

# QUEENSLAND AEROSPACE

## 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan PROGRESS REPORT

By 2028, the Queensland aerospace industry will be recognised as a leading centre in Australasia and South East Asia for aerospace innovation in training; niche manufacturing; maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO); and unmanned aerial systems (UAS) applications for military and civil markets.

Launch  
2018



Completion  
2028

## Unite & Recover

International border closures due to COVID-19 had a dramatic impact on the aerospace industry in Queensland, particularly the aviation sector. Despite this temporary industry downturn, the Queensland Government has continued to stimulate the aerospace industry through investment in infrastructure, technology and international promotion. I look forward to continuing to champion Queensland aerospace businesses, taking the industry to new heights.

**The Honourable Steven Miles MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER and MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT**



## Case study – Queensland Flight Test Range in Cloncurry

The Queensland Government has invested \$14.5 million to establish the foundation phase of a common-user flight test range with beyond visual line of sight capabilities at Cloncurry Airport. The Queensland Flight Test Range (QFTR) provides a critical missing element in the UAS ecosystem for industry and researchers to test and develop complex technologies. Operated by global defence technology company QinetiQ, the QFTR supports the Queensland Government's goal of establishing the state as a UAS centre of excellence and a UAS leader in the Asia-Pacific region.

Inaugural testing at QFTR was completed by Boeing Australia in late 2020. Director of Boeing Phantom Works International Emily Hughes said the company was proud to be the first user of the site and would take the opportunity to continue flight trials on key autonomous projects.

'The facility will provide excellent conditions to test a range of airborne test beds, which is part of an autonomy R&D program that's heading toward new autonomous product and prototypes,' Ms Hughes said.



**Queensland  
Government**

# Achievements under the Queensland Aerospace 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan

## Strategy 1

Grow Queensland's aerospace industry and create high-value, knowledge-based jobs

- In partnership with Boeing Australia, new advanced autonomy platform technology was developed in Queensland, with 42 Queensland SMEs participating in the project supply chain and 189 high-tech jobs supported.
- The national Trusted Autonomous Systems Defence Cooperative Research Centre (TAS-DCRC) established in Brisbane, with strong support for Queensland-led research projects.
- The Queensland Drones Strategy launched – the first of its kind in Australia.
- The foundation stage of a UAS flight test range established and operational at Cloncurry Airport.
- Establishment of the Defence and Aerospace Industry Development Fund, with 18 SMEs from across Queensland sharing in up to \$250,000 in round one to achieve internationally recognised industry certifications.
- Supported the establishment of the Qantas Pilot Training Academy at Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport.
- Developed the \$8 million Queensland Space Industry Strategy to support the burgeoning space sector.
- Provided funding support for projects including a simulator facility in Brisbane (Ansett Aviation Training); aviation base in Rockhampton (Alliance Airlines); hanger expansion facility at Cairns Airport (Hawker Pacific); expansion of facility for large-scale, state-of-the-art aircraft manufacturing and modification at Caloundra Aerodrome (Helimods); new flight training centre at Brisbane Airport (Qantas); and, subject to orders, an advanced manufacturing and final assembly facility for the Boeing Airpower Teaming System – the first military unmanned aircraft to be designed, engineered and manufactured in Australia in more than 50 years (Boeing Defence Australia).

## Strategy 2

Enhance Queensland's level of industry capability to access new global supply chain opportunities and international markets

- Supported Queensland-based industries such as Ferra Engineering; Heat Treatment Australia; RUAG; L3 Harris – Microe; and TAE Aerospace to enter supply chains for projects like the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program.
- Identified potential supply chain opportunities with Queensland businesses for defence projects such as Land 129 Phase 3; SEA 129 Phase 5; Land 2097; and JP 9102.
- Established the MRO Industry Consultation Group to examine the challenges faced by the MRO industry.
- Established and maintained regular engagement with industry and expert panels through the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group; Strategic Defence Advisors; Minister's Advisory Council on Defence Industry and Jobs; North and South Queensland Defence Advisory Boards; and Queensland Space Industry Reference Group members.
- Delivered 53 defence and aerospace capability development workshops to over 790 attendees across Queensland.
- Increased awareness on critical industry issues through regular consultation with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and the Australian Space Agency, while making formal submissions on the Australian Space Industry; *Emerging Aviation Technologies – National Aviation Policy Issues Paper*; Queensland Parliament Space Industry Inquiry; and *Space (Launches and Returns) Act 2018*.

## Strategy 3

Promote Queensland as a preferred destination for aerospace capability, servicing both local and global markets

- Sponsored international events in Queensland including MRO Australasia (attracted to Australia as inaugural event); World of Drones and Robotics Congress; and Hawker Pacific PT6 Customer Conference.
- Promoted Queensland at MRO Australasia; MRO Asia-Pacific; Avalon; International Astronautical Congress; Regional Aviation Association of Australia; and RotorTech.
- Conducted a trade mission with 11 Queensland organisations to attend MRO Asia Pacific 2019 in Singapore and visitation program to Indonesia.
- Significant participation of Queensland-based stand partners and potential business generation at major events such as Avalon 2019 (18 companies; 78 quality leads worth approximately \$11 million); MRO Asia Pacific 2018 (10 companies; 107 quality leads worth approximately \$1.4m); MRO Asia-Pacific 2019 (11 companies; 38 quality leads worth approximately \$4.7m); and MRO Virtual 2020 (10 companies; 46 quality leads worth approximately \$650,000).
- Marketed Queensland's industry capability through the refreshed Queensland Defence Industries Capability Directory; UAV Capability Matrix; Aerospace Capability Matrix; and advertised in key industry publications.