

---

**Sent:** Sunday, 28 September 2008 12:54  
**To:** White Paper  
**Subject:** WWW Submission: 9. Science & Technology [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Name: Christopher Skinner  
Organisation: DISplay Pty Ltd

Submission: There has been much publicity on the new approach to networking of information and communications technologies [ICT] for Defence systems. Network Centric Warfare and Network Enabled Capability are terms that are frequently used

The DWP should, of course, reflect this current trend and draw it out to its possible future trajectories. However this should not be based on any fascination with the technology involved nor its powerful capability to provide multiplier effects to defence assets.

Rather it should be seen as a belated realization of what has been happening at a breathtaking pace in the non-defence domains. The advances in ICT have been staggering and the Defence applications of ICT are not at all cutting edge in most respects. This may even be a good thing to avoid excessive risks that are better resolved in global commercial enterprises.

Having said all of the above about the technologies involved, there is still an enormous opportunity for the application of the technologies to Defence capability needs and this is where the DWP should give the greatest leadership - starting with the revolutionary technologies that are emerging for commercial reasons, the DWP should say clearly in what application areas is there greatest priority for research and development work by DSTO and defence industry.

The Capability Development community should not try to second guess which technologies should be used, only be prepared to give direction to its applications. The scientists, engineers and industrialists can then draw on all the possible technologies and know-how to make the applications available and effective.

I agree to my submission being published on the Defence website

I agree to my submission being quoted in the Community Consultation Report