



MEDIA RELEASE



AIDN-WA Welcomes the Launch of New Office to win Defence Business for Western Australia

Friday 26th May 2017

AIDN-WA congratulates the Premier of Western Australia, Mr Mark McGowan and The Minister for Tourism; Racing and Gaming; Small Business; Defence Issues; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests, Mr Paul Papalia on the establishment of Defence West.

AIDN-WA President, Mr Paul Roberts stated “On behalf of our AIDN-WA members as well as everyone in the defence industry in WA, we welcome the focus and support from the State Government to assist us to position ourselves to win our share of the Defence business that is forecast especially in Naval ship and submarine construction, and their subsequent sustainment.”

WA industry is especially well placed to take a major share of the sustainment budget that supports the current fleet and the ships and submarines of the future. Some local companies are already engaged in support of the ADF units based in WA, and their performance and reputation for excellence enhances and puts substance behind WA’s claim for a significant slice of the Defence construction and sustainment budget.

Recognition of industry in the most recent Defence White Paper as a “fundamental input to capability” is a very significant breakthrough for Australian industry. More recent statements that the Future Submarines will be built by a “sovereign industry capability” are even more important and exciting.

For these reasons, the Defence West initiative announced by the Premier and the Minister today is very timely. Focused and assertive action by the State Government to hold the Federal Government to its promises can only be good for WA and WA industry. Informed guidance to industry should make their efforts on their own behalf more cost effective.

AIDN-WA congratulates the WA State Government on this timely, helpful and exciting initiative.