

# QUEENSLAND DEFENCE INDUSTRIES

## 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan PROGRESS REPORT

By 2028, Queensland will be Australia's front line for defence industry by increasing the revenue contribution to the Queensland economy to \$7 billion and creating a 10,000-strong, highly skilled workforce that is renowned for its agility, innovation and depth of capability in supporting the Australian Defence Force and its allies.

Launch  
2018



Completion  
2028

## Unite & Recover

Following the outbreak of COVID-19, the resilience of Queensland's defence industries has played a vital role in the state's return to economic prosperity. During the pandemic, the sector continued to grow, with some businesses diversifying their manufacturing capabilities to produce items such as personal protective equipment. Queensland remains Australia's front line for defence industries, with a highly skilled workforce renowned for its agility, innovation, and depth in capability. The Queensland Government will continue to partner with key defence industry players to capitalise on the Australian Defence Force's significant and ongoing investment, leveraging the state's sovereign capabilities to drive growth and create jobs. I look forward to continuing to champion Queensland defence industry businesses and seizing opportunities to secure additional defence contracts here in Queensland.

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



## Case study – Rheinmetall Defence Australia

South East Queensland is now home to the most advanced military vehicle manufacturing facility in the country. Under a long-term partnership with the Queensland Government, Rheinmetall Defence Australia has established its Australia-New Zealand Headquarters and Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence (MILVEHCOE) in Redbank, Ipswich.

From the state-of-the-art \$170-million facility, Rheinmetall will deliver 211 Boxer combat reconnaissance vehicles to the Australian Army under the \$5.2 billion LAND 400 Phase 2 project. The facility will also manage the delivery of Rheinmetall's other projects including the long-term sustainment of 3500 logistics trucks under the LAND 121 program and the manufacture of lance turrets for export to the Hungarian military.

In addition to boosting the Queensland economy by \$1 billion, Rheinmetall expects the MILVEHCOE will create up to 450 jobs for Queenslanders in the first 10 years.

The state government strongly supports Rheinmetall's bid for the LAND 400 Phase 3 project, worth up to \$27 billion. Should it be successful, Rheinmetall will manufacture the 450 infantry fighting vehicles at the MILVEHCOE.



Queensland  
Government

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



## Strategy 1

### Grow Queensland's defence industry capability

- \$30 million to support key upgrades to the Cairns Marine Precinct and plan for its expansion, helping to leverage ongoing maintenance work on Naval and Australian Border Force vessels and underpinning Defence's decision to designate Cairns as the first of four Regional Maintenance Centres to be created.
- Established the Defence and Aerospace Industry Development Fund, with 18 SMEs from across Queensland sharing in \$250,000 to achieve internationally recognised industry certifications under the first round of program funding.
- Worked with the Defence Materials Technology Centre to pilot a welding benchmarking and technology transfer program to assist Queensland manufacturers maximise opportunities to enter defence supply chains.
- Supported TAFE Queensland to purchase 15 3D augmented reality welding simulators to fast-track the training of 135 experienced welders to international standards.
- Secured the headquarters for the national Trusted Autonomous Systems Defence Cooperative Research Centre (TAS-DCRC) in Queensland, leading to the creation of 75 jobs.
- Partnered with AustCyber to establish the Queensland Cyber Security Innovation Node to grow Queensland's cyber security capability.
- Delivered 53 defence and aerospace capability development workshops to over 790 attendees.

## Strategy 2

### Significantly increase Queensland's defence industry contribution to the national and global market

- Established two defence industry hubs in Ipswich and Townsville to help local SMEs access defence opportunities
- Assisted regional SMEs to capitalise on opportunities arising from the \$2.5 billion Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative.
- Successfully attracted global defence giant Rheinmetall to establish its Australia-New Zealand Headquarters in Queensland and oversaw the development of the \$170-million MILVEHCOE, supporting 300 construction jobs.
- Supported Rheinmetall's successful bid for the \$5.2 billion LAND 400 Phase 2 project to deliver 211 Boxer combat reconnaissance vehicles for the Australian Army.
- Partnered with Boeing to develop new autonomous systems capability in Queensland supporting 189 high-tech jobs.
- Supported a \$60 million munitions manufacturing facility for Rheinmetall NIOA Munitions to create approximately 100 jobs in Maryborough.
- Championed TAFE North Queensland's successful bid for the \$36 million Navy contract to deliver training for Pacific patrol boat crew in Cairns. This opportunity was identified at the 2019 South Pacific Defence and Industry Forum in Cairns, led by DJQ with support from the Cairns Regional Office.

## Strategy 3

### Promote Queensland's defence industry capabilities

- Hosted the inaugural 2019 South Pacific Defence and Industry Forum in Cairns.
- Successfully led Queensland's bid to attract Australia's premier international land defence exhibition, Land Forces, back to Queensland.
- Supported the TAS-DCRC Accelerating Trusted Autonomous Systems Symposium to be held in Townsville in April 2021.
- Promoted Queensland capability at nine national and international defence trade shows, conferences and events between 2018 and 2021. This included assisting 59 businesses showcase at five of the international trade shows generating a combined total of 366 quality leads worth approximately \$68.8 million.
- Marketed Queensland's industry capability through the refreshed Queensland Defence Industries Capability Directory and advertised in key industry publications.