



MEDIA RELEASE

BOOST FOR AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY TO SUPPLY TO MAJOR DEFENCE PROJECTS

Canberra, 2 July 2026

Industry Capability Network (ICN) welcomes the announcement from the Albanese Government to deliver on its commitment to reset the development, acquisition and sustainment of Defence capability projects announced by The Hon. Pat Conroy, today.

Today, the Albanese Government released the 2026 Defence Industry Development Strategy (DIDS), outlining how they will strengthen Australia's sovereign defence industrial base and boost self-reliance. The announcement included an additional \$80 million in Defence Industry Development Grants to support Australian defence businesses.

The DIDS highlights the need to pursue closer industrial collaboration and integration for co-development, co-production and co-sustainment opportunities as well as improving the measurement of industrial capability and capacity. Defence's Industry Intelligence Capability provides support to decision makers to strengthen the sovereign defence industrial base. This includes collaboration with trusted partners such as ICN, for assessments of capability, capacity and resilience to meet Defence's requirements.

ICN ensures that local suppliers have full, fair and reasonable opportunity to access public and private projects. To date, ICN's work has helped facilitate contracts for local suppliers valued at over \$57B+, creating thousands of jobs and significantly expanding local industry participation.

"ICN works across multiple sectors and with the Australian Government to support local Industry. Our aim is to ensure that supply chains are resilient and sustainable, so that we can grow and build Sovereign Capability; We are looking forward to continuing to deepen our relationship with Defence to provide key intelligence insights of the supply chain, aligned to the Defence Industry Development Strategy announced by today by the Minister." said ICN National Office, CEO, Warren Jansen.

ICN encourages businesses to join its key platform: Gateway, to receive alerts of newly listed projects and work packages and take advantage of some of Gateway's key features, such as automated Quad Charts and Capability Statements, which are relevant to promoting sovereign capability.

To join Gateway, visit gateway.icn.org.au

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Media contact

ICN National CEO, Warren Jansen is available for comment.

Warren Jansen

wjansen@icn.org.au

+61 404 473 236

ABOUT ICN

ICN is a business network that introduces Australian and New Zealand companies to the supply chains of major projects both here and overseas.

ICN has been helping build new procurement partnerships for over 40 years and has a network of more than 100 Industry Specialists across Australia and New Zealand.

Every day, ICN works with project managers to show them how they can save time and money by using competitive local suppliers, as well as spending time with Australian and New Zealand suppliers to help identify new opportunities for their business.

Learn more about ICN 1300 691 139 or visit icn.org.au

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