

HIB Number. 000908

Date/Time
Transmitted: 11/11/2011 05:20 PM

Subject: POTENTIAL THEFT OF RESTRICTED COMMERCIAL-IN-CONFIDENCE
DOCUMENT FROM MILITARY COMMUNICATION INFORMATION
SYSTEMS CONFERENCE, CANBERRA

Comment:
Action Area CDS

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED

KEY ISSUES:

- On 10 Nov 11 at approximately 1610hrs, it was determined that a bag belonging to a Defence Science and Technology Organisation DSTO member had been stolen from the Military Communication Information Systems Conference (MiLCIS 2011), being held in the Canberra Convention Centre. The bag contained a LAND 146 Phase 2 discussion paper, classified Restricted Commercial-in-Confidence.
- The paper discussed the history of LAND 146 Phase 2 from Defence Capability Plan entry to the present, detailing shortfalls of technology procured under Phase 1 of the project and potential capabilities under Phase 2.
- The paper has limited potential to damage the credibility of the Defence capability process or reduce industry confidence in Defence due to the dated nature of the supporting information.
- The incident has been reported to the Defence Security Authority.

BACKGROUND:

- The LAND 146 Phase 2 paper was a Capability Development Group document being carried by a DSTO member after the

- conduct of a stakeholder meeting concerning progress of the project. The paper was required as pre-reading for the meeting.
- It outlined potential capabilities to be procured under Phase 2, identifying [REDACTED] technologies and outlining a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the US DoD and the ADF. The [REDACTED] Manager has been informed of the loss.
 - The paper contained a 2006 draft MOU between the US DoD and ADF on coalition recognition of combat vehicle training software classified For Official Use Only. Steps are being taken to inform the US program office of the loss.
 - The paper has some potential to damage the credibility of Defence in the following areas:
 - The security of sensitive documentation,
 - The capability process due to the significant delay in the project and the lack of delivery of Phase 2 to date.
 - While the information pertaining to [REDACTED] is readily available in the internet, the information pertaining to the MOU was not. The release of this information to the media has the potential to damage project staff relations with [REDACTED] and ADF relations with the US project office in question.

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Talking Points:

- A bag containing some low-level classified information has been stolen from a Defence Science and Technology Organisation employee.
- The bag does not contain any information related to current Australian Defence Force operations and therefore its loss does not put any personnel at risk.

- The bag did contain a restricted paper dating from 2006 and as such is somewhat dated.
- The bag was stolen from a DSTO scientist attending the Military Communication Information Systems Conference, held in the Canberra Convention Centre.
- While this is a frustrating situation for Defence, it does not constitute a threat to personnel, the information contained in the document is not highly classified and the paper is also rather dated.
- Defence is investigating the loss of the paper and doing all we can to have it returned.

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