INTERNATIONAL MILITARY AIRWORTHINESS REGULATION CONFERENCE - WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER AVM CATHERINE ROBERTS

The ADF is leading the charge towards a new global convention on military airworthiness. As we reported in our last issue of TECHNET: With the release of the Defence Aviation Safety Regulations (DASR), Australia has moved from a standalone system, to aligning with a European based convention used by around 30 nations, with more due to come onboard.

Held on 14/15 November 2016 in Melbourne, the inaugural International Military Airworthiness Regulation Conference (IMARC) provided a forum for international partners to better understand the considerable benefits of a global approach. The conference gave international stakeholders an opportunity to ‘compare notes’, and better understand the Australian experience (which has engaged in a world-leading-level of adoption of the European system, which is 95% based upon its civilian equivalent).

Attendees included representatives from the United States, NATO, China, Turkey, Germany, Indonesia, Cambodia, Italy and Britain, as well as a wide range of industry partners.

Air Vice Marshal Catherine Roberts, Head Aerospace Systems Division at Capability, Acquisition and Sustainment Group saw the promise of a globally based military airworthiness convention as a challenge that should be enthusiastically embraced:

‘By making a rational choice on regulation, we can leverage global supply chains and support, to extend our global reach’, she said.

‘New technology is challenging our thinking… global regulation convention will provide a benchmark against which we can be measured.’

AVM Roberts likened the new convention to a team event and challenged attendees to embrace the considerable opportunities it afforded with a team mindset:

‘My challenge to you is to make a choice to be an active participant in this global Military Aviation community’, she stated.

‘I urge you to be part of the team so that we can achieve the benefits of International Military Aviation Regulation.’

AIRCDRE James Hood from the Defence Aviation Safety Authority said:

‘IMARC provided a unique opportunity for international military and industry partners to come together and explore the benefits of an emerging global convention on airworthiness…

‘It is an exciting time for Australian Defence aviation with global attention now focused on Australian recognition activities with partner nations.’