs are built in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, but they have never been used by the Australian military.

The contract is for 12-months (as six-month base period with two, three-month options).

It is the latest in a series of the contracts awarded by the US military for the operation of Aerosonde UAVs. The US Department of Defence said that its sole source requirement with only one responsible source and no other supplies or services would satisfy agency requirements.

It explained that the contract is necessary to prevent interruption of ongoing services at multiple locations worldwide until a follow on contract can be competitively awarded. Source APDR

ADA HAS EVERY SOLDIER’S BACK

Victorian uniforms and associated equipment provider Australian Defence Apparel (ADA) has developed a universal adjustable backpack frame which has been supplied for use by the ADF.

ADA CEO Matt Graham said that Australian soldiers are carrying increasingly heavier loads on their backs during training and
operational exercises and his company was challenged by the ADF to come up with a new frame design.

“So it was time to design a universal backpack frame that could be quickly and easily adjusted to the soldier's back measurements, and keep our soldiers as safe and agile as possible.”

Graham told ADM that ergonomically, it was well known that weight is best carried between two very specific points in the spine. These two points will obviously vary dramatically depending on the specific person's height, build, and frame.

**QUICKSTEP MOVES INTO AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTION**

**Prime Minister visits Waurn Ponds**
The Prime Minister of Australia, Malcolm Turnbull, today visited Quickstep's Waurn Ponds facility in Victoria, to view the company’s new advanced composites manufacturing operations and to announce the Coalition Government’s commitment to a $20 million Jobs and Investment Package for the Geelong region.

David Marino, CEO and Managing Director of Quickstep said: “We are delighted to welcome the Prime Minister to our Waurn Ponds facility which is now in production supporting automotive contracts for Ford, Thales and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology. We have also begun collaborative projects with several multinational companies using our patented Qure and resin spray transfer (RST) technologies. Our global R&D centre is making great progress as we invest to raise Qure’s volume production rate.”

**Hawkei Light Protected Vehicle**
Quickstep has completed the first set of composite parts for Thales Australia’s Hawkei light protected vehicle using RST. Quickstep is the exclusive supplier of Hawkei bonnet, side skirts and mud guards. The company will deliver ten sets of parts - comprising more than 150 individual components - for testing by end-September 2016. Thales Australia will supply 1,100 Hawkei military vehicles and 1,000 trailers for the Australian government.

**Ford Falcon XR6 Sprint**
Quickstep has now manufactured 325 carbon fibre air intake ducts for the Ford Falcon XR6 Sprint sports car, and production is ongoing. The Falcon XR6 is the first mass-produced Ford passenger vehicle globally to have a carbon-fibre air intake duct factory-fitted.

**Development Projects**
Quickstep is engaged in development projects with several tier-1 industry suppliers including two leading vehicle manufacturers, a global aircraft manufacturer, and a French naval shipbuilding company (DCNS). These projects are co-funded by Quickstep and its collaboration partners and expected to lead to niche production contracts.

**Waurn Ponds Activity**
Quickstep’s automotive division has been supported by a grant of $1.76 million through the Geelong Region Innovation and Investment Fund (GRIIF), an initiative funded by the Federal and Victorian governments and Ford Australia. Relocation of Quickstep’s R&D Centre from Munich to Deakin University’s Waurn Ponds Campus in Geelong was supported by the state government of Victoria's investment promotion arm, Invest Victoria. Quickstep’s relationship with Deakin University spans many years and is supported by a long-term Strategic R&D and Education Agreement.

Quickstep’s R&D Centre supports industrialisation of the Qure process, which offers significant economic advantages to manufacturers compared to autoclave and oven curing. The process is being improved to facilitate development of Rapid Qure, which will offer a fully automated, high volume manufacturing system for the automotive industry.

**DEFENCE & SECURITY NEWS**

**RHEINMETALL AND BAE/PATRIA FOR LAND 400 PHASE 2**

Minster for Defence Industry Christopher Pyne recently released an update to the stalled Land 400 Phase 2 program while CASG chief Kim Gillis announced that both BAE/Patria and Rheinmetall have been down selected to take part in the Risk Mitigation Activity (RMA).

The program for Army’s Mounted Combat Reconnaissance Capability has completed the first stage of its industry solicitation, including the conduct of an open Request for Tender (RFT) and evaluation to finalise the now determined tenderers that will participate in the next stage – the RMA.

The program saw a three-month delay this year in order to look more closely at the Australian Industry Capability (AIC)
framework contained in the bids.

Deloitte ran the national roadshow that saw seminars in every capital city. The government has made it very clear to both the program office and industry that they are to maximise local content as much as possible.

According to the executive summary of the report (the full report will be released in the first week of August):

“A key feature of the DIPS is that Government will maximise opportunities for competitive Australian industries. While that principle is already explicit in the planning for the RMA, the Land 400 Program should identify more specific ways in which to give it practical effect including:

- A more concerted effort to identify those parts of Australian industry which are potentially internationally competitive in terms of supplying components of the Phase 2 capability or of supporting its sustainment and growth path.
- Investigation of means, through the DIPS initiatives, by which specific elements of Australian industry might improve their competitiveness and ability to contribute to the Phase 2 vehicle capability.
- Specific requirements within the RMA contract for tenderers to engage with Australian industry and develop costed options for enhanced levels of Australian industry participation in the acquisition, support and upgrade path for the vehicles and including potential access to their global supply chains.”

The program office is placing greater emphasis on the local contents as directed by government so that they “can make a considered, well-informed decision on the preferred combination of overseas and local contribution to the Phase 2 capability”.

Each option will include the requirement for a sovereign support capability:

“Indicatively, the options might include:

- A best price option for acquisition, regardless of the location of manufacture and assembly, with the capability supported and sustained in Australia;
- An option, similar to the best acquisition price option, but which includes the use of Australian components, in place of overseas sourced parts, which meet the required performance standards, or other Australian industry contributions to the fielding of the integrated vehicle system;
- An option that is an assembled in Australia option with Australian components, with the capability supported and sustained in Australia; and
- An option for a higher level of Australian industry engagement in the manufacture and through-life growth path of the vehicle, if the extensive industry engagement during RMA demonstrates that this is feasible with allow or minimal cost premium.”

ADM Comment: The Deloitte report in a nutshell: make it as locally as you can for the best price that you can. All of this comes as no surprise to those who have been following the program. This announcement just puts it more formally from the government rather than the program office. Did this really warrant a delay? No, no it didn’t. The timing was just off politically thanks to an election.

It is very welcome news that a down select has been made and ADM congratulates the two teams going forward. Of course the news is less great for the Thales/GD and Elbit/STK teams as they did not make the cut. But that is the nature of competition; there are winners and losers.

ADM will be keeping an eye on how the testing program comes together and what role local industry will play in Army’s largest program.  Courtesy of ADM
In the Productivity Commission’s (PC) annual Trade and Assistance Review, published on 25 July, the Commission has played down the benefits of a local build of submarines as well as the returns being made on significant investment in defence industry support programs.

The Priority and Strategic Industrial Capability policy dictates that certain designated ‘industrial capabilities’ must be resident in Australia. As the review stated on p.36, the basis for such a policy is that lack of availability of such capabilities would significantly undermine defence self-reliance and ADF operational capability.

But the PC said "the assistance delivered to defence industry through this ‘local preference’ policy is difficult to quantify because the counter factual is not observable – the local supply in the absence of a local procurement policy".

Assistance could be measured by the local cost premium (total cost of a local build in excess of the total cost of the same equipment sourced from other countries) "however, under current defence procurement disclosure decision making, the local cost premium for the same equipment is not publicly revealed, and the equipment built in Australia can vary from the alternative".

As a result the PC has not, for practical data reasons, included such assistance in the Commission’s core industry assistance estimates. It has called for transparency of the cost premiums, and pointed to ways to support transparency while respecting confidentiality (TAR 201213, pp. 29–31).

The PC also questioned the argument that technology and spillovers would add value to a local build by saying the effects of these were also very hard to quantify and prove. “Technology spillovers are more likely if high tech activities such as R&D are conducted in Australia. Local assembly of high tech defence components (developed overseas) is likely to yield less in the way of spillover benefits. "The PC said paying more for local builds, without sufficient strategic defence and spillover benefits to
offset the additional cost, diverts productive resources away from relatively more efficient uses.

The review also singled out the significant $1.6 billion expenditure outlined in this year’s Defence Industry Policy Statement, to be spent on the Centre for Defence Industry Capability ($230 million); the Next Generation Technologies Fund ($730 million) and a Defence Innovation Hub ($640 million). The programs had consolidated previous support initiatives but the PC said it was difficult to ascertain whether this represented an increase in expenditure as previous outlays had not been transparent.

“In light of the significant size of the budgetary assistance to the defence industry, and its role in delivering ADF capability, close attention to future evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of the revised industry support is paramount,” it said.

A 2016 Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) performance audit of the 11 principal defence industry support programs concluded that less than half had effective performance frameworks in place.

The review has been disputed by the Australian Industry Group and SA Government, namely SA Minister for Defence Industry Martin Hamilton-Smith, who queried the use of the hypothetical 30 per cent local build premium used by the PC in an example to illustrate the effective rate of assistance for a local build of submarines with locally supplied steel.

ADM Comment: While the figures used by the PC can be argued until we’re all blue in the face, what this review highlights is the fact there hasn’t been a great deal of transparency on just how, in economic terms, the nation will benefit from a local build. There’s been plenty of platitudes and rhetoric but in our opinion, no real substance, no hard data to support it.

A national ship building program has to be more than a jobs program. It needs to encourage STEM training at every age, innovation in adjacent industries and be able to measure performance in a tangible way.

Perhaps it is too early to be asking for hard data about performance but if none asks, it won’t happen. Consider the question asked of industry, government and Defence: how does Australia as a nation benefit, both in terms of social capital and pure economic terms, from a national ship building plan?

Perhaps something that the PC fails to take into account is the intangible benefits that Defence programs bring to the economy, and indeed, the wider Australian society.

That we CAN do these things. That we are able to compete at a global level for high technology programs. That we have the social capital needed to make it happen.

The tall poppy syndrome combined with the belief that overseas is always better or cheaper is just not true when all the value adds are taken into account. And these are hard to measure. Courtesy of ADM

FIRST RAAF F-35 SQUADRON CO NAMED

Australia’s first commanding officer of an F-35A Lightning II squadron has seen the F-35 up close for the first time at the Royal International Air Tattoo.

Wing Commander Darren Clare, who is currently posted to the UK to complete the Advanced Command and Staff Course, said that he is looking forward to commencing his appointment as commanding officer of 3 Squadron next year.

“I am incredibly proud and humbled to be selected to lead Number 3 Squadron when it receives our first F-35A into Australian service,” he said. “It is a big responsibility but one that I am excited to have.”

Chief of Air Force Air Marshal Leo Davies commented: "The aircraft will bring a new capability to the Royal Australian Air Force, and Darren will have a lot of responsibility to develop the tactics, techniques and procedures for the F-35A to the Australian context and ensure the F-35A is integrated into our fleet through Plan Jericho."

A KC-30A Multi Role Tanker Transport from 33 Squadron also visited the Royal International Air Tattoo, marking Air Force’s first appearance at the Air Tattoo since 2006, the organisers said.

AIRBUS H135 HELICOPTER DELIVERIES CONTINUE

The second and third Airbus Helicopters H135 helicopters destined for the Helicopter Aircrew Training System have arrived at Nowra, Navy Daily reported.

JP 9000 Phase 7 includes the acquisition of 15 H135 helicopters, formerly known as the EC135.

Navy Daily noted that the next stage of the project will deliver facilities late this year, ready for the first aircraft type conversions to commence next year and training validation ready for the first Royal Australian Navy and Australian Army students to start training in January 2018.
SAAB RECEIVES ANZAC COMBAT SYSTEM MAINTENANCE ORDER

Saab Australia has received its first maintenance order under a new Warship Asset Management Agreement (WAMA) signed with the federal government.

The $37 million agreement will see Saab maintaining the 9LV combat management system on the Anzac class frigates until December 2017.

WAMA is an asset management organisation responsible for seaworthiness and support infrastructure, Saab stated; under the agreement the company will support WAMA with ongoing engineering support services from Western Australia and South Australia.

“The agreement and this order reflect our highly successful and long-term commitment to the Anzac frigate and the Royal Australian Navy,” said Dean Rosenfield, managing director for Saab Australia.

“The Anzac frigates are the trusted workhorse of the Navy, and Saab has played a major role evolving the ships’ fighting capability over the last 20 years. We look forward to continuing our work with our local partners to ensure the Anzacs continue fulfilling Navy’s needs.”

Saab stated that its next-generation combat management system is set to build on the Anti-Ship Missile Defence (ASMD) upgrade to support the Future Frigates.

“Our proven commitment to innovation, continuous improvement, local production and support positions us well as the lead contender for the Future Frigates,” said Rosenfield.

UPGRADED PHALANX FOR LHDS IN 2018

Government approval has been received to install up to three Phalanx 20mm Close-In Weapon Systems (CIWS) on both of the RAN’s 27,500 tonne Canberra class Landing Helicopter Docks (LHDs).

Commodore Rob Elliott, Director General Surface Combatants and Aviation within Navy’s Strategic Command, told ADM that the number of mounts depended on final design and radar cross-section analysis and installation was unlikely to begin until 2018 at the earliest.

This is the anticipated date for the return from the US of the first of the RAN’s current inventory of 12 Phalanx mounts after being upgraded to the Block 1BBaseline 2 configuration.

Three Phalanx Block IB Baseline 1 mounts are already in Australia awaiting installation on the three under-construction Hobart class air warfare destroyers (AWDs).

Of nine Block 1A Baseline 0 mounts awaiting overhaul and upgrade to the Block 1B Baseline 2 standard, six are destined for the LHDs, one for the Land Ship Dock HMAS Choules, and one each for the two auxiliary oiler and replenishment vessels (AOR) ordered from Spanish shipbuilder Navantia in March 2016.

CDRE Elliott said the AWDs would be delivered fitted with Phalanx Block 1B Baseline 1. Upgraded Block 1B Baseline 2 mounts would be installed post-delivery.
The Block 1B Baseline 1 standard introduced a high-definition electro-optical (EO) channel to complement the Ku-band search and track radars, together with a separate video tracker to support surface mode tracking and fire-control generation.

The Block 1B Baseline 2 configuration introduced a digital hardware upgrade for the search and tracking radars that improves the short-range air radar picture. CDRE Elliott said two additional Block 1B Baseline 2 mounts would be procured at a later date as part of Project Sea 1654 (Maritime Operational Support Capability) to inform the self-defence capability requirements for the RAN’s Future Frigate program.

The decision to equip the LHDs with a higher level of CIWS capability has been long anticipated, given that the self-defence capabilities for these large and important assets are presently limited to four 25mm Typhoon remotely controlled weapon systems.

Whilst effective against asymmetric attack, the Typhoons are unlikely to be capable of dealing with any anti-ship guided missiles that penetrate the defensive screen thrown up by the LHDs’ escorts. Courtesy of ADM

Prefabricated accommodation fit out for Australian Navy ships assembled by Taylor Brothers Marine.
Credit: BrandTasmania.com

TAYLOR BROS MARINE TURNS 80

There aren’t too many family-owned defence businesses in Australia, especially one that can trace its lineage back to a Scottish sailor Will Taylor, transported to Van Diemen’s Land in 1834 for breaking into a pub and making off with a keg containing seven gallons of strongest whiskey.

This business is Taylor Bros Marine located on the Derwent River foreshores and this year celebrating its 80th birthday.

With a range of contracts, including $25 million and $15 million deals to manufacture and install accommodation into the three new air warfare destroyers, Taylor Bros is currently the state’s leading defence contractor.

Other work includes supplying and installing accommodation and equipment on the two Landing Helicopter Dock ships (LHDs), upgrading accommodation on HMAS Success, fitting out the interior of NZ’s two Offshore Patrol Vessels and upgrading accommodation on the now retired HMAS Kanimbla and HMAS Manoora.

Twice, the company has been contracted to scrub down and repaint US Nimitz class aircraft carriers while moored in the Derwent following their return from the Middle East. Each needed 2,500 litres of grey paint.

The company also outfits rigs and production platforms for the oil and gas industry and has even constructed modular accommodation for Davis Station in Antarctica.

With the ADF set to acquire 12 new submarines, nine new frigates and a dozen new offshore patrol vessels, Taylor Bros director Phillip Taylor sees plenty more defence opportunities in their future. “We are well-positioned to do outfitting for the OPVs and frigates. We have a good history in doing turn-key outfitting of ships. We do the whole turn-key arrangement from design detail to completion,” he said.

That includes crew accommodation cabins, including bunks and storage, wet areas, including ablutions, toilets and laundries, galleys, including benches and equipment, and crew messes.

Taylor said they had been talking to French ship builder DCNS, designer of Australia’s new subs. “They picked us and others out as a possible supplier and we are hoping to further to relationship soon,” he said.

Taylor said they did some small jobs for ASC on submarines and hope to increase this. “Hopefully we can prove our worth and get a relationship with DCNS. Ideally between subs and frigates, we will increase our presence in Adelaide,” he said.

Right now the company does around $16 million of defence business a year, with a permanent workforce of 60, rising to around 100 at contract peaks.
NAVANTIA SIGNS CONTRACT FOR PLATFORM-DESIGN SERVICES

Navantia has just signed a new contract with the Capability and Sustainment Group (CASG) for platform design services. This contract will allow Navantia Australia to provide services as engineering and technical assistance directly to the client (CASG) for the ALHDs and LLCs, which Navantia designed for Australia.

It is a very relevant agreement for Navantia Australia’s interests since it establishes a direct channel of provision of services with the Royal Australian Navy that will permit stronger relationships, as well as open new opportunities to provide services fundamentally from Australia.

FINAL SEAHAWK DELIVERED TO RAN

Lockheed Martin has delivered the 24th, and final, MH-60R SEAHAWK® helicopter to the U.S. Navy in support of the Navy’s Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). The milestone delivery took place during a July 27 ceremony at Lockheed Martin’s Owego, New York facility.

The event marked the official transfer of ownership of the final MH-60R SEAHAWK destined for the RAN from Lockheed Martin to the U.S. Navy. The ceremony was attended by officials from the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), the RAN and the Australian Embassy, as well as representatives from the Defence Contracting Management Agency, Sikorsky and Lockheed Martin.

GENERAL NEWS

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 last AEWG was held on Friday 29 April 2016 in Canberra. This AEWG focused 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. The date for the next meeting will be advised when known.

Land Environmental Working Group (LEWG)
The next meeting of the LEWG will be held on Monday 5 September 2016 in Adelaide, in conjunction with Land Forces Conference.

Maritime Environmental Working Group (MEWG)
The last MEWG was held on Friday 8 April 2016 in Canberra. The date for the next meeting will be advised when known.

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 last SEWG was held on Thursday 17 March 2016 in Canberra. The date for the next meeting will be advised when known.

CALLING ALL VICTORIANS TO TAKE2 FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

The Victorian Government recently launched TAKE2– a voluntary pledge program to take action on climate change and help reach the target of zero net emissions by 2050.

AIDN-Vic has joined the TAKE2 campaign as a founding partner. We have made our pledge and are committed to take action and help achieve this goal, especially via the AIDN-Vic members.
We want everyone to TAKE2 and pledge to take action on climate change to help keep the global temperature rise to under 2 degrees. Visit https://www.take2.vic.gov.au/ for more information.

**NZ APPROVES PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT TANKER**

The NZ Government has approved the purchase of a new naval tanker for the NZDF which will be ice-strengthened and winterised for operations in Antarctica, NZ Defence Minister Gerry Brownlee said.

The project will cost $NZ493 million and will support a full range of NZDF deployments, including maritime sustainment and humanitarian and disaster relief operations.

The vessel will be built by South Korean firm Hyundai Heavy Industries and is expected to be delivered in 2020. It replaces the 30-year-old tanker HMNZS Endeavour, which currently provides fuel to Royal New Zealand Navy and other partner nations’ ships and embarked helicopters, and supplies fuel and fresh water to support land operations.

“This vessel will be significantly larger and will be able to refuel two ships at a time while underway.”

Minister Brownlee says the new tanker will undertake a similar role.

“The Defence Force can’t operate without fuel, water, ammunition and other bulk goods, and the most effective way to deliver fuel to ships, aircraft and vehicles deployed overseas is by tanker.

“This vessel will be significantly larger and will be able to refuel two ships at a time while underway; carry and refuel [NZDF] helicopters; produce and store water; and store and transport bulk goods.

“The Government has also opted to include ice-strengthening and winterisation features, representing a very useful enhanced capability when compared to the current tanker.

“This will allow it to deliver fuel and other goods to support Scott Base and McMurdo Station during summer months once an icebreaker has cleared a path.

“It is important that New Zealand has a significant asset capable of supporting our presence in Antarctica and our interests in the Southern Ocean more generally.

“It will increase New Zealand’s contribution and help further demonstrate our long-term commitment to the Antarctic Joint Logistics Pool with the United States,” Minister Brownlee said.

The recently-released NZ Defence White Paper placed greater emphasis than previous White Papers on protection of Southern Ocean resources and supporting New Zealand’s civilian presence in Antarctica. HMNZS Endeavour is due to retire in 2018. [Courtesy of ADM](https://www.take2.vic.gov.au/)

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Organiser</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADM Defence Estate and Base Services Summit</strong></td>
<td>21 September 2016</td>
<td>QT Hotel, Canberra</td>
<td>Informa and ADM</td>
<td><a href="https://www.admevents.com.au">ADM Events – Defence Estate and Base Services Summit</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADM Northern Australia Defence Summit</strong></td>
<td>19-20 October 2016</td>
<td>Darwin Convention Centre</td>
<td>Informa and ADM</td>
<td><a href="https://www.admevents.com.au">ADM Events – Northern Australia Defence Summit</a></td>
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A broad range of conferences, symposia and forums will be conducted in conjunction with the Land Forces trade show. See the website for more details about the various programs and trade show details.
force posture initiatives, USMC bilateral exercises, engagement with regional partners, defence infrastructure and estate maintenance. The event will hear from ministers, defence officials, military commanders, industry leaders, prime contractors, defence SMEs, strategic analysts, academics and consultants.

**MiICIS 2016**
Date: 8-10 November 2016
Location: Canberra
Organiser: Consec
Phone: 02 6251 0675
Email: milcis@consec.com.au
Website: [MiICIS](#)

In November each year, the Defence Chief Information Officer Group (CIOG) partners with the University of New South Wales, Canberra and the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (IEEE) to present MiICIS. 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. We are now taking submissions for Paper Sessions, Update Sessions and Tutorial Sessions. For Product Sessions, Breakfast Sessions and Lunch Sessions see website.

**SIA 8th Biennial Conference 2016**
Date: 14-16 November 2016
Location: Shine Dome, Canberra
Web: [SIA Conferences](#)

The 8th SIA Biennial Conference will address issues that reflect the theme of the Conference: From Collins to the Future Submarine – The challenge of Sustaining an Effective Submarine Capability. In a year where the Government has selected DCNS as its design partner for the Future Submarine, the Conference acts as a pivotal week in the submarine calendar. The program includes an Opening Reception, a Conference Dinner and two days of high quality presentations from the cream of the submarine community. Click here to download the Call for Papers for the 8th SIA Biennial Conference 2016.

**NZ DIA Annual Forum 2016**
Date: 16-17 November 2016
Location: Viaduct Basin Events Centre
Website: [NZ DIA](#)
Email: contact@nzdia.co.nz

The NZ Defence Industry Association organises a Forum in November each year which brings together people from the New Zealand and international defence and industry communities. Its major emphasis is on networking, and encouraging the membership to work together on developing joint approaches to defence projects in NZ and overseas. The Forum will be held in the Viaduct Basin Events Centre, Auckland, to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Royal New Zealand Navy. There will be the usual celebrations and a multi-nation Fleet Review.

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

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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@aidnvic.org.au](mailto:sue.smith@aidnvic.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:

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ABN: 28 597 845 793
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<td>Would you like to assist yourself and AIDN-Vic by advertising in the newsletter? The newsletter is circulated to more than 800 defence related companies in Australia, as well as Overseas Associations and key CASG decision makers. Advertisements of one column wide by half a column long can be booked at <strong>$185+GST</strong> per issue for members. Please contact Sue Smith to book your advertisement. We will continue to print newsworthy information for free under Members' News.</td>
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