SOUTH AUSTRALIA
THE DEFENCE STATE
WHEN YOU'RE WELL EQUIPPED, WELL PREPARED AND WELL SITUATED YOU'RE IN THE BEST STATE TO DEFEND.

AND THE BEST STATE IS SOUTH AUSTRALIA – THE DEFENCE STATE.

THE BEST STATE FOR DEFENCE

South Australia is serious about defence. It’s a key sector for this state, creating long-term employment, attracting significant investment and driving innovation. South Australia is home to a critical mass of world-class industry delivering many of Defence’s largest and most complex projects, as well as Australia’s largest and most complex defence projects. Over recent years South Australia has cemented its position as Australia’s Defence State, with achievements such as:

- the Air Warfare Destroyer project hitting peak production, with over 1,800 people directly working on the project at Techport Australia.
- a large increase in permanent Army personnel and their families, with the successful establishment of the 1300-stong Adelaide based element of 1 Brigade.
- establishment of Australia’s most advanced titanium manufacturing and processing capability, in partnership with BAE Systems Australia and RUAG Aviation, in support of the Joint Strike Fighter project.
- securing the future submarine project for South Australia, the largest and most complex defence project ever undertaken in Australia.
- securing Australia’s aircraft maritime patrol capability at RAAF Base Edinburgh, future home to Australia’s new P-8 Poseidon aircraft and Triton unmanned aerial vehicles.

However, we do not intend to rest on our laurels. We will continue to leverage strengths in naval shipbuilding and sustainment, aircraft support and component manufacture, military vehicle manufacture and support, electronic warfare and systems integration to drive sustainable Defence industry growth and attract additional Defence activity to South Australia.

With our world-class infrastructure, robust defence industry and critical mass of highly skilled workers, South Australia is well placed and remains strongly committed to supporting the Australian Defence Force to defend Australia and its national interests.
CAPABLE AND EXPERIENCED INDUSTRY

South Australian industry has proven capability and experience, delivering many of Australia’s largest and most complex defence projects. It consistently captures around a quarter of Defence’s in-country acquisition and sustainment spend.

The state is home to headquarters or significant operations of a number of major defence companies including ASC, BAE Systems Australia, Lockheed Martin Australia, Raytheon Australia, Saab Systems, Babcock, Cobham, Ultra Electronics and Nova Systems.

South Australia also has a strong core of specialist SMEs providing goods and services directly to Defence, as well as delivering into the supply chains of prime contractors in Australia and around the world.

South Australia is committed to expanding its defence industry capability to drive long-term sector growth, with particular focus on existing strengths in:

- naval shipbuilding and sustainment
- maritime patrol aircraft operation and support
- unmanned aerial systems
- military vehicle manufacture and support
- systems engineering and integration

In addition South Australia is pursuing emerging industry opportunities in cyber security, composite manufacturing, modelling and simulation.

NAVAL SHIPBUILDING AND SUSTAINMENT

South Australia is the undisputed centre of Australia’s naval shipbuilding capability, with a 25 year history of building modern, complex submarines and warships.

Between 1987 and 2003 ASC built Australia’s Fleet of Collins class submarines in Adelaide, and is now providing design enhancements, maintenance and support to the fleet from its Techport Australia facility.

Also headquartered in South Australia, the $8 billion Air Warfare Destroyer project is the most complex ship construction programme undertaken in Australia. The AWD Alliance (incorporating Defence Materiel Organisation, ASC and Raytheon Australia) is responsible for delivering three Hobart class destroyers to the Royal Australian Navy from 2016. Consolidation of the first ship is complete and work on the combat system load out is underway in the lead up to launch. Consolidation work is progressing on the second and third ships.

South Australia has a world-class maritime industry base and highly skilled workforce, with expertise across the full spectrum of naval shipbuilding activities from systems engineering and integration to hull fabrication.

The Australian Government’s commitment to centre the Future Submarine project at Techport Australia is testament to our resident capability and cements South Australia as the centre of Australia’s naval shipbuilding capability.

A major national undertaking, the Future Submarine project is of a size, scale, complexity and duration never before experienced in Australia’s defence sector. It is a truly national project that will require collaboration across all levels of government, industry and academia.

The Future Submarine project will provide unprecedented opportunity, creating long term jobs for South Australians and indeed the nation for decades to come. It will underpin the state’s advanced manufacturing strategy using cutting edge technology and innovative manufacturing practices.

South Australia is well placed to play a leading role in other major naval shipbuilding projects including future hygiene and Collins submarine service life extension program.
South Australia is the hub of Australia’s maritime patrol capability.

For over 40 years the Royal Australian Air Force’s AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft have been based at RAAF Base Edinburgh. Through a $1 billion, multi-year contract, BAE Systems Australia and Airbus Group Australia (formerly Australian Aerospace) provide capability upgrades and support for these aircraft through to the end of their service life in 2019.

For more than ten years Raytheon Australia has provided support to the avionics equipment on the AP-3C Orion. Raytheon Australia also provides support and non-standard modification services to the Aerospace Operational Support Group at RAAF Base Edinburgh. AOSG is responsible for testing and trialing Air Force and Army aircraft including Pilatus PC-9/A, F/A-18 Hornet, S-70A Blackhawk, NH-90 multirole helicopter, Tiger Attack helicopter, C-130 Hercules, KC30 Multirole Tanker Transport, E7A Wedgetail and the AP-3C Orion.

The Australian Government has approved acquisition of eight P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft to replace the AP-3C fleet. Based at RAAF Base Edinburgh, the first of the new aircraft will enter service in 2017, and provide long-term support opportunities for local industry. The approval also flagged consideration for a further four P-8As which might be acquired early in the 2020s.

From its Adelaide headquarters, Cobham Aviation has been supporting maritime surveillance aircraft for the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service since 1995. Under the $1 billion Project Sentinel contract, Cobham supplied and now operates a fleet of highly modified, fully electronic Dash 8 surveillance aircraft. The program is the world’s largest civil/operational surveillance operation.

South Australia is working hard to increase local industry involvement in the global supply chains of major aircraft manufacturers. The state supported BAE Systems Australia and RUAG Aviation to establish Australia’s most advanced titanium manufacturing and processing facility in Adelaide to deliver vertical tail fins for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program. This world-class capability is a national asset opening up a raft of new opportunities in aviation and commercial industries as well as future defence projects.

MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

Triton unmanned aerial vehicle
ARMOURED FIGHTING VEHICLE MANUFACTURE AND SUPPORT

South Australia has a well established reputation as one of Australia’s leading armoured fighting vehicle manufacturing and sustainment hubs. In the past ten years, South Australian defence primes have been heavily involved in the manufacture, maintenance and modification of military vehicles, supported by a strong local supply chain and highly skilled workforce.

BAE Systems Australia was prime contractor for the M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier upgrade project, delivering overall project management, engineering and logistics support, as well as vehicle manufacturing from its Adelaide facilities.

Also from South Australia, General Dynamics Land Systems - Australia has undertaken final assembly of Army’s Australian Light Armoured Vehicle, and exported complete LAV turrets to overseas markets. They are also providing heavy grade repair, sustainment and upgrade services for Australia’s Light Armoured Vehicle, M1A1 Abrams main battle tank and M88 Hercules tank recovery vehicles.

With its strong industry capability, South Australia is well placed to play a major role in Defence’s $10+ billion Land Combat Vehicle Systems project (Land 400). The state stands ready to support Defence and industry with strategic infrastructure and the skills necessary to ensure successful delivery of the project in South Australia.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS

The Australian Government has committed to the acquisition of up to seven of the highly-capable MQ-4C Triton unmanned aerial vehicles from Northrop Grumman, subject to successful completion of the US Navy development program currently under way. Based at RAAF Base Darwin, the Tritons will provide Defence with unprecedented maritime surveillance capabilities, operating at altitudes up to 55,000 feet over extremely long ranges while remaining airborne for up to 33 hours.

Australian Light Armoured Vehicle

Based at RAAF Base Edinburgh, the Tritons will provide Defence with unprecedented maritime surveillance capabilities, operating at altitudes up to 55,000 feet over extremely long ranges while remaining airborne for up to 33 hours.

South Australia is pursuing early establishment of the ground control station for these aircraft to control their flight and operations, as well as process, evaluate and disseminate the surveillance data collected.

Basing these systems in South Australia provides opportunity to support and maintain the aircraft, as well as create a centre of excellence in unmanned aerial systems technology, bringing together world-leading companies, universities and defence organisations focused on maximising this new capability. Unmanned aerial systems will play an increasingly important role in the defence force and have potential applications across a wide range of commercial operations.

SYSTEMS ENGINEERING AND INTEGRATION

As the nation’s centre of military systems engineering and integration, South Australia has a proven track record of solving complex problems. South Australia is home to a diverse and highly skilled industry base of prime contractors and SMEs delivering solutions for a range of major defence projects, as well as DSTO divisions involved in military systems research and development.

Raytheon Australia is the combat system integrator for the Collins submarine replacement combat system and the Australian Aegis Combat System for the Hobart air warfare destroyers. Saab Systems is the combat system integrator for the LHD and ANZAC destroyers, including for the anti-ship missile defence project.

South Australia is the national headquarters for the Data to Decisions Cooperative Research Centre, focused on big data. Combined with resident Defence capabilities in DSTO, the Joint Electronic Warfare Operational Support Unit and South Australia’s industry expertise, the CRC will drive new technologies and capabilities for data-intensive military systems like unmanned aerial vehicles.
HIGHLY SKILLED WORKFORCE

COMMITMENT BACKED BY INVESTMENT

South Australia has a long-term, strategic focus on defence industry skills development to support the fast-paced growth of our defence sector.

In partnership with the Australian Government, Defence, industry and the education and training sector, the State Government continues to invest heavily in workforce development to deliver a pipeline of highly skilled workers to the state’s defence sector.

Major initiatives include:
- Industry-led defence skills road map
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Skills Strategy for South Australia
- Skills for All – strategic direction for vocational education and training
- Innovative STEM and defence career pathways programs such as Advanced Technology Industry School Pathways Program and Concept2Creation program
- Range of new undergraduate and postgraduate defence-specific courses at South Australian universities
- Establishment of specialist high schools: defence, maritime, advanced manufacturing and STEM
- Establishment of a Maritime Skills Centre at Techport Australia, delivering trade and technical skills required for the air warfare destroyer and future naval projects
- Establishment of international satellites for the world-renowned Carnegie Mellon University, Royal Institution Australia and University College London
- Defence honours scholarship program developing high calibre graduates for defence industry.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA’S HIGHLY SKILLED AND EXPERIENCED WORKFORCE IS UNDERPINNED BY A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEM.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

To meet defence industry skilling needs, the State Government and industry are working collaboratively to retain and upskill existing defence industry workers, and attract and reskill workers transitioning from other sectors.

South Australia’s defence industry has a proven track record of working closely with the Defence Training Centre to capitalise on industry training opportunities, with state funds secured to upskill over 1,600 defence industry workers in recent years.

South Australia has developed highly targeted workforce development programs in direct response to industry needs, namely the South Australian Defence Industry Leadership Program designed to develop emerging defence industry leaders, and the Women Influencing Defence and Resource Industries Program focused on attracting and retaining women in defence industry.

In addition, the state is proactively promoting defence industry careers in its national and international defence and migration attraction campaigns, to attract world-class skills to South Australia.

RESPONSIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTOR

The state’s established universities: University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and Flinders University, underpin South Australia’s defence training capability. Working closely with the defence sector, they are highly equipped to train industry needs. A range of postgraduate and undergraduate programs have been established over recent years to meet the demand for skills in marine engineering, naval and aerospace, robotics, electronics, defence signal information processing and military systems integration and support.

The state’s defence education capacity is enhanced by specialist course offerings from Carnegie Mellon University’s Asia Pacific Software Engineering Institute (headquartered in Adelaide). TAFE SA, South Australia’s largest vocational education training provider, has a proven track record of working with defence industry to develop customised training and defence-specific apprenticeship courses. The State Government has invested in a dedicated TAFE centre of training excellence for the mining, engineering, defence and transport industries.
LOCATION MATTERS

Adelaide is home to three dedicated defence industry precincts: Techport Australia, Technology Park Adelaide and Edinburgh Defence Precinct. Housing clusters of innovative defence companies with a critical mass of defence expertise, they are the ideal location for companies operating in the defence sector.

Fostering unique collaboration opportunities, each precinct is close to core Defence facilities, home to major Defence projects and incorporate specialised infrastructure.

TECHPORT AUSTRALIA

Techport Australia is the centre of naval shipbuilding in Australia, home to Australia’s two largest naval projects - sustainment of the Collins class submarine fleet and construction of the Hobart class air warfare destroyers. The South Australian Government has invested over $300 million to develop this world-class maritime industrial precinct including common-user shipbuilding infrastructure, a dedicated supplier precinct, commercial campus and onsite training centre. The precinct is home to some of Australia’s leading maritime companies including anchor tenant ASC, Raytheon Australia, Babcock, Pacific Marine Defence and Ferrocut.

The Australian Government’s commitment to centre the Future Submarine project in Adelaide and establish the Submarine Land Based Test Facility at Techport Australia affirms South Australia’s position as the nation’s centre of naval shipbuilding expertise.

Techport Australia is the logical location for any company pursuing opportunities in current and future naval shipbuilding projects. Located at Osborne, 25km north-west of Adelaide, a limited number of prime industrial allotments are available for immediate development.
EDINBURGH DEFENCE PRECINCT

Edinburgh Defence Precinct is a key national defence research, manufacturing and sustainment hub housing RAAF Base Edinburgh, DSTO and major defence companies including BAE Systems Australia, Lockheed Martin Australia and Airbus Group Australia (formerly Australian Aerospace).

Located 25km north of Adelaide, Edinburgh Defence Precinct forms a significant part of the 650 hectare Edinburgh Parks Industrial Estate, offering convenient access to major transport routes with links to the national highway network, port facilities and Adelaide-Darwin rail line.

Ideally suited to defence manufacturing companies, a wide range of fully serviced large alternates are ready for immediate development.

TECHNOLOGY PARK ADELAIDE

Technology Park Adelaide is South Australia’s high-end technology precinct with a strong focus on systems development and integration, information communication technology, and advanced manufacturing and electronics. Home to over 80 companies ranging from global organisations, such as Raytheon Australia, Lockheed Martin Australia, Thales and Saab Systems, to established SMEs and one-person start-ups, Technology Park Adelaide has a critical mass of technology expertise.

The State Government has established a Secure Electronic Common User Facility in the precinct to support engineering and research activities, including modelling and simulation of complex networks.

The ideal location for established and emerging technology companies, Technology Park Adelaide is 12km north of Adelaide and offers a range of virtual, serviced and long-term office solutions to suit businesses of any size, and fully serviced commercial lots ready for immediate development.

With a dedicated concierge team supporting tenants and an onsite conference centre, Technology Park Adelaide provides a thriving environment for business collaboration.
RAAF Base Edinburgh

RAAF Base Edinburgh, 25km north of Adelaide, is home to 3500 personnel from Air Force, Army and the Defence Materiel Organisation as well as key industry players including BAE Systems Australia, Raytheon Australia, Airbus Group Australia and Thales.

One of only two Defence super-bases in Australia, RAAF Base Edinburgh is the centre of the nation’s military intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and electronic warfare capabilities. The base is home to No 92 Wing which operates the AP-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft, Jindalee Operational Radar Network Coordination Centre, Joint Electronic Warfare Operational Support Unit and Aerospace Operational Support Group.

RAAF Base Edinburgh underwent a $1 billion upgrade to improve Air Force facilities and establish Horseshoe Barracks, supporting the 1500-strong Adelaide based element of 1st Brigade. Additional major investment is planned to support the introduction of the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and Triton unmanned aerial vehicles.

Defence Science and Technology Organisation

DSTO’s largest Australian operation is based in Adelaide, adjacent RAAF Base Edinburgh. Home to over 1000 highly skilled scientists, engineers, IT specialists and support staff undertaking military research into areas such as surveillance systems, autonomous systems, electronic warfare, information systems, propulsion and energy, weapons effects, human sciences and operations analytics. DSTO works closely with local industry, universities and the scientific community to deliver valued scientific advice and innovative technology solutions supporting Australia’s defence and national security.

Cultana Training Area

Cultana Training Area, approximately 370km north west of Adelaide on the Spencer Gulf, offers ideal terrain and climate for year-round armoured, mechanised and cavalry force training. Recently expanded to 2100km², Cultana is set to become the Australian Defence Forces’ largest training area capable of supporting full combined arms exercises.

The Australian Defence Force has a major presence in South Australia with key operational units, significant research and development activities and critical test and training areas.

Woomera Range Complex

The Woomera Range Complex is a globally unique military testing range approximately 300km from Adelaide. Covering 127 000km² in north-west South Australia, it is the largest land-based test site in the world. With its remote location and quiet electromagnetic environment, it is ideal for complex air, ground and space test activities. Extensively used by Australian and allied forces, plans are underway for an extensive upgrade of the range and instrumentation systems.

Port Wakefield Range

Weapons research and testing for the Australian Army and Navy is conducted at the Port Wakefield Proof and Experiment Establishment. Tidal movements make it the only range in Australia where projectiles can be fired into a coastal area and retrieved relatively undamaged for assessment.

The Australian Defence Force has a major presence in Australia with key operational units, significant research and development activities and critical test and training areas.
COMPETITIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC LOCATION

Strategically located on the Asia Pacific rim, South Australia is at the centre of the nation’s air, road and rail logistics networks offering seamless connections to national markets across Australia and around the world.

STRONG AND DIVERSE ECONOMY

South Australia has a strong economy, with low unemployment and over two decades of uninterrupted economic growth. Over $100 billion worth of major projects are currently under way, or in the pipeline across a range of sectors, creating unprecedented opportunities and long-term employment.

South Australia is home to a diverse industry base with adaptive high-value manufacturing expertise in minerals and energy, agriculture, renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, education and health as well as defence.

LOW COST BUSINESS LOCATION

South Australia is a low-cost business location with labour costs 10% below the Australian average. Adelaide’s residential, commercial and industrial property prices are amongst the lowest of Australia’s mainland capital cities, and construction costs for developing new facilities are highly competitive.

Adelaide also boasts affordable land linked to transport corridors and key infrastructure.

ENVIRONMENTAL LIFESTYLE

Consistently voted one of the world’s most liveable cities, Adelaide offers an outstanding quality of life, combining low living costs and world-class strategic infrastructure, healthcare and education with a Mediterranean climate.

Home to 1.3 million people, Adelaide is renowned for its food and wine, major events, pristine beaches, artistic festivals and vibrant multicultural society.
DEDICATED SERVICE DELIVERY

Defence SA is South Australia’s lead government agency for all defence matters and the nation’s only standalone state defence organisation. It provides a single, focused and proactive contact point for all defence stakeholders, streamlining their interaction across the South Australian Government.

Defence SA’s mission is clear - growing Defence presence and building a sustainable defence industry in South Australia. Working closely with Defence and industry, Defence SA targets investment and expansion opportunities, drives and supports the delivery of major defence projects and facilities, and pursues additional Defence units and capabilities, to support the state’s existing solid foundation.

Defence SA actively promotes and contributes to whole-of-state strategic issues such as workforce development, advanced manufacturing policy and other long-term infrastructure plans for South Australia.

South Australia is also the only state government with a dedicated Minister for Defence Industries, in close recognition of the state’s commitment to the defence sector and its importance to South Australia’s economic prosperity.
To explore defence opportunities in South Australia, please contact

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