

Message from Andrew Fletcher, CEO - Port Adelaide Maritime Corporation

Colleagues

Welcome to another quarterly update on progress of Techport Australia and the Air Warfare Destroyer program.

One of the class of the competing ships, the Spanish Navantia designed F101 *Alvaro de Bazan* visited Adelaide in early March and was the subject of intense local industry interest with ship board tours booked out. The other competing ship is the Gibbs & Cox evolved design based on the American Arleigh Burke AWD. It is hoped that an Arleigh Burke AWD will visit Adelaide shortly to allow local industry a further opportunity to understand how they may participate in the AWD program.

Major achievements since our last Update include:

- development approval secured for the Maritime Skills Centre, with construction to commence in April 2007
- completion of national registration of interest process for the strategic development partner for development of the Suppliers' Precinct and Commercial and Education Precinct within Techport Australia - Walker Corporation, Stockland/Built Environs and Macquarie Goodman have been short-listed for the next stage
- development approval secured for the Common User Facility and design plans submitted for Australian Government approval
- QED selected to undertake Phase 2 of the Northern Lefevre Peninsula Masterplan process, with specialist sub consultants
- proposals being sought for planning and design of the AWD Systems Centre, to be constructed at Techport Australia in 2008 with preparation of the functional brief well underway
- forum held on ship module fabrication opportunities for South Australian industry in conjunction with Industry Capability Network SA and ASC Shipbuilding
- local industry participation briefing held on the Common User Facility program in conjunction with ICNSA, and
- case-managed settlement services provided to over 60 interstate and overseas recruits to the interim AWD Systems Centre, which now has more than 300 highly skilled staff on site.

Overall, we continue on track to deliver the State Government infrastructure and support programs for the AWD program and the development of Techport Australia.

Please call me on 8463 7144 if you need any further information on our activities.

Kind regards

