



# Season's Greetings



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Upon reflection, 2024 has been an incredible year of collaboration and progress as Defence has partnered with Industry to strengthen our commitment to Australia's defence capabilities and sovereign industry.

In 2025, our priority will be the continuing implementation of the **Defence Industry Development Strategy (DIDS)**, setting the direction for deeper alignment between Defence and industry, as part of the **National Defence Strategy** and the **Integrated Investment Program**. We will continue to focus on making engagement easier, being more transparent, and inclusive.

For Industry Engagement Division, a key milestone has been the standup, strengthening current and establishing new teams that support small and medium enterprises. This will remain my priority as we continue to work together in the New Year.

Thank you again for your contributions to our shared mission. Wishing you and your families a joyful Christmas, a well-earned break, and a great start to 2025. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you all in the New Year.

*Michael Howell*

First Assistant Secretary  
 Industry Engagement Division  
 Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group  
 Department of Defence



## The Career Network Defence Industry Internship Program

The Career Network is **seeking immediate expressions of interest** from SMEs for the Commonwealth-funded Defence Industry Internship Program. An initiative of the Department of Defence, DIIP offers SMEs the opportunity to engage our motivated third and fourth year engineering or technology students in a 12-week paid internship. SMEs receive intern wage reimbursement plus an additional \$547 per week per intern.

## Register Now 2025 NQL Culture and Leadership Breakfast

The 2025 Northern Queensland Legacy (NQL) Culture and Leadership breakfast aims to foster leadership, raise essential funds and unite the community to honour the sacrifices of ADF members, veterans and their families.

Keynote speaker Quentin Masson DSM, a decorated Special Forces veteran and corporate leader with over 20 years of experience will share his insights on leadership. The breakfast will also commemorate VP80, Townsville's garrison history, and will showcase NQL's work in supporting veterans' families.

Interested in being a sponsor? Please contact [ceo@nqllegacy.com.au](mailto:ceo@nqllegacy.com.au).

**REGISTER NOW**



## Strategic Projects Request for Proposal

ASCA has released a Request for Proposal for strategic projects to be delivered through the Emerging and Disruptive Technologies program for the capability effect of Decision Advantage. Submissions close 2pm (AEDT), 24 January 2025.

## Tax benefits and business support

The Early Stage Venture Capital Limited Partnerships provides fund managers and investors with support to help stimulate early stage venture capital investments. The program offers tax benefits to fund managers and investors, and connects investors with early stage businesses. The aim of the program is to help Australian businesses grow by receiving financial support and guidance from expert advisers.

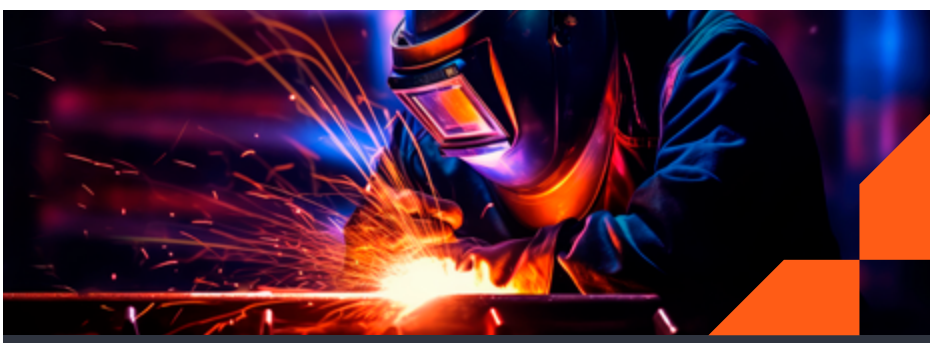
Are you a fund manager or investor?

## AIC Practitioner Course for 2025

The AIC Practitioner Course dates have been released for 2025. The course aims to increase knowledge and skills in AIC procurement planning, implementation and management during contract delivery. Key areas covered include:

- **AIC Policy Framework**
- **Procurement Planning**
- **Tender Evaluation**
- **Contract Management.**

The course is flexibly offered virtually as well as in-class settings across Australia. For further details about the course and enrollment, contact [aic.training@defence.gov.au](mailto:aic.training@defence.gov.au)



## AUKUS News Delivering Continuous Naval Shipbuilding Programs



On 16 October 2024 the Australian Government announced a partnership with the Western Australian Government to plan for the development of the Henderson Defence Precinct in Western Australia.

An initial investment of \$127 million over three years has been committed to progress planning, consultations, preliminary design and feasibility studies as well as preparation of enabling works for the precinct.

Transforming the precinct will be one of Defence's largest ever infrastructure projects, estimated to cost billions of dollars over the coming two decades.

The new Defence Precinct will support the build of Army's landing craft, Navy's enhanced lethality surface combatant fleet, as well as the sustainment of our future conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines.

Activities at Henderson will diversify the Western Australian economy, boosting industries in the region, including in engineering, logistics and the supply chain, and creating thousands of jobs over the next two decades.



## Defence and Industry Study Course (DISC)

Congratulations to the 2024 Defence and Industry Study Course cohort who have graduated this December 2024. The 58 participants, made up of 25 Defence personnel and 33 industry representatives, leave the program with valuable experiences, unforgettable memories and mateship.

DISC took participants to 13 Defence bases, and they heard from around 100 speakers from the Defence and industry sector over the course of the year. Participants suggested their 'highlights were visiting the testing facilities at Monegeetta, the honest and insightful presentations from speakers such as MAJGEN Jason Blain and the impressive manufacturing facilities at Hofmann Engineering in Perth'.

Participants experienced life on a Defence base with overnight stays at both Puckapunyal and HMAS Creswell, as well as visits to RAAF Amberley, Osborne and Henderson where they were able to witness Defence capability first hand.

Well done to DISC Graduates of 2024. DISC 2025 nominations will open in January 2025.

### Industry Resources



#### AusTender

**AusTender** is free to use. Use it to find Australian Government business opportunities, annual procurement plans and contracts awarded.

#### ICN Gateway

Australia and New Zealand's largest network of suppliers and projects. Join **ICN Gateway**.

#### BenchOn

With one free profile, access opportunities with government agencies and Primes through **BenchOn Industry Portals**. One platform. Many insights.

#### Defence Business Readiness Tool

Through a series of questions, **Defence Business Readiness Tool** will help businesses assess their level of defence readiness.

#### Defence Industry Links

LATEST MEDIA RELEASES



INDUSTRY NEWS



TRAINING AND EVENTS



## We'd love to hear from you!

Tell us more about your interests so that we can tailor content to meet your needs.

## Subscription and communications

Subscribe to the Industry Engagement Update and be the first to know about releases and industry news and insights, or manage your existing communication preferences.



### Industry Events



#### Team Defence Australia Events Calendar

Team Defence Australia is the premier national platform for export capable Australian defence and dual-use companies to showcase their goods, services, technology and solutions at international trade events.

#### Sea Air Space

**Location:** Washington DC, USA  
**Date:** 6-9 April 2025  
**Domain:** Maritime/Air/Space  
**EOI closes:** 22 December 2024

#### SOF Week

**Location:** Tampa, USA  
**Date:** 5-8 May 2025  
**Domain:** Special Operations  
**EOI closes:** 9 February 2025

#### LIMA

**Location:** Langkawi Malaysia  
**Date:** 20-24 May 2025  
**Domain:** Maritime/Aerospace  
**EOI closes:** 23 February 2025

#### DSEI Japan

**Location:** Tokyo, Japan  
**Date:** 21-23 May 2025  
**Domain:** Tri Service  
**EOI closes:** 23 February 2025

Companies must register on **ICN Gateway** to submit expressions of interest.

