



Military Munitions and Missiles

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Munitions and weapons systems excellence

A superior track record in supporting the needs of the Australian Defence Force, combined with world-class manufacturing capabilities and excellent infrastructure, has made Victoria the premier location for ordnance manufacture in Australia.

At the centre of excellence for weapons systems design and manufacture, Victoria is the leading manufacturer of explosives, propellants, rocket motors, small and large calibre ammunition, grenades and aircraft bombs.

The vibrant Defence Industry sector in Victoria generates around \$1.7 billion in revenue annually and employs some 11,000 Victorians. The munitions and military sector accounts for some 10% of this total.

Market opportunities

Domestic opportunities – Explosive ordnance warstock
– Artillery replacement

Export markets – Growing demand for special purpose devices in Europe, Asia and North America
– Ordnance supply for Joint Strike Fighter
– Convergence in technologies of missiles and guided weapons

Munitions production

Victoria provides technically advanced munitions solutions to the Australian Defence Force. Our strengths in munitions include design, manufacture, refurbishment and testing.

Over 40 product lines are manufactured in Victoria including:

- aircraft bombs
- artillery/naval gun ammunition
- cannon ammunition
- small arms ammunition, and
- grenades
- pyrotechnic devices
- pyrotechnic countermeasures





Defence weapons and ordnance generate around \$175 million annually, creating jobs for around 1000 Victorians in the production and supply of materials.

Market participants

Thales Land Systems, located at sites in Melbourne, Benalla and Mulwala operates Australia's indigenous munitions production capability. In addition to munitions production, Thales also undertake in-house product development, research and development and through life support.

Olin Australia (Winchester) manufactures small arms ammunition in Geelong for defence and commercial markets.

Chemring Australia is the leading Australian designer and manufacturer of specialised military pyrotechnics, pyrotechnic countermeasures, special purpose devices and search and rescue equipment. Chemring also undertakes research and development tasks for the Defence Science and Technology Organisation.

Victoria has a broad and diverse chemicals industry engaged in development, manufacture and supply of the necessary materials for ordnance production.

Missile systems

BAE Systems Australia is responsible for the development and manufacture of the Nulka naval decoy, a \$500 million export success story. BAE Systems is also the Australian principal for the Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile project and is the design authority for key guidance components.

Thales Australia provides critical capabilities in guided weapon systems, including:

- development and manufacture of the Nulka rocket launcher, rocket canister and rocket propulsion units for Australian and global customers
- development and manufacture elements of the international Evolved Sea Sparrow
- a missile program, including electronic test equipment for the launch system
- manufacture of Penguin missile warheads.

Contact Details

For further information please contact:

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The Victorian Government provides a range of networks, programs and initiatives to support new and existing businesses in Victoria. Invest Victoria and the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, through its dedicated Defence Industry Unit, provide a gateway for accessing information and assistance.

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