



Australian Government

Defence

Office of Defence
Industry Support (ODIS)

Industry Engagement Division,
Defence Delivery Group.



Industry Engagement **UPDATE**

October 2026

What's featured

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Training Opportunity

Want to gain valuable insights into Defence Industry Policy?

The Australian Industry Capability (AIC) Practitioner course aims to foster a broad understanding of AIC requirements across Defence and Defence Industry personnel. Bringing together professionals from both sectors, the course seeks to promote knowledge exchange and collaboration, enhancing the implementation of the AIC Program.

Participants will gain insights into Defence Industry Policy, including how AIC is implemented and applied through the Australian Standard for Defence Contracting (ASDEFCON) framework.

The 2-day instructor led course is designed to provide detailed understanding of the AIC Program and equip participants with tools and knowledge to effectively implement and manage AIC components within the procurement and contract management phases.

COURSE DATES



Defence Industry News

Launching the Defence Industry Growth Facility



On 28 August 2026, Minister for Defence Industry, Pat Conroy, and Minister for Trade and Tourism, Don Farrell, launched the USD \$3 billion Defence Industry Growth Facility. This modernises the previous Defence Export Facility, and provides a more flexible and responsive mechanism to financing for Australian small and medium enterprises.

The Growth Facility, will enable Defence industry to **pursue growth opportunities, strengthen critical defence capabilities**, and position themselves to **compete globally**. Administered by Export Finance Australia, the Growth Facility provides loans, bonds, guarantees and equity for projects aligned with the 2026 Defence Industry Development Strategy (DIDS26) and broadens eligibility to projects without a direct export link.

Projects need to demonstrate strong alignment with the DIDS26, and remain subject to consideration and appropriate due diligence by EFA and Government. Launching the Defence Industry Growth Facility reflects the Government's commitment to **driving Australian Defence Industry exports** and **building Australia's sovereign defence capabilities**.

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Industry Resources

Defence Industry Development Grants Program

Industry Grants Update

The Defence Industry Development Grants (DIDG) program is entering a transition period, with all four grant streams progressively closing during September and October while updated Grant Opportunity Guidelines and associated application documentation are implemented.

Businesses are encouraged to review the Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities outlined in Annex A of the **Defence Industry Development Strategy 2026 (DIDS26)** [\[PDF\]](#), particularly the capability element sub-components, and the Grow, Guide and Monitor priority categories. Understanding where your products, services and capabilities align will help prepare stronger and more competitive future applications.

Note: While the program is being updated, its focus on Assessment Criteria 1 and 2 will not fundamentally change. All DIDG streams are expected to reopen in early November with the release of the new Grant Opportunity Guidelines.

Cybersecurity Grants

The DIDG program includes a dedicated stream to support eligible Australian businesses uplift their security controls. Applications seeking funding for cybersecurity improvements to meet DISP requirements must currently include a Maturity Action Plan (MAP), with action items agreed with a DISP case officer. Incomplete MAPS, or MAPS without agreed action items, do not meet project eligibility requirements, and alternative evidence such as third-party assessments cannot be accepted.

Businesses considering an application should work with their DISP case officer to ensure agreed actions are fully documented in their MAP before applying. Additional cybersecurity action plans may be considered in future rounds with further details to be included in the new Grant Opportunity Guidelines expected in November.

[FIND OUT MORE](#) 

Advanced Strategic Capabilities Accelerator Fast Track: Defence's new podcast

Fast Track is a new podcast bringing together the people driving innovation across Defence. Each episode is a conversation with the operators, technologists and leaders turning fast-moving ideas into real impact, cutting through the noise to explain what's actually changing and why it matters.

Over the coming months, you'll hear from an impressive line-up of guests, including Vice Chief of the Defence Force Air Marshal Robert Chipman AO CSC, Major General Hugh Meggitt AM CSC, Head of the Advanced Strategic Capabilities Accelerator as well as defence analysts including Rebecca Strating and Jennifer Parker to name a few.

The series is hosted by Professor Peter Dean, Senior Adviser for Defence Strategy and co-lead of the 2023 Defence Strategic Review.

Stay ahead of the curve. Tune into Fast Track.

[TAKE A LISTEN](#) 

Melbourne Defence Ball

Honour the past, celebrate the present, and embrace the future.

Join the Defence community at the 22nd annual Melbourne Defence Ball as we celebrate the 125th anniversaries of the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Army.

Enjoy a truly memorable evening of fine dining and live entertainment, all while raising vital funds for Melbourne Legacy.

 **Saturday 14 November 2026**  **6–11 pm**

 **Evoqe Events, corner Queen and Little Collins Streets, Melbourne**

 **Mess Dress or Black Tie**

[EVENT TICKETS](#) 

Interested in becoming a sponsor?

Contact us at mel.militaryball@defence.gov.au [\[PDF\]](#)



AIR FORCE



CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY AND THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY



Australian Government Security Vetting Agency

When circumstances change, think myClearance

Maintaining the accuracy of personnel security information is a shared responsibility. Clearance holders should report relevant changes of circumstances as they occur, helping **Australian Government Security Vetting Agency (AGSVA)** understand their circumstances and assess potential security risks.

Reportable changes may include employment, finances, health conditions, relationships with foreign nationals, overseas travel or involvement in criminal, disciplinary or security matters. Clearance holders should report relevant changes through myClearance. Address and contact details can be updated directly in their myClearance profile.

Sponsors and Security Officers play a key role and should report disciplinary action, security incidents and other notifiable information to AGSVA. This information helps AGSVA assess a clearance holder's ongoing suitability and understand their circumstances.

DISP members should maintain accurate personnel security records to support audit and assurance activities. By reporting relevant changes and keeping records current, clearance holders and organisations help protect sensitive government information and strengthen Australia's national security.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Cyber Resilience

Detecting and mitigating Active Directory compromises

The Australian Signals Directorate (ASD)'s Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) in collaboration with international cyber security partners, has released updated guidance on Detecting and mitigating Active Directory compromises.

The updated guidance provides mitigation and detection advice for 18 common Active Directory compromise techniques including a new **DCSync detection technique**; and a new section covering shadow credentials.

This guidance provides an overview of each technique and how it can be leveraged by malicious actors, as well as recommended strategies to mitigate these techniques.

By implementing the recommendations in this publication, organisations can significantly improve their Active Directory security, and therefore their overall network security, to mitigate intrusions by malicious actors.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



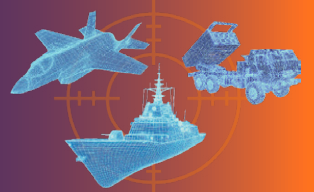
Industry events and business opportunities

Australian Explosive Ordnance Safety



**parari
2026**

Australian Explosive
Ordnance Safety
Symposium



Proportional Safety – From Competition to Conflict

24-26 November 2026 **National Convention Centre, Canberra**

The international Explosive Ordnance (EO) safety community is convening in Canberra for its premier biennial safety event.

Looking for the latest insights across the sector? Want to connect with Defence, industry and international representatives?

The 2026 Integrated Investment Program sets out \$26-36 billion over the decade for guided weapons and explosive ordnance. Be part of PARARI 2026 for three days of exchanging ideas, exploring emerging capability and building valuable connections.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



Want to put your organisation and capability in the spotlight?

Customised sponsorship packages can help to:

- maximise your brand visibility
- engage with Defence, allied forces, industry and other international leaders
- showcase your products and capabilities
- position your organisation as a trusted partner in Australia's sovereign explosive ordnance safety sector.

Secure a seat at the table. Exhibition space is limited and selling out fast.

[SPONSORSHIPS](#)



Defence Security Compliance Workforce Screening

Recent **Defence Industry Security Program (DISP)** [🔗](#) Audit and Assurance activities have identified workforce screening as a common area of non-compliance across entities.

A key challenge is limited awareness of the requirements outlined in the Australian Workforce Screening Standard (AS4811-2022), which is not freely available and may not be widely understood by organisations.

As a result, workforce screening policies and procedures do not always align with the standard, and some entities are unable to confirm which screening checks are conducted when parts of the process are outsourced to third-party providers. Audits have also found that workforce screening requirements may not be applied to employees transferring into Defence-related roles, particularly where previous screening was not undertaken in accordance with AS4811-2022.

Under DSPF Annex A, entities must maintain workforce screening and onboarding policies and procedures aligned to AS4811-2022 and be able to provide Defence with details of their workforce screening and personnel management processes for Defence-related work.

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



Defence Research, Innovation and Collaboration Security Protecting Australia's capability advantage

Research and innovation can generate valuable knowledge, intellectual property and technologies well before they become recognised Defence capabilities. Protecting this work is essential to preserving Australia's technological and capability advantage.

The updated **Defence Research, Innovation and Collaboration Security (DRICS)** [🔗](#) Principle and Control helps Defence contract managers apply a consistent, risk-based approach to security across innovation, science and technology contracts.

By considering security early, Defence and industry can establish clear responsibilities and apply safeguards proportionate to the sensitivity and potential application of the research. This supports more effective management of risks relating to information, systems, personnel, supply chains, intellectual property and collaboration arrangements.

A security-by-design approach helps protect valuable research while sustaining the trusted industry partnerships needed to accelerate innovation and deliver future Defence capability.

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HAVE YOUR SAY [✉](#)



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.

