



Australian Government

Defence

Office of Defence
Industry Support (ODIS)

Industry Engagement Division,
Defence Delivery Group.

Industry Engagement UPDATE

August 2026



What's featured Inside this edition

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Safeguarding Australia's Military Secrets

Update to the Determination

The Department of Defence is seeking feedback on proposed amendments to the **Defence (Non-foreign work restricted individual) Determination 2024** [\[link\]](#), part of the Safeguarding Australia's Military Secrets (SAMS) framework.

The proposed changes will update job role classifications and clarify how time elapsed provisions apply to former Defence personnel, helping ensure the framework remains fit for purpose in a changing strategic environment.

A public consultation period has now commenced. Individuals working, or who have previously worked, in Defence, defence industry, or academia are encouraged to review the consultation paper and provide feedback using the response template.

CONSULTATION PAPER [\[link\]](#)



Industry Grants

Defence Industry Development Grants extended to 2030

The Australian Government has extended the **Defence Industry Development Grants (DIDG)** [\[link\]](#) Program to 2030, with an additional **\$80 million** in funding announced under the **Defence Industry Development Strategy 2026 (DIDS26)** [\[link\]](#). This brings total program funding to approximately **\$250 million**.

DIDS26 also introduces updated **Detailed Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities (SDIPs)** [\[link\]](#), which will help guide future DIDG funding decisions and support capability development across priority areas of the Australian defence industry.

To support these changes, Defence is updating the DIDG Grant Opportunity Guidelines (GOGs) and application forms. The revised guidelines are expected to be released later this year, with further information to be provided as details are finalised.

In the meantime, the DIDG Program will continue to operate under the current guidelines and the existing SDIPs outlined in the **Defence Industry Development Strategy 2024**. Program closing dates, grant values, assessment criteria and processing timeframes remain unchanged.

FIND OUT MORE [\[link\]](#)

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ASD

Useful resources for strengthening resilience and security.

Cyber Resilience Guidance - CI Fortify

Advice for isolating vital systems is released to strengthen resilience of critical systems

CI Fortify – Advice for isolating systems, outlines steps critical infrastructure (CI) operators and cyber teams can take to successfully isolate their vital Operational Technology and enabling systems from all other networks.

Following these steps supports operators in **maintaining their critical service** in instances of crisis or service disruption.

Developed in collaboration with international partners, and released by Australian Signals Directorate (ASD), this proactive measure supports the response to evolving threats by disrupting adversaries' ability to conduct cyber-attacks, containing attacks already in progress, and helping to maintain essential services during periods of crisis or service disruption.

We encourage organisations to review and share this guidance to support a coordinated **uplift in resilience** across critical infrastructure sectors.

FIND OUT MORE



Australian Signals Directorate

New guidance on vendor readiness for post-quantum cryptography

The Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) has released *Post-quantum questions to ask your vendors*, a new resource to help organisations assess whether third-party suppliers of products or services are prepared for the transition to post-quantum cryptography (PQC).

The publication provides practical, vendor-neutral questions that organisations can use during procurement, contract renewals and vendor assurance activities. It aligns to the key phases of PQC transition and helps organisations **identify cryptographic dependencies, assess risks, evaluate vendor readiness** and support **long-term cyber security**.

Early engagement with vendors can help organisations better understand supply chain dependencies, identify potential risks and avoid unexpected challenges as they prepare for a post-quantum future.

FIND OUT MORE



Department of Defence Industry Engagement Division

We're listening. Tell us what matters most.

This is your opportunity to influence the stories, insights and updates we share in our monthly **Industry Engagement Update** newsletters. Whether you have ideas for new topics or suggestions for improvement, we'd love to hear them.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS



Know your obligations

Safeguarding Australia's Military Secrets

Planning to work for or provide training to a foreign military, foreign government, or foreign government controlled entity?

Check in to see if you require a Foreign Work Authorisation



DISP Membership Portal

Is your annual security report due soon?

Defence Industry Security Program (DISP) members with an upcoming Annual Security Report (ASR) deadline can now benefit from a more streamlined and user-friendly reporting experience through the **DISP Member Portal** [\[link\]](#).

Recent portal enhancements have been designed to:

- clarify ASR requirements
- provide greater self-guidance by grouping all required forms
- enable more intuitive navigation.

These improvements help DISP members complete submissions more efficiently and consistently, and produce higher-quality outcomes.

Need a hand with the DISP Member Portal?

Virtual Q&A sessions are available to support members completing their ASR and Cyber Security Questionnaire through the portal. Each session includes a live portal demonstration, as well as an opportunity to ask questions directly and receive practical guidance from the DISP team.

ENQUIRE NOW



Industry Briefing

Defence Estate Capital and Sustainment Works Program

Defence invites industry to attend the Defence Estate Capital and Sustainment Works Program industry briefing.

 **25 August 2026**

 **9 am to 2:45 pm, Networking: 2:45 pm to 4 pm (optional)**

 **Virtual**

The briefing serves to update industry on Defence estate matters, including planned upcoming procurement activities across capital facilities and infrastructure projects.

Registrations close at noon AEST, Wednesday 12 August 2026.

REGISTER NOW



Industry Training

Master of Explosive Ordnance Program 2027

Nominations are now open for the February 2027 intake of the **Master of Explosive Ordnance (MEO) Graduate Program** [\[link\]](#), delivered by UNSW Canberra at ADFA.

The MEO is designed for postgraduate participants with undergraduate qualifications in a relevant cognitive discipline and/or extensive professional experience. The program develops advanced explosive ordnance technical expertise and offers an eight-subject **Master of Explosive Ordnance** [\[link\]](#) or a four-subject **Graduate Certificate in Explosive Ordnance** [\[link\]](#).

Participants can study either full-time or part-time, with most learning delivered online and supported by practical workshops and research activities where required.

Candidates are highly encouraged to visit the UNSW-C MEO page to review the course and prerequisites prior to nominating. Interested applicants must ensure they meet the relevant UNSW admission requirements.

Call to Nominations close on 11 September 2026.

ENQUIRIES & NOMINATIONS



Australian Industry Capability

AIC Practitioner Course 2026

The AIC Practitioner Course is a virtual program that brings together professionals from Defence and defence industry to foster a broader understanding of AIC requirements across the sector.

Registering on LXP Global

1. **Create new account**
2. On the account creation page, under "Enter your Sponsor details":
 - i. Enter aic.training@defence.gov.au for sponsor email address.
 - ii. Leave sponsor phone number and full name blank

Enrolling in the AIC Practitioner Course

Use your registered LXP Global Account to log in and visit [AIC Practitioner Course](#). When prompted, use the passcode 'AICPract2025'.

ENQUIRE NOW



Industry Support

Is your business Defence ready?

The Defence Business Readiness Tool (DBRT) is designed to support SMEs test their 'Defence preparedness' and capabilities prior to commencing their journey into the Defence supply chain.

TEST YOUR READINESS



Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification implementation

Important update for Australian businesses participating in U.S. defence supply chains.

On 13 July 2026, the U.S. Department of War (DoW) announced a 60-day pause to the implementation of Phase II of the **Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC)** program.

Phase II was scheduled to commence on 10 November 2026.

CMMC requires organisations in the defence supply chain to demonstrate they adequately protect sensitive government information.

Australian businesses may be affected if they:

- hold a contract with the U.S. DoW
- are subcontractors to a U.S. defence prime contractor
- handle Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)
- participate in AUKUS-related supply chains or defence programs.

CMMC requirements may flow through contractual arrangements, even where business activities are conducted entirely in Australia.

Businesses considering a **Defence Industry Development Grant (DIDG)** application for CMMC uplift and certification should contact industry.grants@defence.gov.au.

The pause does not remove existing cybersecurity obligations. Businesses should continue cybersecurity uplift activities, review contractual requirements, and seek guidance from their customer, contracting authority or prime contractor where required.

For further information, please monitor the **US Department of War** website.

Industry resources

Business opportunities



AusTender

Find Australian Government business opportunities, annual procurement plans and contracts awarded.

The Industry Portal

Access opportunities with government agencies and Primes. One platform. Many insights.

ICN Gateway

Join ICN Gateway and gain access to Australia and New Zealand's largest network of suppliers and projects.

