F88 RIFLE FACTORY THOROUGH REBUILD (FTR) – PUBLIC AIC PLAN

Executive Summary

Thales Australia has a long history of contribution to Australian industry, extending back to the origins of Thales Australia in 1889 as the Colonial Ammunition Factory, Footscray. Since that time, the Thales Australia supplier network has grown to encompass over 1000 different suppliers assisting in supporting the entire breadth of our defence system portfolio.

On 29 October 2008, Thales Australia was contracted by the Commonwealth for the supply of services involving the factory thorough rebuild (FTR) of the F88 Austeyr Rifle variants currently in service with the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

The contract (5890010) has undergone various extensions since its inception, and the Commonwealth and Thales Australia executed amendment 10 to the contract in December 2013. The total value of the contract since inception in 2008 is approximately AUD$84M.

Consumables and spares which are utilised within the F88 Austeyr Rifle FTR process are supplied with engagement of a number of Australian suppliers. Details of the key suppliers providing local industry activities and their products are given in Table 1.

Table 1 – F88 Austeyr Rifle Program Key Suppliers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Product/Service</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hosico Engineering</td>
<td>Plastic Components/Spares</td>
<td>Braeside, VIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hycast Metals</td>
<td>Metal Casting Components</td>
<td>Smithfield, NSW</td>
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Scope of Future Work Opportunities

Thales Australia has a well-established arrangement of the supply of components and services for the F88 Austeyr Rifle RFT Program. Key local industry subcontractors are listed in Table 1. Thales Australia will continue to utilise these subcontractors based upon the experience, flexibility and value for money that that offer the program.
Should the scope of the program change, or should the continuing engagement of the current subcontractors need to be re-evaluated, Thales Australia will conduct market testing for possible alternative sub-contractors and suppliers.

**Industry Engagement**

In circumstances where Thales Australia is looking to conduct market testing for future suppliers, industry will be first engaged via the Australian Industry and Defence Network (AIDN) or the Industry Capability Network (ICN), both of which Thales Australia is a member, in order to determine industry and organisational capabilities.

Once capability has been ascertained, Thales Australia may progress to an EOI/RFI/RFT process and possible supplier down-selection and addition to the Thales Australia supplier network supporting the F88 Austeyr FTR program.

**Point of Contact**

The Fleet Sustainment Manager – Soldier Systems is the point of contact for AIC matters regarding the F88 Austeyr Rifle FTR program.

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Authorised on Behalf of Thales Australia

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**Armaments and Ammunition**

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