

DEFENCE SA QUARTERLY UPDATE

December 2009

Dear Colleagues

The Defence SA Advisory Board was delighted to last week launch its major discussion paper - *Naval Shipbuilding: Australia's \$250 Billion Nation Building Opportunity* - detailing how the Commonwealth Government's massive forward investment in naval shipbuilding and sustainment can further underpin and strengthen a nation building industry.

This industry has the potential to provide cost effective capability to defence, long-term jobs growth across the nation and the establishment of a sustainable high technology skills base that could flow through to other critical national industries such as mining, advanced manufacturing and ICT over the next 30 years.

The innovative concepts and technical suggestions proposed in the paper reflect a pragmatic approach to achieving savings under Defence's Strategic Reform Program while delivering world class national shipbuilding capability at value. I commend the paper to you and encourage you to contribute to this important discussion. Equally I am happy to receive your feedback directly so that I might represent your views in the course of the debate.

Other highlights this quarter include:

- launch of the industry-led *Defence Industry Workforce Action Plan*, coordinated by the Defence Teaming Centre and aimed at ensuring South Australia's growing defence industry is underpinned by a skilled and adaptable workforce
- successful transition of Technology Park Adelaide into the Defence SA portfolio and the commencement of long-term strategic planning for precinct
- construction of Techport Australia Common User Facility is near completion and will be officially launched by the Premier on 15 February 2010
- opening of defence giant Lockheed Martin Australia's Electronic Systems business at Technology Park Adelaide, which supports the company's electronic business in Australia and operates as the headquarters for its maritime programs, and
- a number of South Australian companies have secured significant contracts in the last quarter – congratulations to Levett Engineering (machined components for Joint Strike Fighter project), Ottoway Engineering (pipe fabrication for AWD project), BAE Systems (upgrade of Air Defence Simulator at Woodside Barracks) and Raytheon Australia (aircraft maintenance support for the Aersospace Operation Support Group).

Please call me on 08 8463 7144 if you need further information on our activities. Best wishes from the [Defence SA](#) team for an enjoyable, relaxed and safe festive season.

Best regards



Andrew Fletcher
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Defence SA

Level 4, 151 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000 Australia
T: +61 8 8463 7140 F: +61 8 8463 7150
enquiries@defencesa.com [defencesa.com](#)



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