



Military Aerospace

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Aerospace excellence

Victoria has the largest and most innovative aerospace sector in Australia. It supplies design services and manufactured components to international, commercial and military customers. Victoria's world class aerospace design and manufacturing capabilities make it the lead Australian state for military aerospace.

Home to the largest number of aerospace engineers in Australia, Victoria's aerospace capabilities include:

- research and development
- design
- manufacturing
- software development
- systems engineering and maintenance
- repair and overhaul.

In terms of military aerospace, Victoria offers:

- global aerospace manufacturers producing to the highest quality levels within the Asia Pacific region at competitive prices
- an advanced manufacturing environment with an excellent skills base and transport infrastructure
- high quality, cost effective aerospace design by utilising experienced design staff, excellent communications and IT infrastructure.

Airframe design and manufacture

Victoria accounts for 40 per cent of the national aerospace industry with more than 150 firms and 5000 workers in the sector.

The high concentration of aerospace manufacturing, with an annual turnover of more than \$600 million and exports of \$250 million, underpins the sector in Victoria. Military aerospace contributed \$281 million in 2006/07.

Victoria's largest aerospace company, Hawker de Havilland (HdH), is located at Fishermans Bend. It produces airframe components for the F/A-18 fighter, conducts design for the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) program and is providing components for the RAAF's Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft. HdH exports about 95 per cent of production.

GKN Aerospace Engineering Services is a dedicated design and engineering services provider located in the Port Melbourne aerospace precinct. GKN holds the highest value contract in Australia for the JSF program employing more than 200 engineers.

Market opportunities

Victoria's aerospace manufacturing sector has been independently assessed to deliver the highest quality, cost effective goods and services in the Asia Pacific region.

Victoria is playing a major role in the Joint Strike Fighter project, in terms of software, composite components, precision machined components and tooling - 50 per cent of the value of all contracts awarded to Australia.

Victoria is at the forefront of the development of Unmanned Airborne Vehicles (UAV) systems for global markets.



Market participants

Located in Melbourne, the Tenix Aerospace Systems Support Centre conducts large-scale aerospace systems, engineering and support projects on behalf of the RAAF and RAN aircraft and helicopter fleets. Tenix recently secured the contract to support and upgrade the P3 Orion fleet.

Aerostructures Technologies is a specialist structural engineering services provider, delivering structural integrity support to the Australian Defence Force and commercial clients. Aerostructures is also contracted to provide aircraft structural integrity support to the RAAF.

AAI Aerosonde is a successful Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) designer, manufacturer and operator. The Aerosonde UAV is developed and operated globally under a sophisticated deployment and command system.

BAE Systems Australia is responsible for the development and manufacture of the Nulka naval decoy, a \$500 million export success story. BAE Systems, through the leveraging of its missile and decoy guidance expertise, is the national leader in research and development for autonomous systems and UAV projects. BAE Systems Australia Integrated Autonomous Systems is a designated global centre of excellence within BAE Systems and is a key player in international UAV programs including SUAVE and HERTI. West Sale airport is home to BAE Systems Australia's autonomous systems test and trials facility.

Leader on major projects

Tenix Aerospace Systems Support Centre is responsible for all current and planned weapon system capability upgrades and supporting sustainment activities for the P3 Orion fleet. Tenix Aerospace is also carrying out the modification to twelve C130H aircraft at its Melbourne Airport facility to fit Electronic Warfare Self Protection

Twelve Victorian companies have secured half of all the JSF contracts awarded to Australia:

- Lovitt Technologies
- GKN Aerospace Engineering Services
- Hawker de Havilland
- Production Parts
- Marand Precision Engineering
- Metaltec
- Cablex
- Adacel
- Rosebank
- Vipac
- Trimcast
- Aerostaff

Contact Details

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