

Concept

AUSDII, the Australian Defence Industry Incubator, will be a not-for-profit national incubator focused on supporting, validating and scaling Australian early-stage defence and dual-use companies to transform concepts into real-world sovereign Defence capability.

MISSION

AUSDII's mission is to grow the pipeline of innovative Australian companies by equipping early-stage companies with the knowledge, skills and connections to become successful in the local and global Defence markets.

AUSDII is built on the three-year proven track-record of success of the Defence Trailblazer's DINAMIC incubation program and is modelled on successful international exemplars that support allied nation's defence capability such as DEFENSEWERX, NATO DIANA, BlueForge Alliance and Brave1.

AUSDII will deliver a bespoke end-to-end incubation program strengthening Australia's sovereign capabilities aligned with Defence's strategic growth areas and dual-use technologies including advanced cyber, artificial intelligence and autonomy, electronic warfare, hypersonics and counter-hypersonics, quantum technologies, and undersea warfare.

Why is AUSDII needed?

Australia's strategic environment demands faster, more agile and collaborative approaches to Defence capability development.

While Australia hosts several innovation incubators, there is no current defence-specific national incubator program that supports Australian early-stage companies developing defence capability.

AUSDII closes a critical gap between technology concept and defence adoption by connecting innovators and early-stage companies with operational endusers, expert advisors, technical capability providers, investors, and global networks.

AUSDII will uplift and de-risk early-stage companies to ensure these companies are ready to support Defence.

EARLY STAGE COMPANIES



VETERAN
founded entity



STARTUP
existing industry or new to Defence



SPIN-OUT
from Defence-focussed Universities or R&D centres (DRCs, CRCs CSIRO)



SME
with Defence or dual-use concept



A NATIONAL INCUBATOR PROGRAM EMPOWERING AND SCALING INNOVATIVE COMPANIES FOR A SAFER WORLD.

AUSDII WILL IDENTIFY, BUILD AND CONNECT.



Undertake due diligence to identify high potential early-stage companies with technologies that contribute to Australia's defence priorities.



Offer defence-focused incubation programs to strengthen Australia's sovereign capabilities.



Facilitate connections with mentors and experts to uplift defence, technical, commercial and investment readiness to accelerate growth.



Develop bespoke strategies to de-risk early-stage companies for rapid acceleration and growth.



Support and facilitate end-user operation trials and demonstrations.



Developing strategies and approaches to de-risk the ventures so they can be scaled rapidly for economic and national security.

DEFENCE READY, RESILIENT BUSINESSES OPERATIONALLY VALIDATED PRODUCTS READY FOR



AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE



INDUSTRY PRIMES | GSC



ADVANCED STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES ACCELERATOR



NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY



GLOBAL DEFENCE MARKET

Programs

AUSDII will support early-stage defence and dual-use companies with a range of support and programs to help validate and scale.

Innovation Program

Activities will include workshops, bootcamps and structured programs to support defence, commercial, technical, investment and export readiness. The program will engage partners, mentors, experts and investors.

This program is based on the Defence Trailblazer DINAMIC programs with input from DEFENSEWORX, NATO DIANA and Blue Forge Alliance.

End-User Operation Trials

Activities focused on demonstrating and trialing solutions with Defence end-users in operational environments. It is envisaged that some of these trials may be with international partners through the AUKUS and FVEY arrangements.

Workforce Program

Connecting tertiary and/or vocational education students in internships and work placements to support early-stage companies' product development and trials.



AUSDII's Ecosystem

AUSDII's commercialisation engine comprises of an ecosystem of participants, trusted delivery partners and end-users that will work together to support the incubation, validation and scaling of early-stage companies to grow the pipeline of innovative Australian defence capabilities.

Participants

Participants of AUSDII programs will comprise of innovators with defence or dual use technologies at Technology Readiness Levels 1-6 including but not limited to entrepreneurs, veteran-founded entities, start-ups, scale ups, SMEs, as well as spinouts and teams from universities and R&D entities such as CSIRO, CRCs & DRCs and ADSUN.

Trusted Delivery Partners

- Mentors and experts
- Australian Defence-focused investors
- Technical Capability providers
 - Universities
 - DSTG
 - Australian National Fabrication Facility
 - CSIRO
 - Industry partners

End-Users

- Australian Defence and National Security Agencies.
- Industry including system integrators and dual-use sectors
- Defence Primes- particularly GSC program participants.
- International Partners- AUKUS and FVEY

Governance model

AUSDII will be a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee.

AUSDII will have a skills-based Board comprising an independent Chair and three independent directors.

To ensure that the Defence and National Security needs are at the forefront of AUSDII considerations, three additional Board positions would be allocated to senior executives nominated by this community.

Funding model

AUSDII will be funded through a partnership model.

AUSDII partners will be drawn from the Commonwealth and State Governments, private capital partners, defence-focused universities, defence industry, trusted international partners and consulting/advisory firms.

AUSDII will require approx. \$3.5 - 4.0m per annum. Further details on the funding model can be found at dtb.solutions/ausdii

AUSDII'S PROJECTED OUTCOMES*:



\$118m
of economic
benefits directly
attributed to
AUSDII



570
jobs
(direct and
indirect)



1500
ventures and
companies
accelerated

*SPP Analysis (2025) - Benefit assessment over a five year period