



AIDN NATIONAL NEWSLETTER



Letter to Members from the **AIDN National CEO**

Welcome to our final quarterly newsletter for the year. As always, I hope that this finds you all well and that your businesses are doing well.

We have all had an interesting couple of years now and clearly the COVID-19 pandemic is continuing to have a significant impact on all our lives. Australia finds itself slowly coming out of the lockdowns that have affected all our lives, both from a business perspective and a personal one. We find ourselves dealing with yet another variant of the virus, and of course we must wait to see what the medical experts can tell us about this one. We are going to have to learn to deal with this virus, and hopefully as it slowly morphs into other variants, we can only hope that the virus becomes less disruptive and eventually (hopefully) becomes nothing more than a flu like virus, only time will tell.

The Hon Melissa Price MP, Minister for Defence Industry has once again provided a contribution to this newsletter as has Matt Keogh MP, the Opposition Spokesperson for Defence Industry has been able to contribute to this newsletter, which we of course thank them for.

It is important for the membership to make sure they understand the policies of the political parties as we rapidly head towards a Federal election, it is only a few months away now. I encourage you all to take a close hard look at what the two major parties are focussing on, what they are talking about for Australian industry and their respective plans going forward. Ultimately you will make whatever political decision you wish, but it is important to understand that we are trying to influence both parties to ensure that Australian industry, and the small to medium enterprises are at the forefront of all decisions.

AUKUS agreement

You will all be aware of the Government's recent agreement with the US and the UK to form the AUKUS agreement, the



cancellation of the Naval Group future submarine contract and the pivot to nuclear submarines. However, AUKUS is much more than nuclear submarines it will become potentially the most significant agreement that we have seen for many years. The whole strategy of this agreement is to bring the three allies even closer, ensure that the ability to operate together is even higher and perhaps most significantly ensure that there is a free transfer of technical knowledge and the associated intellectual property to ensure that Australia can indeed create a sovereign defence industry.

This is significant and it will take all the efforts of the three countries to get it right. Ultimately Australia must get it right, if we do not, then our industry could potentially suffer and we may find ourselves only as low-level suppliers to foreign owned companies rather than striving to be a key enabler of the defence of Australia. We need to remind Government, the Opposition and Defence of the requirements to plan and design in Australian Industry at every juncture. Australian Industry, our SMEs, can and should be able to contribute to the creation of national resilience to ensure we as a

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country are strategically placed to stand as a partner in AUKUS and not as an afterthought.

AIDN will have much to say about this as we move forward. Our focus remains on ensuring that Government, the Opposition and Defence understand that we do not see this as an export opportunity for British and American companies, rather this is an opportunity to grow, develop, upskill, and ensure that Australian Industry can achieve every opportunity and success in this partnership. AIDN wants to see Australian companies grow to become Prime contractors, AIDN wants to see our smaller

companies grow into medium enterprises, we simply cannot afford to slave ourselves to the whims of foreign Governments or foreign owned companies. AIDN expects that Australian businesses will be given these opportunities and that they will have the technical knowledge and knowhow and required IP made available to them to ensure this happens.

We have had significant change in AIDN over the last couple of years. The formation of the national entity has been both challenging and rewarding, we continue to work with the State and Territories to ensure that transition continues. It is pleasing that the Northern Territory has recently formally agreed to merge itself into AIDN National, this is a tremendous outcome for AIDN National and AIDN NT and demonstrates the faith the membership is placing in the national organisation. This merger will allow the NT to be properly represented on the national stage and we look forward to working with the NT committee and NT Government going forward.

The NT joins QLD, NSW, SA, TAS and the ACT in formalising their arrangements. The members in those states now find themselves either transferred to AIDN National or joint members of their state association and the national organisation as their various organisations are wound down.

We had the successful re-launch of AIDN

Victoria recently, with the appointment of an interim board which remains in place until we achieve a critical mass of members, however in the space of only a couple of weeks we are experiencing a surge in membership in Victoria, this can only serve to strengthen AIDN.

We continue to work both behind the scenes, and occasionally in front to represent your interests the Government, the Opposition and Defence. AIDN is representing you on an ever-increasing number of reviews being undertaken by the Government through Defence and we strongly advocate for the SME community in these areas.

We unashamedly engage with the media to ensure that your voice is being heard throughout the country.

We are also increasing the number of courses that we will be offering to you to ensure that you have every opportunity to succeed in securing opportunities in the many contracts that defence is offering.

This Government is committing hundreds of billions of Australian taxpayers' monies to defence, and the Australian taxpayer must receive a return on investment for this. This return of course is in the form of increased Defence capability, we should all expect that part of the return on this investment is the creation of a sovereign Australian Defence industry. This creates a secure environment for Australia, it creates

economic stimulus, it creates employment, training, skills, and it stimulates Australian industry to undertake research and development. All of this is vital in ensuring a national resilience going forward.

There are some commentators who are regularly calling for defence equipment to be sourced overseas. They claim that we do not have time to create an Australian sovereign industry, they claim that we have run out of time, they claim that Australian industry is inefficient or costly and many of them are self-appointed strategic commentators, few of whom have ever worked in industry.

AIDN rejects this commentary, it is offensive to our members and simply false. You can expect AIDN to call these people out.

Special thanks

I would like to thank all the members for showing their support and putting their faith in this organisation, this is something that all of us at AIDN deeply respect and understand. We exist solely for the membership; we have no other role but to ensure that you can maximise your opportunities in the defence space.

And I would like to take the opportunity to wish all a safe festive season, a brilliant New Year and hopefully you all can take some down time to recharge. I know many of us will be separated from family, friends and loved ones due to boarder restrictions at this time, so make sure you look after yourselves and don't be too proud to reach out for help. We all need support from time to time.

See you in '22.

We continue to work both behind the scenes, and occasionally in front to represent your interests the Government, the Opposition and Defence.

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Do you have news?

Share your recent success stories, products or services with us!

We'd love to tell our Member Companies and people with an interest in the defence, security and aerospace sector.

Views expressed in the AIDN Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of AIDN Ltd. Not all third-party events included in the Upcoming Activities section are endorsed by AIDN. No responsibility is accepted by AIDN or the editor for the accuracy of information contained in the newsletter or the consequences of any person relying upon such information.

Contact

If you would like any further information or require any assistance with defence industry issues, please contact AIDN at:

info@aidn.org.au

The Hon Melissa Price MP – Minister For Defence Industry Minister for Science and Technology

I have been the Minister for Defence Industry for two-and-a-half years. Over this time, I have witnessed incredibly capable Australian businesses take that giant leap forward to enter – or expand their footprint in – the defence market. I am proud of what we have accomplished so far to support those businesses and I am determined to go even further to assist each of them as they continue on their defence journeys.

In two-and-a-half years, we have delivered a new contracting model that mandates Australian Industry Capability in major Defence programs. In the body of contracts we will now have mandated, specific, measurable and enforceable AIC commitments, guaranteeing work for Australian-owned and controlled small businesses. We have also delivered, from scratch, an Independent AIC Audit Program, holding major contractors to account on their commitments to local industry. If contractors are non-compliant with their local industry commitments, they are now required to remediate, or face either suspension of payments from Defence or the termination of their contract.

We've updated the Commonwealth Procurement Rules, ensuring AIC and economic benefits to small business are now considered as part of the 'value for money' evaluation. The review into Defence procurement and ASDEFCON is now complete and I look forward to releasing our Government's decisions on the recommendations in the New Year. This will lead to important changes at Defence that are aimed at cutting the red tape placed on Australian businesses. We will reduce the amount of time and money you need to spend and introduce positive changes to the way industry and Defence engage with one another during the entire capability life cycle.

In this time, our Government has also delivered the Defence Industry Secondment Program. We are placing Defence personnel into Aussie businesses to understand the day-to-day pressures and operations of a small business. These secondments will create long-term cultural change at Defence, ensuring the interests of small business are front of mind for Defence procurement decision makers.

The independent review into Defence innovation, science and technology is well underway and will ensure the Australian

Defence Force has access to the most cutting-edge capability in the world. This review has been examining the Defence organisation in its entirety, to establish how it can more effectively deliver home-grown, innovative and sovereign capabilities for the men and women of the ADF. Right now, the Defence organisation, its programs and the thinking behind those programs is outdated and based on an old understanding of our strategic circumstances. The 2020 Defence Strategic Update was very clear that our strategic circumstances have deteriorated. This update and our Force Structure Plan outlined a new direction for Defence's strategy and for our capabilities, and Defence innovation must change with it.

I have also recently launched the Office of Defence Industry Support – or ODIS as it will be known. This is not just some brand and website change to the CDIC as some may falsely try to assert. This is a new organisation with a redefined purpose that replaces the CDIC. ODIS will be a marketplace for Defence and the Primes to seek and find local solutions to capability problems. Under ODIS, there are no constraints on which businesses can be engaged. If we are to truly solve Defence capability problems and develop local supply chains, we need an office that knows the capabilities of our SMEs, who they are and where they are. We need an office that can bring the key players to the table and provide those local solutions from Australia's small and medium businesses to Defence and the primes. Commencing early next year, ODIS industry support teams in each state and territory will be reaching out to industry.

As a regional Member of Parliament, it's a given that I'm going to do whatever I can to support our regional SMEs. That's why ODIS will have a dedicated regional SME support team. I know there is so much more potential in regional Australia that needs to be unlocked, and I am determined to do this. Each ODIS office will also be co-located within a defence industry precinct within each state and territory to allow easy access for Defence businesses, Defence units and Defence industry associations. Exact locations haven't been locked in yet, but I can assure you that ODIS staff will be right where the action is, as they should be.

ODIS will have advisers in each state and territory with specific Air Force, Army and Navy experience to provide specialist



advice to businesses. This will ensure businesses can adapt their development and opportunities to meet specific Defence capability requirements. ODIS will be proactive, focusing on business growth, and it will be driven by the needs of Defence. This will increase the competitiveness of SMEs, giving them the ability to easily integrate into supply chains and grow to become competitive defence providers in their own right. ODIS will also have direct linkages to Defence procurement programs by identifying the needs of Defence capability managers and delivery groups. ODIS will then use these requirements to identify current SMEs who can meet Defence needs in the short term. ODIS will also adopt a flexible staffing model to ensure it remains fit-for-purpose. Its staffing requirements will be reviewed every month for the first 12 months of its existence. I will not have our small businesses impacted by a lack of resources. I will not put a price on sovereign capability. It will also be standard practice for ODIS to partner with industry associations and registered training providers across the country to deliver 'Defence Ready' training and workshops to maximise our reach to all corners of Australia. Through targeted partnerships, Defence will be able to engage with a broader group of businesses that are able to support the defence industry supply chain.

In two-and-a-half years, together with industry, we have achieved a lot, but more work needs to be done to continue on our journey building a truly sovereign defence industry to help keep Australians safe.

JobsPortal creating smooth sailing recruitment

The Naval Shipbuilding College (NSC) is building Australia's national naval shipbuilding workforce. The NSC has been helping job seekers find jobs in naval shipbuilding for over three years.

Partnering with AIDN, the NSC is pleased to support Australia's growing maritime small to medium enterprises (SME's), starting with the rollout of the National Workforce Register and JobsPortal.

For Australia's SME community, the NSC's Workforce Register and JobsPortal promises to be a force multiplier. Opening more opportunities for Australian job seekers to source rewarding employment and for the SME community to access pre-screened talent.

The ambition of the Australian Government's shipbuilding enterprise is unprecedented in Australia's industrial history. To succeed, it will require the unparalleled development of a sovereign naval shipbuilding and sustainment capability that reaches into every state and territory. This capability will be underpinned by a 'new level' of collaboration across industry to identify, attract, train, and retain the shipbuilding workforce.

Thousands of people will be required across the country, for decades to come, to design, build and maintain the future fleet. The jobs are across the Enterprise – from the major shipbuilding contractors and systems integrators to the local businesses contributing some of the millions of parts within the supply chain; to research, education and training organisations delivering the next generation of knowledge and skills; to the women and men of the Royal Australian Navy who will operate the future fleet; and Commonwealth, and State and Territory Governments working in close partnership to ensure the Enterprise's success.

The NSC is uniquely positioned to work closely with Government, industry, education and training providers and a wide range of stakeholders, to formulate and support the execution of plans to address the workforce development needs and requirement of current and emerging roles.

The NSC provides candidates with free tailored career and training advice on how to become industry referral ready. The



candidates who are referral ready meet a minimum criterion as identified and agreed with key shipbuilding organisations.

The JobsPortal, launched in early 2021, allows job seekers to search for vacancies in the shipbuilding sector, update their job profile, select target organisations and apply quickly and securely.

It also allows industry recruiters to connect with screened workers who are registered on NSC's National Workforce Register.

After initially being rolled out to the prime shipbuilding organisations in Australia and demonstrated to a number of SME's in 2021 as part of a pilot program, SME's will be able to access the JobsPortal from early 2022.

SME's who are registered will have direct access to industry referral ready candidates and candidates undertaking study for pipelining of future work who have been pre-screened by the NSC Talent Acquisition team against agreed criteria:

- ◆ Australian working rights (Citizens, Permanent Residency and working VISA)
- ◆ security clearances
- ◆ skills and experience in their profession

There is also the ability to advertise and

Thousands of people will be required across the country, for decades to come, to design, build and maintain the future fleet.

manage vacancies, free of charge via the JobsPortal.

The NSC's easy-to-use online platform can help organisations find exactly what they are looking for by connecting you with candidates all in one convenient place.

An Australian Government initiative established in 2018, the NSC is part of a collaborative industry/government team working together to build the workforce needed for a sustainable naval shipbuilding industry in Australia.

In 2022, the NSC plans to offer further services to the SME community, including workforce planning and training and education advice.

If you're interested in learning more about the NSC services or gaining access to the JobsPortal, please contact the NSC at events@NavalShipbuildingCollege.com.au



An Australian Government Initiative



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75 YEARS

In May 2021, Baker & Provan celebrated its 75th anniversary after being started by two returned servicemen, Arthur Baker and Don Provan, in 1946, in St Marys, Western Sydney.

Before the war, Arthur and Don worked together at the Small Arms Factory in Lithgow and today, Baker & Provan remains family owned and managed by the Baker family and now employs over 70 staff in Sydney, Cooma and Henderson, WA.

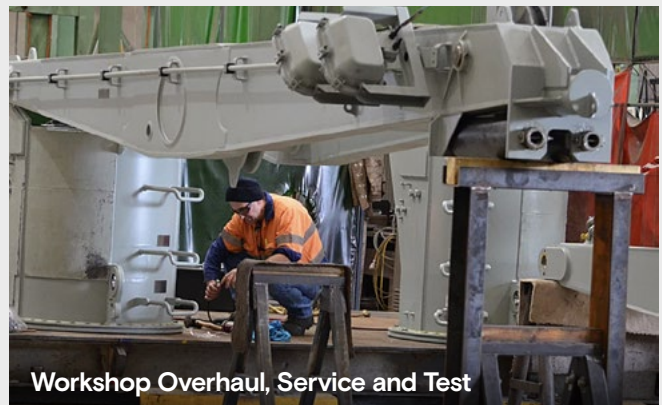
Today, Defence service work and projects, represent about 50% of company turnover, predominantly for the RAN and Defence prime contractors with support for other sectors including rail, mining and other industries.

What makes Baker & Provan unique to the Defence Sector?

Baker & Provan entered the Defence market in 1989 with the manufacture of slewing arm davits for the Australian Navy frigates. This then led on to over 3 decades of service support for both these davits together with a range of other equipment on behalf of selected European suppliers.

Backed by a large engineering workshop in St Marys, Western Sydney, Baker & Provan can offer a wide range of services including:

- Defence qualified fitting and electrical service teams located in Sydney and Henderson, WA.
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From the continued trials and tribulations of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which the Australian defence industry has proved their superiority, to the uncertainty triggered by the cancelling of the Attack-class submarine project — it's been a year that many would rather forget.

Unfortunately, this Government is more committed to the photo-op than the follow through in obtaining the benefits that a truly national sovereign defence industry endeavour should deliver.

The problems being created for the long-term sustainability of not just our defence industry, but for the integrity of Australia's capacity to service and sustain its defence are not limited to our ships and submarines but exist across our defence capabilities.

Australia needs a national capability building approach to defence industry policy based not merely on employing more Australians but on a strategic rationale that recognises that as an island nation located closer to areas of conflict than to our allies, we need to maximise our own capacity to build, sustain, upgrade and indigenise our defence materiel.

It is important that we don't let the chatter around the new Australia-United Kingdom-United States (AUKUS) partnership and Australia's new direction on submarine capability distract from other critical defence capability plans .

In a classic marketing move, the Morrison Government recently re-announced about \$1 billion worth of upgrades to WA naval base HMAS Stirling as part of preparing for AUKUS, when these projects were already in train under previous capability programs.

It is abundantly clear that local SME defence industry businesses must receive the investment they need to scale up, so we can be as self-sufficient here in Australia as possible — in the interests of our sovereign capability.

Instead, we recently discovered in Senate estimates that the Pacific Support Vessel slated in 2018 to be built in Australia will now be bought second-hand overseas.

The reason for this purchase overseas?

The Government took too long getting its act together to build a new vessel. This was despite local industry making it clear they were ready, willing, and able to undertake the work.

It's incomprehensible to me that many Australian businesses, have customers overseas jostling for our capabilities and inventions, but frequently struggle to get a look in when it comes to the Australian Defence Force.

You only have to look to the "Land Forces" event held in Brisbane earlier this year to see the fantastic capability our nation has — our defence industry is capable of so much more than what it's given credit for.

There is also smoke and mirrors on further defence infrastructure investment.

When making the AUKUS announcement, the Prime Minister said that his Government would "work with the Western Australian Government ... to invest in a large dry dock at Henderson".

"Work with" — that's not a commitment, though it's a convenient teaser for a Federal election campaign.

We don't know what that dock will look like, what it will be capable of, whether it will be a graving dock, a ship lift or possibly even a floating dock, and how the new nuclear propelled submarine project will be factored in.

The only other dock of its kind in this country is the graving dock in Sydney, due to go into long-term maintenance in a few short years.

Industry, and our ADF needs certainty that we won't lose that capability to work on our own vessels here at home while that maintenance is underway.

Buried in the September AUKUS announcement, WA was assured of a number of other future shipbuilding projects, yet, these promised projects are set to start at the end of the decade, after WA's existing naval shipbuilding work would have already been completed.

This leaves WA shipbuilders heading towards a cliff without more certainty from the Morrison Government.

The same problem may arise between the end of the OPV project in South Australia and the delayed Future Frigate build, and then again before the new submarine program starts (if it is actually built in Australia at all as the Government "intends").

We must provide industry the assurance of an ongoing pipeline of work in shipbuilding in our major shipbuilding centres but without an updated Naval Shipbuilding Enterprise Plan our Australian defence industry rightly needs assurance it will be prioritised and supported in gaining future work.

The recent unveiling of the new Office of Defence Industry Support (ODIS), however, is the latest admission of the failures of the Morrison-Joyce Government to support Australian defence industry.

ODIS will replace the Government's own Centre for Defence Industry Capability (CDIC), which it only established in 2016.

After significant defence industry backlash, the Minister for Defence Industry, Hon. Melissa Price MP, was forced to establish a review into the CDIC in 2019 which resulted in some damning findings, and a move from one department to another.

Now, the CDIC has been rebadged as the ODIS in an attempt to make it look like the Government might be finally doing something to rectify the systemic issues with the CDIC and Defence in its wider engagement with industry.

Astonishingly, there has been no mention by the Government of how this change impacts its recently announced "SME Support Cell" within the CDIC to support businesses affected by the cancellation of the Attack Class submarine.

New branding is not enough, it's time the Morrison-Joyce Government took our Australian defence industry and our sovereign capability needs seriously.

Through Labor's "a future made in Australia" policy, a Federal Labor government will leverage the \$270 billion defence capability investment pipeline, to develop sovereign industrial and research capabilities and build skills and expertise within the Australian workforce.

A Federal Labor government will also provide assurance for industry through delivering concrete rules and plans to maximise local content through our commitment to enforceable and transparent Australian industry capability requirements in all future defence contracts, all the while investing in and de-risking industry through our National Reconstruction Fund.

As we look to a Federal Election in 2022, know that for the Australian Labor Party, our nation's defence industry, sovereign capability and national security is an absolute priority.

Matt Keogh is the Shadow Minister for Defence Industry



AIDN National AGM and Board Nominations

The AGM started with the current chairman Graham Priestnall welcoming all AIDN National members to the 2021 General Annual Meeting. The chair followed the welcome with the confirmation of a Quorum as stated in the Constitution.

It was noted that AIDN National CLG was established on 1 July 2021. The Chairman then reviewed the companies' actives as of 1 July 2021 and into the end of the financial year. Due to COVID and state and territory chapters merging with National, few events took place after 1 July 2021. However, the planned events coming up in the new year include the AIDN National Dinner on 8th February 2022, held at the Great Hall, Parliament House in Canberra and the Showcase that has been moved to a later date with more information to come.

The chairman handed over to Carl Quarterman to give an update on the company's current financial position on

behalf of the Treasure Julie Savage, who was unable to attend. It was again noted that AIDN National CLG has been trading since 1 July 2021. This meant that there was no audited, annual account to view.

The chairman reported on any proxy votes. He continued to the confirmation agreements with members that the director's appointments can be voted on together in accordance with clause 41.2 of the Constitution. Followed again by the board composition limitations as detailed in clause 41.6. He proceeded to detail the duties of directors as stated in clause 49 of the Constitution. The chairman handed over to fellow board member Alexander Robison who thanked all those who nominated for the open board positions. He congratulated the new board members, elected by the AIDN National members, and announced them as:

- ◆ Graham Priestnall, DEWC Systems (AIDN SA)

- ◆ Alexander Robison, Seeing Machines (AIDN ACT)
- ◆ Carl Quarterman, Queensland Gaskets (AIDN QLD)
- ◆ Julie Savage, Cognesis (AIDN QLD)
- ◆ Sarah Pavillard, Adoita (AIDN NSW)
- ◆ Gary Bettcher (AIDN SA)
- ◆ Jon Hawkins, Omni Executive (AIDN ACT)

AIDN congratulates our new and returning board members and looks forward to working with them in 2022.

AIDN also gives special thanks to outgoing Board Member Toff Idrus (AIDN WA) for his dedication and service to the Board and AIDN and we look forward to working with him as an ongoing AIDN member.



AIDN ANNUAL DINNER 2022 SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

The Australian Industry & Defence Network is the premier Australian industry association representing Defence Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs). AIDN has grown from humble beginnings to represent in excess of 1000+ member companies.

Benefits to your Company by Sponsoring the AIDN Dinner

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- ◆ Marketing exposure to all AIDN members and senior Defence representatives;
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- ◆ Exposure at the Event through signage, announcements and AV display;
- ◆ Professional photography of your sponsored table, guests and staff;
- ◆ Free tickets to the event dependent on level of sponsorship;

AIDN National Annual Dinner Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsorships are still available. To find out more contact Hannah Stock hannah@precisionpublicaffairs.com

AIDN National Dinner

DATE CHANGE!

AIDN National is pleased to announce that we have secured a new date and venue for the AIDN National Gala Dinner:

Date: Tuesday 8 February 2022

Venue: Great Hall, Parliament House

Join guests from across the Australian SME community, Defence Primes, Defence Force, Government and industry organisations for an unmissable evening of entertainment, great food and wine!

Keynote speaker – Minister for the Defence Industry, the Hon Melissa Price MP.

CASG will be announcing the winner of the AIDN National Young Achiever of the Year Award

Registrations are now open, and tickets are on sale. AIDN Members see your emails for discount codes.

Thanks to our Platinum Sponsor:



Why not Sponsor the AIDN National Dinner?

Sponsorship packages are still available.

Benefits to your company by sponsoring the AIDN National Dinner:

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- ◆ Direct access to an audience comprising of your clients, current and potential
- ◆ Broadened exposure by acknowledgement in all print material



2020 AIDN National Young Achiever of the Year Award Winner Grace Johnson of Palantir Technologies Australia from AIDN ACT featured with (L-R) Chief of the Australian Defence force, General Angus Campbell AO, DSC, Chairman of the AIDN National Board, Graham Priestnall and Mr Tony Fraser AO, CSC, Head of Capability and Sustainment Group.

including the proceedings and AIDN National website.

- ◆ Promotion on the AIDN National website and LinkedIn page
- ◆ Exposure at the event through signage, announcements and AV display
- ◆ Professional photography of your sponsored table, guests and staff
- ◆ Complementary tickets to the event dependent on level of sponsorship.

To sponsor the AIDN National Annual Dinner email Hannah Stock
hannah@precisionpublicaffairs.com
to book and for more information.



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- **DISP consulting**



Reach out today... and let us help you gain traction into Defence.

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Update from the office of AIDN QLD President, Carl Quarterman—



On the 10 November 2021, more than 200 AIDN QLD members and guests representing Queensland Small and Medium Enterprises, Defence and Government gathered at the Hilton, Brisbane to celebrate AIDN Queensland and AIDN National achievements throughout 2021.

The audience listened intently to special guest speakers Ben James, AM, DSM – General Manager, Weapons and Munitions, NIOA, Brigadier Mark Ascough, CSM DSM – Commander of the 6th Brigade and Minister for the Defence Industry representative Mr Julian Simmonds MP – Federal Member for Ryan discuss current topics within the SME and Defence arena. AIDN QLD also welcomed honoured guests Group Captain Iain Carty, CSM – Senior ADF Officer RAAF Base Amberley and Captain Phillipa Hay CSC, RAN – Commander HMAS Moreton.

The highlight of the evening was a special presentation of the 2021 AIDN QLD Young Achiever of the Year Award (YAA). This year, the YAA was proudly sponsored by the Queensland Government and the Award presentation given by Deputy Director-General, Michele Bauer. AIDN QLD welcomed six nominations from outstanding individuals across the Queensland SME sector including:

- ◆ Daniel Hudson – Cyborg Dynamics Engineering
- ◆ Priyank Menezes – Airbus (Winner)
- ◆ Thomas Mulherin – Dingo
- ◆ Zummie Sia – Airbus
- ◆ Ravneel Chandra – Airbus
- ◆ Peter Pugno – IntelliDesign

AIDN QLD is proud to announce Priyank Menezes from Airbus as the 2021 AIDN



ABOVE: AIDN QLD Gala Dinner, the Hilton Brisbane

RIGHT: 2021 AIDN QLD Young Achiever of the Year Award Winner: Priyank Menezes of Airbus.

QLD Young Achiever of the Year Award (YAA). Priyank will go on to compete with YAA Winners from Victoria, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, and Northern Territory at the AIDN National Dinner in February 2022.

The staff and members of AIDN QLD and AIDN National warmly thank Carl Quarterman for his dedication and service in the role of AIDN QLD President. Carl has held this position for 5 years and has seen the exponential growth of the QLD Membership base to more than 200 members and was an integral advocate for merging AIDN QLD with AIDN National. Carl will continue to work closely with AIDN National, not only as a member, but hopes to continue his role as an AIDN National



Board member. AIDN QLD members have voted Frank Harrington from IntelliDesign to succeed Carl in the President's role and we eagerly look forward to working with him in this capacity.

YAA Judges:

- ◆ Jules McMurtrie of QMI Solutions
- ◆ Rodney Love of Latitude 4
- ◆ Rodger Manning of Bid Write

AIDN QLD is proud to announce the 2022 AIDN Committee:

- ◆ President: Frank Harrington – IntelliDesign
- ◆ Vice President: Shane 'Buzz' Sarlin – Buzzworks and Deloitte
- ◆ Committee:
- ◆ Carl Quarterman – Queensland Gaskets
- ◆ Barclay Anderson – B&C Plastics
- ◆ Michael Clark – Boeing Defence Australia
- ◆ Catherine Luck – Airbus
- ◆ Louisa Loveday – Laser Central
- ◆ Brad Geraghty – Minecorp
- ◆ Matthew Ellis – Frontline Manufacturing

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The 19th instalment of the ADM Congress will be held at the Hyatt Hotel in Canberra on 3 February 2022.

Attracting more than 600 senior-level delegates each year including Ministers, defence chiefs, the leadership of the Capability Acquisition & Sustainment Group, prime contractors and SMEs, this unmissable event is a highlight of the defence industry calendar. The event will include policy dialogue, high level debate, and extensive media coverage.

Conference registrations are available now and include tickets to the highly anticipated ADM Charity Dinner. The dinner is an excellent opportunity to come and liaise with your colleagues following the Conference at the Hyatt Hotel, Canberra.

After-dinner entertainment will feature a Q&A session with Former Deputy Secretary – Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group – Kim Gillis answering a variety of audience questions.

More information can be found here: <https://admevents.com.au/adm-congress/>

SAVE THE DATE!

DEFENCE INDUSTRY EVENTS 2022

February 2022

- 1 February – ADM Women in Defence Awards, Canberra
- 8 February – AIDN National Dinner, Canberra
- 22-24 February – MilCIS, Canberra

March 2022

- 2 March – AIDN NSW Gala Dinner, Sydney
- 8 March – Women in Manufacturing Breakfast, Brisbane

May 2022

- 10-12 May – Indo Pacific 2022 International Maritime Exposition, Sydney
- 25 May – Northern Australia Defence Summit, Darwin

July 2022

- 20-22 July – Australian Defence Science, Technology and Research Summit (ADSTAR), Sydney

October 2022

- 4 – 6 October – LAND FORCES 2022, Brisbane QLD

AIDN VIC Update



Update from the office of AIDN VIC President, Jack Kormas –



AIDN VIC held their inaugural YAA Event on Tuesday, the 30th of November in Melbourne at Batman's Hill on Collins Street. The event was sponsored by the Victorian Government and Hanwha Defence.

Jack Kormas, the AIDN VIC President gave an introductory presentation on the re-introduction of AIDN VIC as well as introducing the VIC Committee Members. He was followed by a keynote speech from John O'Callaghan, who is a member of the advisory board of defence. This was followed by Jack announcing the finalist for this year's VIC YAA as Rebekah Clarke from Elbit Systems of Australia, Brett Johnstone from Navantia Australia and Nil Shah from Nova Systems. Presentation then followed with John O'Callaghan doing the honours. Winner this year was Nil Shah from Nova Systems. It was noted that all 3 finalists were highly commended.

After the announcement of the winner, Tim Pickford from Hanwha Defence gave a speech as well as a short video presentation.



Tim Pickford of Hanwha Defence. AIDN VIC Young Achiever of the Year Award proudly sponsored by Hanwha Defence.

Overall, the first AIDN VIC event was both well attended and received. AIDN VIC is very much looking forward to hosting more of these awards and events in the future.



AIDN VIC President Jack Kormas, accompanied by John O'Callaghan of the Victorian Government. Presentation of Young Achiever of the Year Award.



Update from the office of AIDN NSW President, Anna Murray –



AIDN NSW September Function

NSW's September function was a continuation of the COVID-19-affected online functions. Presentations were from:

- ◆ Autodesk on their CAD and other software packages supporting advanced manufacturing
- ◆ Cider House ICT – on Ransomware and how to protect yourself from being trapped by it, and
- ◆ Flight Design – on their progression from a weather balloon company to a leader in aerospace services based on balloons and a range of drones including stealthy, high-altitude, long endurance models, with the latest anticipated to reach supersonic flight.
- ◆ Kinexus – on the latest trends for the defence industry workforce

AIDN NSW October Function

The October function saw a return to face-to-face functions in NSW, although still hybrid with a “healthy” crowd in attendance and presentations both online and face-to-face. These were from:

- ◆ The Australian Maritime College – the presentation concentrated on the new Tasmanian precinct in Launceston co-developed with DST Group and the University of Tasmania. This collaboration hub will include a number of cutting-edge sovereign capabilities for research and development and support to industry
- ◆ CDIC's Defence Business Advisor Gary Colquhoun - on the range of services and grants available to industry
- ◆ The Defence Industry Security Office on the latest threat and risk minimisation strategies, including governance, personnel security, physical security and information and cyber security

Many enjoyed the chance to get out to a “real” function and being able to network in person.

AIDN NSW YAA Function and Winner Presentations

AIDN NSW held its YAA Luncheon face-to-face last week sponsored by the NSW Government and HTR Engineering.

The Investment NSW Director Defence and Aerospace gave an introductory presentation on the state of defence industry in NSW, followed by a keynote speech from the newly appointed NSW Defence Advocate AVM (rtd) Kym Osley AM, CSC. This was followed by previous NSW and National Winner Tamara Perry from Thales who told us of the many benefits she received from her wins. All presentations were well received by some 50 members and guests in attendance.

Award Winner and place-getter presentations followed, with Kym Osley doing the honours. Winner this year was 19-year-old Jason Brand from Flight Design. Runner-up was Brooke Wells from DroneShield and third place James Hancock from Quickstep Technologies. It was noted that all six nominations received were of high quality.

 **Award Winner and place-getter presentations followed, with Kym Osley doing the honours.**

Overall, the function being our first fully face-to-face in 12 months was well received by all in attendance. NSW looks forward to running these highly successful Awards again in 2022.

AIDN NSW Christmas Function

The last function for AIDN NSW this year is on the 8th December. Over 100 are booked to attend. Awards for Longstanding membership to AIDN NSW will also be presented on the day.

AIDN NSW 'De-Registration Day'

NSW is getting closer to its final de-registration and integration into AIDN Ltd. All NSW members are already also national members. Two significant outstanding items are left before finalisation – a SADI application for project management training; and the results of a tender submitted to run a Regional Defence Networks Program on behalf of Investment NSW. The latter will involve delivering service similar to member services across 4 regions in NSW and has the potential to establish a broader membership base in NSW.

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Update from the office of AIDN NT President, Steve Ludwig –



SERCO Platinum sponsor

AIDN NT would like to thank the generosity of their Platinum Sponsor Serco Group Pty Limited. Serco provides **facility management services, health management services, fleet and marine services, immigration and justice and correction services** and the provision and support of vessels under contract with the Commonwealth of Australia.

NT Update

It has been a very busy time for all in Darwin as we unfortunately have seen the first transmission of Carona virus in our Indigenous community. This will impact some works and the NT Government is assisting to ensure Defence contracts are supported by ensuring Networks like AIDN -NT keep abreast of member input of possible solutions to keep these works in progress.

- ◆ AIDN-NT attended UPDATE ON REGIONAL MAINTENANCE CENTRE NORTH (RMC NORTH, and hosting was my old colleague Todd Tippett Director PBSO CASG, with interfacing with Canberra and the Assistant Secretary John Toohey. The event at the Hilton saw approx. 100 Darwin organisations present with a live stream, and spoke of Darwin being one of the Pivotal maritime regions in Northern Australia. AIDN-NT EO David Milne spoke in response to audience questions and asked as Exercise Kakadu 2022 is one of the largest flotillas to be assembled since World War two in Northern Australia waters, and the involvement of 30 sovereign nation allies off the coast of Darwin has CASG thought of the



Ministers award for Defence industry Gold medal services. Nominated by Ventia.

need for maritime waste facilities to be implemented. Currently maritime vessel are required to abide by the International maritime procedure, and dispose of their waste which Darwin has no capacity to do. Many Defence and civilian vessels cannot unload their bilge, so they do not visit our Darwin Port and go to other ports that can do this. Defence maritime is severely impacted by not having the capability or sustainability for this. It would improve confidence in the Darwin SME and also provide additional work for our region going forward if this is considered.

The Assistant secretary replied it was a good point however, is not within CASG scope but he would follow up with his colleagues in Canberra.

- ◆ On the 23rd November AIDN-NT met for their Annual AGM. The event whilst modest in numbers saw approx. 20 members attend.

On the Agenda was the new committee nominations which resulted in Andrew Jones being elected. Andrew has a long history with AIDN-NT being a former President and committee member. The former president Steve Ludwig as re-joined the us as a committee member. Current AIDN NT Committee Members are:

- ◇ Andrew Jones – President
- ◇ Jim Walker – Vice President
- ◇ Stephen Asher – Treasurer , as Matt Strudwick has re-joined as a committee member after his service of treasurer
- ◇ Annette Souter – Secretary and still within her terms of office
- ◇ Grant Orr – Still within his terms of office
- ◇ Matt Strudwick – committee member
- ◇ Steven Ludwig – committee member
- ◇ Belinda Wilson – Jaytex – Committee member

New AIDN NT members are

- ◇ Tony Halikos – Steeline – committee member
- ◇ Ian Able – MIB Facilities – committee member
- ◇ Doug Reid – AALM – committee member
- ◇ Michael Prentice – Lucid Consulting committee member

Young Achiever of the Year Award

AIDN NT is proud to announce Harry Carr as the 2021 AIDN NT Young Achiever of the Year Award winner. Harry works for SAGE Automation Darwin in Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

Harry was nominated for this award above the other excellent candidates for his ongoing hard work through SAGE to deliver projects while minimising interruptions of normal operations, ensuring Defence maintain as much functionality as possible, while upgrading their systems to include redundancies for out of normal conditions. Harry has also begun his Masters in Cyber Security as part of his continuous development.



Harry Carr YAA winner NT with Brigadier Foxall AM, CSM and Darwin Serco Manager Julie Latimore.

AIDN NT Update (continued)

The second agenda item was the transition to National with a majority vote to do so.

AIDN NT Gala Dinner

Our Gala Dinner on the 30th November was attended by 140 guests with Brigadier Nick Foxall, AM, DSM giving a welcome speech as the newly appointed Commander of 1st Brigade. He went on to award with SERCO our YAA winner Harry Carr his award.

We were given a video message by the Chief minister as he was at a sitting of parliament on our night and could not attend personally.

The Minster's Award for Defence went to Gold Medal Services and was awarded by the CEO NT Government Andy Cowan.

Distinguished guests included:

- ◆ Commander Northern Command – Colonel Marcus Constable
- ◆ CO HMAS Coonawarra – CAPT Moses Raudino RAN
- ◆ Commander 1st Brigade - Brigadier Nick Foxall, AM, DSM
- ◆ CO RAAF Darwin



Nurdiah Kamaruzaman certificate of recognition being a young achiever. Nominated by our member Ian Abel MIB Facilities.

- ◆ CO RAAF Tindal
- ◆ CO JLU
- ◆ Commander RFSG
- ◆ Director Patrol Boats Systems
- ◆ Captain Patrol Boats
- ◆ EIG
- ◆ CO Marine Rotation Force
- ◆ CDIC

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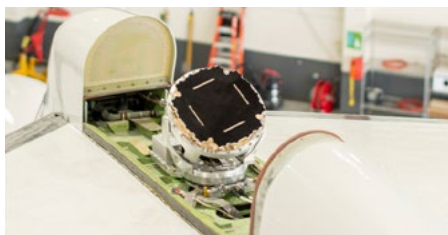
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can also access cloud services and cloud service providers via the terrestrial network, and SD Data Center customers can use the teleports as a bridge for both legacy and new network technologies worldwide.

Hardware

SD manufactures routers, modems, and handsets, and will launch the first antenna of the SD Plane Simple™ Antenna series in Q1, 2022. Developed by SD, the series includes a dual variant tail mounted antenna which can be installed on any aircraft capable of supporting a 12-inch antenna, as well as a flat panel fuselage mounted antenna. The two LRU terminal system – the antenna and cabin modem – requires minimally invasive installation and supports seamless upgrade paths. The advanced technology antenna series introduces superior connectivity services optimising cutting edge technology solutions, to better support customer needs. The inaugural antenna is supported by the Intelsat FlexExec HTS Ku-band network and will be followed by the Ka-band variant in late 2022. Supporting



the best-in-class connectivity experience are the highly regarded SDR® and SDR® Gateway cabin routers which the RAAF already employs.



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AIDN CEO, Brent Clark presenting an AIDN and Industry update.



Update from the office of AIDN ACT President, Stuart Althaus –



2021 in Retrospect

What a year it has been. There have been many highlights - overall an amazing example of what teamwork and getting on with the job can achieve. It has been difficult, different, and provided us all both individually and collectively with challenges that we never thought we would have to deal with either in our lifetime or indeed, I believe our children's lifetime. From the AIDN perspective it has been quiet but we have still achieved much.

- ◆ New people on the ACT Board.
- ◆ Functions
 - ◇ Women in Defence
 - High level of interest hosted by Downer
 - ◇ Accenture
 - Working with SMEs
 - ◇ Downer
 - Working with SMEs
- ◆ Panels
 - ◇ DSS Refresh next year
 - ◇ ICTPA refresh this year
 - ◇ Big DSTG Panel revamp
- ◆ Membership has been growing regardless of the lockdowns
- ◆ Passed the motion to become a



2021 AIDN ACT Young Achiever of the Year Award winner, Connor Brandish receiving his Certificate from Sue McGready of Downer and Stuart Althaus, AIDN ACT President.

- national organisation
- ◇ Now in the mechanics of getting that all sorted

YAA 2021

The YAA was conducted at the Commonwelath Club on the 15th Dec. All very deserving applicants. They were:

- ◆ Liam Gooding CEA Technologies
- ◆ Connor Brendish Penten (Winner)
- ◆ Joshua Byrne AMW Professional Services
- ◆ Reshae Johnson AeroPM
- ◆ Michael Guo RD Consulting

AIDN ACT Update (continued)

Sue McGready from Downer, Emma Stuart from Brownstone Consulting and the AIDN ACT President, Stuart Althaus were the judges. Connor Brendish was awarded the Winner with Liam Gooding as Highly Commended. Connor's standout was his motivation for self learning and moving forward with his career at Penten.

2022

Will be a new set of faces in the Board into 2022. I would like to personally thank all those that contributed this year and stepped up. AIDN is certainly on the radar across all areas of Defence now and with Brent at the helm and the new look Board, only good things can happen. Thank you to the workhorses of Sonya Hogan (Treasurer), Emma Pilbeam, Emma Stuart, Jason McClure (now stepped down) and Patrick Batch. Others on the Board – Tony Smart and Nathan Heberley, and now Mark Egger – the prodigal son – now returning will be joined by others into the new year I am sure.

This list would not be complete at all without the ongoing support and assistance from Winston Bucknall who has literally been a part of the furniture for many years. Thankyou.



Guests enjoyed networking and presentations at the 2021 AIDN ACT Young Achiever of the Year Award presentation.

This will be Stuart's last missive as the President as he steps down to allow another (soon to be announced) to take on the role.

Merry Christmas to you all and looking forward to seeing you all in person next year!

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AIDN NATIONAL GALA DINNER 2022

Tuesday, February 8th
6:00 PM – 11:00 PM

The AIDN National Dinner will be held at Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra, where we will present the AIDN Annual National Young Achiever Award.

Speakers:

- Minister for Defence Industry, the Hon Melissa Price MP
- Tony Fraser (CASG) presenting the AIDN National Young Achievers Award

More speakers to be announced shortly

Those who will be invited to attend the AIDN National Dinner will include:

- The Secretary and Deputy Secretaries of Defence
- The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman
- Chiefs of Defence and Services representing our ultimate customer, the men and women of the ADF
- AIDN National CEO, AIDN National Board of Directors and State Chapter Executives
- AIDN member companies including Prime contractors
- Various industry, defence and media representatives

Defence industry's growing focus on diversity

By Claire Harris

Defence industry event focused on diversity

Claire attended AIDN-ACT Women in Defence Industry: Leading with Cognitive Diversity event, at the end of November in Canberra.

It was a packed out event (clearly I'm not alone in having missed networking). And it was informative; through the panel discussion it was great to hear from such experienced Defence → Defence industry business women, including some sitting squarely in STEM fields. You can see them all in the featured image above, in the following order from left to right:

- ◆ Facilitator: Katherine Ziesing, Strategy and Communications Lead, SME Gateway facilitating
- ◆ Kylah Limmer, Head of Defence & Intelligence, ANZ, Fujitsu
- ◆ Simone Wilkie, Director, The Beaufort Group (and Ret'd Maj General)
- ◆ Alexia John, Founder and Managing Director, Bluebird Advisory
- ◆ Karen Schilling, General Manager, Corporate, Sigma Bravo, a KBR Company.

The importance of diversity, in all its forms

They spoke about what it means to be a leader in Defence Industry and how diversity — broadly speaking — is critical for our innovation ecosystem. As well as getting my brain cells fired up and feeling inspired, it was also a pleasure to meet so many women running their own businesses.

As a side note: Alexia John, Managing Director of Bluebird, is making incredible progress in her data and technology transformation business. It's a booming field. In four months, she's already recruited 12 people for her team!

My key takeaways

A lot was covered but here are the key points I took away (and found particularly pertinent):

- ◆ That there is growing awareness of how important diversity is. "Cognitive diversity, risk, psychological safety are



AIDN-ACT Women in Defence Industry: Leading with Cognitive Diversity. Event November 2021 in Canberra.

all important parts of innovation," said Alexia John.

- ◆ Agile organisations need to support 'failing fast' and this is most effective when staff feel psychologically safe to make mistakes and learn. Without this safety there won't be open mindedness to try something new and fail/learn; therefore we can't make effective progress in innovation.
- ◆ That businesses and organisations need to make leadership, culture and values-based decision making front and centre in how the business operates. Alexia recommended: 1) all staff complete a Hogan's assessment and 2) organisational psychologists coordinate reflection and self-awareness exercises.
- ◆ Karen Schilling added: "Hire for culture and values; train for skills. And if the leader hasn't been living the culture and values, they need to change or move".
- ◆ There's a long way to go (still) to achieve cognitive (and other forms of) diversity in the Defence industry. Stereotypes and biases — like if you don't know all the acronyms and Defence lingo you don't know what you're talking about — are holding the industry back.
- ◆ Karen Schilling said: "We need to have women at every level." And everyone agreed. Some panellists didn't really like targets or quotas. But they did acknowledge that at the end of the day, 'special measures' are a

valuable mechanism to move closer to equity and a more 'level playing field'. Prioritising diversity should be included in an organisation's Key Performance Indicators and regular reporting.

How can we support the next generation of women?

Towards the end of the panel discussion I asked the panellists how they are supporting the next generation of women to get into STEM and Defence industry. They are enthusiastically promoting women in leadership roles and seeking to employ more women, which is fantastic. There was general agreement that businesses supporting their staff to talk to kids and teens in schools would be a good first step.

Alexia John emphasised that we cannot fail in getting greater diversity into coding and Artificial Intelligence applications. The risks to society are too great. In particular, this is because much of the tech is hidden from broad oversight by Intellectual Property and other provisions. This emphasises the importance of having diversity 'baked in'. Otherwise biases and stereotypes can proliferate in new technologies.

Diversity and innovation

This topic really goes deep for me and strikes to the heart of why diversity is so important in innovation, like everywhere else.

"What kind of society are we going to architect?" Alexia then asked, as she wrapped up. What kind of society do we want to create, indeed.

Prioritising diversity should be included in an organisation's Key Performance Indicators and regular reporting



Update from the office of AIDN WA President, Kris Constantinides –



On the 12th October AIDN-WA held its AGM, expanding the committee to 10 people. The committee now includes Richard Baker (Red Piranha), Kristian Constantinides (Airflite), Rachel Falzon (then Echo Marine), Jim Kingston (Matrix Engineering), Tracy Mclean Smith (Matrix Engineering), Mark Musarra (Blue Zone Group), Brett Peek (NSM), Peter Rogers (Cool Technologies), Tim Speer (Austal), and Simon Watson (Watmar).

AIDN-WA, together with fellow industry advocates Henderson Alliance, hosted the WA Defence Industry Gala Dinner on the 5th November. An audience of 460 people had the opportunity to hear from a number of high profile and diverse speakers. During the evening, AIDN-WA's Young Achiever Award was presented to Warren Ko of Ventia, while the Minister's Award (WA Defence Industry Minister) for Excellence in Defence was awarded to Innovaero. Terry Gropp won the Minister's Award for Services to the Defence Industry. The night concluded with extended social time, including a dance floor, and the evening was a successful celebration of Defence Industry in WA.

AIDN-WA hosted BAE for a Meet the Primes Event on the 9th November, providing members with an opportunity to understand BAE and their current needs from the sector. NSM is confirmed for the next Meet the Primes Event on the 14th December.

The AIDN-WA Christmas Event will be held on the 22nd December and promises



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to be another evening of networking opportunities, friendship and well wishes for the festive season.

YAA comments from the judging panel:

Warren was chosen among a competitive entry list of very diverse and accomplished applicants.

After speaking with the applicants' references, the stand out was Warren Ko.

Warren's Bachelor of Commerce from UWA gave him the strong background to pursue his career in Defence, and enabled him to

gain employment with Ventia.

Warren worked with Ventia in Perth and Sydney, focussing on business improvement and cost savings, by applying the latest technology and modern business management methods.

AIDN-WA is very proud to put Warren Ko forward as our candidate for the AIDN Young Achiever Award.

AIDN WA 2021 DEFENCE INDUSTRY GALA DINNER

Congratulations go to their wonderful finalists and award winners:

2021 AIDN WA YOUNG ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR

- ◆ Corey Pickering – Austal
- ◆ Warren Ko – Ventia (WINNER)

MINISTER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEFENCE INDUSTRY (SME)

- ◆ BRE Engineering
- ◆ Innovaero (WINNER)
- ◆ Red Piranha

MINISTER'S AWARD FOR SERVICES TO DEFENCE INDUSTRY (INDIVIDUAL)

- ◆ Terry Gropp – Maritime Defence Solutions (WINNER)

AIDN WA wish to thank their distinguished speakers and guests:

- ◆ The Hon Melissa Price MP, Minister for Defence Industry
- ◆ Mr Matt Keogh MP Shadow Minister for Defence Industry
- ◆ Mr Jens Nielsen, the Chief Executive Officer of NVL Luerssen Australia (platinum sponsor)
- ◆ Michelle Strother from Spartan First Pty Ltd
- ◆ Taylor Odishoo, the 2020 AIDN WA Young Achiever of the Year Award winner
- ◆ The Hon Paul Papalia SCS MLA, Minister for Defence Industry Western Australia

AIDN WA would also like to thank their wonderful sponsors and partners:

Platinum Sponsor – NVL Luerssen Australia



AIDN-WA YAA 2021 Winner Warren Ko (centre), with Award Sponsor Peter Rogers (left) of Cool Technologies, and AIDN-WA YAA 2020 Winner Taylor Odishoo (right) of Thales, at the WA Defence Industry Gala Dinner.

AIDN WA Update (continued)

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2021 AIDN WA Young Achiever of the Year Award Sponsor – Cool Technology

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AIDN NATIONAL GALA DINNER 2022

Tuesday, February 8th
6:00 PM – 11:00 PM

The AIDN National Dinner will be held at Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra, where we will present the AIDN Annual National Young Achiever Award.

Speakers:

- Minister for Defence Industry, the Hon Melissa Price MP
- Tony Fraser (CASG) presenting the AIDN National Young Achievers Award

More speakers to be announced shortly

Those who will be invited to attend the AIDN National Dinner will include:

- The Secretary and Deputy Secretaries of Defence
- The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman
- Chiefs of Defence and Services representing our ultimate customer, the men & women of the ADF
- AIDN National CEO, AIDN National Board of Directors and State Chapter Executives
- AIDN member companies including Prime contractors
- Various industry, defence and media representatives



Update from the office of AIDN SA President, Gary Bettcher –



On 2nd December, at the Combined AIDN SA, GMUSG and DICA End-of-Year Garden Party, the CEO of Defence SA, Richard Price, announced the winner of the AIDN SA Young Achiever Award was Georgia Castignani of Nova Systems. Commendation Certificates were also awarded to Scott Huynh of DEWC Services and Tristan Van Hoof of DEWC Systems.

Georgia joined Nova Systems as a Graduate Engineer in November 2019 after completing her studies at the University of Adelaide. As a member of the Digital Engineering team, Georgia has played a key role in the establishment of Nova's Digital Engineering and Model Based System Engineering capability. Most recently, Georgia has joined Nova's Strategy team as an Analyst to assist with the development and implementation of Nova's Group Strategy.

On 16th December, as result of Gary Bettcher, AIDN SA President, being successfully elected at the AIDN AGM as one of the new Directors of Australian Industry & Defence Network Limited, under the new Constitution, Gary Bettcher has stepped down as the President of the SA Chapter. Gary will continue to volunteer on the AIDN SA Management Committee.

Meanwhile, Michael Slattery of Rowlands Metalworks has been elected by the AIDN SA Management Committee as AIDN SA President. Michael's contact details are Mobile: 0418 883 828; Email michael@rowlandsmetal.com.au


The AIDN SA Management Committee wish all members and stakeholders a very safe and happy festive season and Happy New Year.



TOP: Left to right – Gary Bettcher, President AIDN SA, Tristan Van Hoof of DEWC Systems, Georgia Castignani of Nova Systems, Scott Huynh of DEWC Services, Richard Price CEO of Defence SA.

ABOVE: Left to right – Tristan Van Hoof of DEWC Systems, Georgia Castignani of Nova Systems, Scott Huynh of DEWC Services

LEFT: From left to right – Gary Bettcher, President AIDN SA, Georgia Castignani of Nova Systems, Richard Price CEO of Defence SA.



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