

# VICTORIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY OVERVIEW



DEFENCE  
EXCELLENCE



# Victoria is the home of innovation, advanced manufacturing, and world class research and development capabilities

## PROVEN EXPERTISE

Victoria's defence sector is an important contributor to the state's economy, adding around \$8 billion annually.

The state has proven expertise across the spectrum of defence capabilities: land, aerospace, maritime, weapons and munitions, digital technology, cyber security and research and development. The state's impressive local supply chain network plays a vital role in building and sustaining multiple defence platforms. Victoria has a highly skilled workforce and a strong record in delivering complex defence projects for the Royal Australian Navy, the Australian Army, and Royal Australian Air Force.

## MARITIME SYSTEMS

Victoria has world-class maritime research and development (R&D), design and engineering capabilities, and deep capability in naval shipbuilding, dating back to the 1940s. Through the state's extensive shipbuilding history and leading manufacturing and scientific research experience, Victoria has the expertise and the supply chain partners to make a significant contribution to Australia's naval submarine and shipbuilding programs. More than 300 Victorian companies have proven and contemporary maritime and submarine capabilities.

## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND CYBER SECURITY

Victoria has more than 150 companies demonstrating competitive capabilities in digital technologies, cyber security and data services making it well placed to lead on the advanced technology aspects of major defence projects. ICT and cyber expertise is fostered in Victoria, with a wide range of capabilities in cyber security, electronic surveillance and countermeasures, radar and sonar systems, communications systems and robotics. Victoria produces 36 per cent of Australia's digital tech graduates – more than any other state.

The state is on track towards building the largest cyber security cluster in Australia which has seen the establishment of the Oceania Cyber Security Centre and the CSIRO's Data61 Cyber Security and Innovation Hub at Melbourne's Docklands.

## LAND SYSTEMS

Victoria has a proven record in the delivery and support of land equipment, products, systems and services to the Australian Defence Force, as well as substantial engineering and research and development capabilities. More than 320 businesses are involved in land defence systems in Victoria, including the manufacture of protected vehicles, combat systems, munitions and defence apparel.



## AEROSPACE SYSTEMS

Victoria's innovative world-class aerospace design and manufacturing capabilities make a significant contribution to Australia's military aerospace industry. Around 250 aerospace companies supply the Australian and global defence industry. Victorian companies have been awarded 65 per cent by value of all Australian contracts for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter project. Success in projects like this demonstrates the ability of Victorian based companies to deliver leading-edge military technology into global supply chains. Victoria is also home to significant capability in Unmanned Aerial Systems, and advancing the development of these technologies.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Victoria has one of the largest R&D clusters in the southern hemisphere and produces commercially focussed and ground-breaking research. Defence technology research is supported by Victoria's tertiary institutions, often in collaboration with the Department of Defence, industry and other national and international institutions. Victorian universities spend approximately 29 per cent (\$3.1 billion) of Australia's university R&D spend and approximately 38 per cent (\$33.9 million) of national university defence R&D spend. The Defence Science Institute, the Defence Science and Technology Group, the Defence Materials Technology Centre, the Australian Manufacturing and Materials precinct, and IBM's Global R&D Laboratory all have facilities in Melbourne.

## SPACE

Around 250 space-related science and technology organisations are based in Victoria. Several of the state's universities have space related R&D capabilities that are world class. The Victoria Space Sciences Education Centre is unique to Australia and a world leader in providing STEM learning using space as the catalyst to engage and enthral young students. Some of the world's biggest names in aerospace – including Lockheed Martin, Thales, Boeing and BAE Systems – carry out aerospace research, development and manufacturing activity in Victoria. In addition, many Victorian businesses have specialised space-related capability in research, design, engineering and manufacturing.



## WORKING TOGETHER WITH INDUSTRY

The Victorian Government's vision is for an innovative, globally competitive, highly skilled and adaptive defence industry that maintains its position at the leading edge of providers serving the Australian Defence Force and global supply chains. With proven expertise in delivering complex defence projects and recognised globally for innovation and world class defence industry capabilities, Victoria can make an important contribution to Australia's future defence needs.

The Victorian Government actively liaises with the Commonwealth Department of Defence and defence industry to identify and ensure that Victoria's defence industry can capitalise on future opportunities, including in domestic and international defence programs.

**VICTORIA'S DEFENCE SECTOR IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE STATE'S ECONOMY, CONTRIBUTING UP TO \$8 BILLION ANNUALLY. THE SECTOR EMPLOYS AROUND 18,500 PEOPLE AND HAS MORE THAN 770 BUSINESSES WHICH MAKE EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE SERVICES FOR DEFENCE ACTIVITIES.**

## FURTHER INFORMATION

### **Defence, Aerospace & Security**

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