

DEFENCE SA QUARTERLY UPDATE

December 2008

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the sixth [Defence SA](#) quarterly update and the final for a busy 2008.

To help support Australian defence industry meet the skills challenges it faces, the Australian Government recently announced a \$61 million investment in defence industry skilling. In a major coup for South Australia, four state-led initiatives are set to benefit from up to a third of that expenditure. Funding of \$20 million over six years will be used to support an Advanced Technology Schools Pathways Program, a Professional Doctorates Program in Systems Engineering, a new Masters of Systems Support Engineering and an expansion of the Masters of Military Systems Integration. These initiatives will help strengthen South Australia's position as a hub of advanced defence industry, particularly in systems engineering and integration.

South Australia was also a major winner in the Commonwealth's decision to fast-track \$580 million into universities through round one of the Education Investment Fund, with two successful proposals – the Institute of Photonics and Advanced Sensing at the University of Adelaide (\$28.8 million) and the Materials and Minerals Science Learning and Research Hub at the University of South Australia (\$40 million).

Other highlights this quarter include:

- work commenced on construction of facilities at the Edinburgh Defence Precinct, to support relocation of the 7RAR Battalion from Darwin in 2011 – head contractor Baulderstone will construct over \$400 million of facilities including Army working accommodation, training facilities and site-wide infrastructure, a combined mess, fitness, commercial and community facilities
- construction also commenced on the \$40 million Techport Australia Commercial Campus, following signing of agreements between the State Government, Air Warfare Destroyer Alliance, Raytheon Australia and local private developer Prime Space Projects – the campus will house the permanent home of the AWD Systems Centre as well as Raytheon Australia's new South Australian Engineering Centre
- construction of the Techport Australia Common User Facility passed 70% and strong demand continues for Supplier Precinct land, with lots sold to Ferrocot, Babcock Integrated Technology Australia and Harbrew, and
- the Premier and General Peter Cosgrove AC MC were delighted to announce the appointment of former Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Peter Leahy AC, to the State's influential Defence SA Advisory Board.

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