



Australian Government

Defence

Office of Defence  
Industry Support (ODIS)

Industry Engagement Division,  
Defence Delivery Group.



# Industry Engagement **UPDATE**

September 2026

What's featured

## Inside this edition

- ▶ **ASCA Pitch Day 2026 – Decoy, Deception, Camouflage and Concealment**
- ▶ **Maximising the use of ITAR exemptions \$126.4 and \$126.7 for AUKUS and GWEO programs**

Air Cargo Symposium

## Working with air cargo certification or engineering data?

27–29 October 2026

Melbourne, VIC

The Air Cargo Symposium is a free three-day event bringing together Defence, contractors and industry engineers to build practical knowledge on air cargo certification requirements and the engineering evidence needed to support air cargo load clearance.

Participants will explore key requirements under the Defence Aviation Safety Design Requirements Manual (DASDRM) Aerial Delivery Standard, with a focus on:

- air cargo certification requirements
- development and assessment of engineering data.

**Nominations close COB  
Friday 25 September 2026.**

Successful nominees will be notified by Friday 2 October 2026.

*Please note: Nominating organisations are responsible for travel, accommodation and allowances.*

**SUBMIT AN EOI**



Registrations now open

## Land Forces 2026 is coming to Perth



**Australia's largest land defence industry exhibition returns from 6-8 October 2026, bringing together Defence, government, Australian and international industry, global primes, SMEs and technology leaders.**

Don't miss out on the opportunity to showcase your business capabilities, connect with key decision-makers and supply chain partners, explore emerging opportunities and see the latest technologies shaping the future of land capability.

The event will also host the Chief of the Army Symposium, bringing Army leaders together with industry, academia and international partners to explore the future of land warfare and capability development.

**REGISTER NOW**



*Keep an eye out for our special Land Forces edition later this month, where we will highlight key events and industry opportunities.*

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## ADSTAR 2026:

### Defence Innovation, Science and Technology and what comes next

While ADSTAR 2026 has concluded, the connections forged, ideas exchanged and partnerships established will continue to shape Australia's future defence capability.

Over three days in Adelaide, leaders from Defence, industry, academia, government and international partners came together to explore how innovation, science and technology (IS&T) can accelerate capability development and strengthen Australia's strategic edge. A clear theme emerged: delivering capability faster requires agility, continuous innovation and strong partnerships that turn shared challenges into strategic advantage.

The launch of the **2026 Defence Innovation, Science and Technology Strategy**  by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, the Hon Richard Marles MP, provides a clear roadmap for future investment, research and capability development across Australia's defence ecosystem.

Featuring Ministers, international partners, senior Defence, industry and academic leaders, ADSTAR 2026 has reinforced its position as Australia's premier forum for defence collaboration. We look forward to continuing the conversation.

[SEE HIGHLIGHTS](#)



## Save the date

### ASCA Pitch Day 2026 – Decoy, Deception, Camouflage and Concealment

The ASCA Pitch Day 2026 – Decoy, Deception, Camouflage and Concealment (DDCC) event will take place on Monday 5 October 2026 from 9am to 12pm AWST in Perth, Western Australia.

This event offers a unique opportunity to hear directly from shortlisted industry and academic organisations as they present their innovative technologies and solutions to senior Defence representatives and members of the broader defence ecosystem.

The DDCC challenge seeks novel capabilities that enhance agile signature management through decoy, deception, camouflage and concealment technologies, helping Defence operate more effectively in contested environments.

Held ahead of Land Forces 2026, the Pitch Day will showcase emerging innovations and provide valuable insights into the technologies shaping future defence capability. The event will be offered in a hybrid format, with registration options available on the ASCA Pitch Day 2026 - DDCC event page in the coming weeks.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## DISP Program

### Collaboration Drives Successful Cyber Uplift Outcomes

A recent review of a DISP member's cyber uplift activity has highlighted the value of proactive engagement and close collaboration in achieving compliance outcomes.

The member worked closely with DISP assessors to address identified gaps and strengthen its cyber security posture. Over a six-month period, regular communication, timely requests for clarification and open discussion of technical challenges, helped ensure remediation activities remained aligned with Maturity Level Two (ML2) requirements.

The member also provided comprehensive, high-quality evidence, enabling DISP assessors to efficiently validate implemented controls and minimise delays throughout the assessment process. This collaborative approach supported the timely resolution of compliance issues and facilitated a smooth uplift process.

As a result, the entity successfully achieved all ML2 requirements while significantly enhancing the implementation of its cyber security controls. This outcome demonstrates how early engagement, transparency, and a commitment to continuous improvement can support organisations in meeting DISP cyber security obligations.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

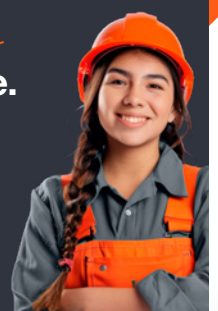


## Industry Engagement Newsletter

### Your interests. Your voice. Your newsletter.

Tell us what you're interested in so we can tailor our newsletter to meet your needs.

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## Industry Briefing

# Australian Naval Classification Authority

Join the Australian Naval Classification Authority (ANCA) for an industry briefing on its recent progress and future priorities, including a detailed overview of the proposed Competent Organisation Program. Learn about program objectives, eligibility requirements, assessment processes, authorisation arrangements, and opportunities for industry engagement.

The session will also offer attendees an opportunity to gain an early understanding of ANCA's future direction.

 **4 September 2026**

 **10am to 11:30 am (AEST)**

 **Ngunnawal Theatre, 17 Sir Thomas Blamey Square, Russell ACT**

For questions, please reach out to [anca.communications@defence.gov.au](mailto:anca.communications@defence.gov.au).

**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**



## AUKUS / GWEO

# Maximising the use of ITAR exemptions for AUKUS and GWEO programs

Australia and the United States (US) have confirmed their intent to maximise the use of existing export control licence exemptions, including **ITAR §126.4 and §126.7**, to support AUKUS and Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance (GWEO) cooperation. This intent was confirmed through an Exchange of Letters signed by senior officials in February 2026. An accompanying fact sheet, jointly developed by the Department of Defence and the US Department of War, outlines how these exemptions can support faster and more predictable transfers of defence articles, technical data and services between trusted partners.

### What does it mean for industry?

The Exchange of Letters does not change export control laws. Instead, it encourages industry to use the existing exemptions, where available and appropriate, to support timely capability delivery under AUKUS, GWEO and other eligible Defence programs.

### Useful links:

- [Utilising the AUKUS licence-free environment to support projects under AUKUS and GWEO](#)  (PDF)
- [Letter from Australia to the United States](#)  (PDF)
- [Letter from the United States to Australia](#)  (PDF)

**FIND OUT MORE**



## Industry resources

# Business opportunities



### AusTender

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

### The Industry Platform

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.

