

Issue # 6, July 04

Welcome

Primary Targets aims to keep Territory business informed on Defence projects, industry opportunities, news and events, AIDN news and Defence Support Division activities.

If you would like to contribute to Primary Targets, please contact us on 8999 7772 or via email defencesupport@nt.gov.au.

MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE

Armidale Class Patrol Boats Briefing



Speakers: (L to R) Mr Peter Davey, Director, Patrol Boat Systems Program Office; Mr Mark Taylor, Manager Major Projects, Defence Maritime Systems; Mr Gareth James, DBIRD; Captain Peter Marshall, Commander, Patrol Boat Group.

The Defence Support Division hosted a briefing to industry on Tuesday 29 July 2004, which outlined the phase in of the replacement Armidale Class Patrol Boats, the associated infrastructure works required at Darwin Naval Base, and Through Life Support requirements for the new patrol boats, all of which offer a range of potential opportunities for Northern Territory Businesses. The Through Life Support prime contractor, Defence Maritime Services outlined its expectations and requirements from local ship repair companies. 47 representatives from industry and Defence attended the briefing.

To view the presentations made at the briefing visit www.tbc.nt.gov.au, then click on Defence Industry Support..

NEWS

Defence Recognised Suppliers Scheme



The Defence Recognised Suppliers Scheme (DRSS) is aimed at helping Australian defence suppliers export their products and services to foreign markets. The Scheme allows Australian businesses to use a distinctive logo, featuring a green kangaroo, identifying themselves as suppliers to the Australian Defence Organisation (ADO). The ADO is respected overseas and is seen as demanding high standards from its suppliers.

Entry into the Scheme is free, and is open to Australian businesses that have a satisfactory supplier relationship with Defence. Once accepted into the Scheme businesses may use the logo on web sites, advertising, packaging materials and business correspondence.

Recognition under the Scheme is also evidence of the Australian Government's support (though not endorsement) of a business' endeavours. A business' status as a 'Defence Recognised Supplier' could be the marketing edge that helps make the deal.

For more information, including an application form, please contact the Manager of the Defence Recognised Supplier Scheme on (02) 6265 5685, or visit the DRSS Internet site www.defence.gov.au/dmo/id/drss/drss.cfm.

A Boost for Network Centric Systems

The development of Network Centric Systems has just been made easier. A

major capability gap is set to be filled as Syntonic Technologies, an Australian R&D company, and Permian, a Defence Electronic Systems and Simulation SME, signed an agreement at the Defence+Industry 2004 conference in Canberra on Wednesday 23 June 2004., to develop Syntonic's patented mobile satellite antenna technology.

Syntonic's owner and Managing Director, Mr Mark Smith, said that this antenna would provide Network Centric Systems designers and engineers with the first truly mobile satellite communications capability from geostationary satellites – one that simultaneously provides high mobility and high bandwidth.

“Our prototypes have tested successfully in standard off-road vehicles at speed and over rough roads. Permian's advanced software design tools will be invaluable for adapting the antenna to other frequencies, and its expertise in real-time antenna control algorithms will ensure maximum performance for any application” Mr Smith said.

Permian Managing Director, Dr Stephen Mabbs, agreed, adding that the antenna design was adaptable to vehicles and vessels of all sizes. “Developing the antenna for current satellite systems is only the first task, the next challenge is to involve the terminal developers, because the Syntonic antenna has additional capabilities that can be exploited only when integrated with an intelligent terminal”.

The antenna is the subject of an Unsolicited Innovative Proposal that is currently being evaluated by Defence. If adopted, the proposal will enable satellite communications on the move for all land and sea vehicles and vessels, including those too small or too unstable for current tracking antennas

Syntonic Technologies is the R&D spin off from Northern Territory-based electronics engineering and contracting firm North Australian Radio and Electronic Services (NARES)

M1A2 Abrams Tank agreement signed

Australia has signed a formal agreement with the United States to buy a new fleet of M1A1 Abrams Tanks. Under the agreement the US Government will provide 59 refurbished and updates Abrams tanks, seven M88 Hercules Armoured Recovery vehicles, advanced gunnery and driver training simulators, training and other support equipment and a range of spares.

Delivery of the tanks and other equipment is expected in 2007, with the majority operated by the 1st Armoured Regiment at Robertson Barracks.

The Defence Support Division is engaged with Defence and prime contractors strongly lobbying for the through life support to be undertaken in the Territory.



Joint Training Facility

The inclusion of Bradshaw Field Training Area and Delamere Bombing Range in the US-Australian Joint Training initiative is excellent news for Territory business and for the Territory economy.

“The Northern Territory Government lobbied hard for Bradshaw and Delamere to be used for joint training exercises, and it’s good news that this lobbying has delivered results for the Territory,” Minister Henderson said.

The commitment of the US and ADF to develop and use Delamere and Bradshaw will require significant new infrastructure spending, delivering new opportunities for Territory business and jobs for Territorians.

Bradshaw has already generated Territory jobs, with Territory business Steelcon building the \$6M Victoria River Bridge. Henry Walker Eltin has secured the \$30M contract for civil

works at the site and expects to employ around 100 people.”

Defence + Industry 2004 Regional Briefing

Following the national Defence + Industry 2004 conference held in Canberra in June 2004, the Regional Offices of the Defence Materiel Organisation are tasked with organising a series of briefings to Defence and Industry.

The regional briefing programs typically consist of presentations to industry by representatives from Defence and Defence industry (including Prime contractors). This year will include a compilation of the addresses given at the Canberra conference by the federal Minister for Defence and several other Ministers, and senior officers from other Programs within the Defence Department. In addition, an overview of significant issues discussed at the Canberra conference will be delivered by Rear Admiral Trevor Ruting, Head Maritime Systems Division.

The regional programs also address local Defence and industry issues. The NT D+I Regional Briefing will comprise of presentations on regional logistic support issues, facilities maintenance, and Prime Contractor support requirements for regional Defence projects. This year it is anticipated that presentations will be delivered by Prime contractors for major Defence projects, including the Defence Integrated Distribution System (DIDS), AIR 87 – Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter, SEA 1444 – Replacement Patrol Boat and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

In addition to the presentations, 1st Brigade will provide a static display of military equipment, DMO will make available a number of Defence publications, and display/information booths will be set up representing Defence, industry associations/agencies and the Northern Territory Government, Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development.

For further information, contact Richard O’Brien at DMORO-NT Tel. 8935 4555. To register to attend,

complete the registration form on-line at:

www.DefenceIndustry2004.communicationlink.com.au. Cost is \$60.00 per person (GST incl.).

Please note: if you are not registered before the day of the event, you will not be able to access Robertson Barracks and attend. Photo ID for each registrant must also be presented to allow entry.

AIDN NT

Membership

Current membership is 66 and the latest additions are:

Airductor – Darwin.

Contact Jodie Stewart, Secretariat on 8999 7772 for membership details.

FUTURE EVENTS

- INTERSTATE-

Land Warfare

Conference 2004

The Land Warfare Conference (LWC) is a major event for users, providers, academics, designers and manufacturers to meet and present new and visionary ideas on Land Systems to a focused audience in Australia. LWC provides a forum where experts can exchange ideas and learn from one another.

The LWC will be held in at the Melbourne Convention Centre, 28-30 September 2004. For further information visit the LWC website at www.dsto.defence.gov.au.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

Defence contracts awarded to Territory companies during June 2004 totalled \$617,427.91 and during July totalled \$36,979,172.02. For further information on Federal Government contracts visit www.contracts.gov.au. For information regarding Federal Government tenders visit www.tenders.gov.au.