

**LEWG 2025 Unclassified Deep Dive Sessions**

Wednesday 25 June

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## Land Environment Working Group 2025

Army's key engagement with industry



### **Robotic and Autonomous Systems Implementation & Coordination Office (RICO)**

Title:

*Army Emerging Technology System Update*

Theme:

The Army Accelerated Capability Pipeline (AACP) was launched in 2024, with Army Innovation Day for 2025 an innovation mechanism to respond to the priorities set out in the National Defence Strategy (NDS)

The NDS has emphasises the importance of innovation, science, and technology to rapidly develop and introduce advanced military capabilities into service.

To meet this, AID 25 established 3 challenge statements to exploit emerging technologies for Army for use in a series of key exercises. Army's operational themes are:

**Theme 1:** Range and Lethality - Seeking innovations supporting extended range and lethality outcomes through the employment of autonomous systems

**Theme 2:** Sustainment - Seeking innovations to double the land combat service support (CSS) system, using RAS to increase capacity at the tactical edge.

**Theme 3:** Survivability - Seeking innovations supporting land force survivability through autonomous system enhancements

Army invites industry to join this briefing session, which will provide an update on the AACP progress and learning to date, status of AID25 and next steps, and the roadmap for AID26.

Industry will be invited to provide insights around the approaches to market.



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### Dismounted Combat Program

Title:

*Dismounted Combat Program*

Theme:

The Dismounted Combat Program manages weapons, ammunition, body armour, field equipment, and night vision capabilities to maintain a capability advantage over potential threats and take advantage of new technologies.

The Program will enhance dismounted combatants lethality and survivability by focussing on: anti-armour systems (including Precision Loitering Munitions), a Close Combatant Assault Rifle, Light Machine and Medium Machine Guns and enhancements to our body armour.

The Program Sponsor will provide an update on the priorities for the program and LAND300. It will focus on enhancing the capability of dismounted combatants in the littoral environment.

Key issues for consideration:

1. Sustainment of the dismounted combatant in littoral and dispersed environments.
2. Signature management against multiple sensors for dismounted forces.

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### Land Combat Vehicle Program

Title:

*Increasing Australian industry support for sustaining Armoured Fighting Vehicle*

Theme:

There can be benefit to Defence and the ADF support system when domestic industry can provide major system and sub-system maintenance effects, as opposed to a requirement to transport systems internationally for key maintenance tasks.

It is acknowledged that there can be limitations on technology transfer, and ensuring a required throughput of work to enable domestic industry. Many risks can be reduced through international partnerships with OEMs or generating an Australian-based regional support hub that services the Asia-Pacific region.

**Problem Statement 1.** How can industry contribute to develop a pathway for domestic major platform assembly maintenance and net reduction in overseas repair and overhaul requirements?

**Problem Statement 2.** How can industry and Defence together mitigate the risks to achieving IP transfer and authority to sustain by enabling international partnerships and regional support hubs?



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### Battlefield Aviation Program

Title:

*Battlefield Aviation Program Plenary*

Theme:

The Battlefield Aviation Program will brief attendees on the status of the Program.

A panel comprising senior Capability Manager and CASG staff will convene to field Industry questions and discuss shared opportunities to realise Battlefield Aviation capability.

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### Land Mobility and Support Program

Title:

*Land Mobility and Support Program Brief*

Theme:

The Program Sponsor will provide an update on the progress of program. It will include a strong focus on the NDS/IIP intent and ensuring the provision to industry of useful insights on the program.

1. Sovereign Capability to support maintenance and supply in a contested environment (Concept ASPIRE Theatre Mission 1):
  - a) How can Defence support SMES and build diversity in production and supply in Australia?
  - b) How can Defence assist industry to optimise supply chain resilience?
  - c) Fuel supply chain: strategic to operations.
2. Vehicle Modernisation in a Littoral environment.
3. JP8218 Project Brief.

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### **Land Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance and Electronic Warfare (LISREW)**

Title:

*The Land Targeting Enterprise*

Themes:

Land is enhancing its targeting enterprise to support the Integrated Force on an accelerated timeline. This will require modernisation across Land and integration with other services and Coalition partners. The aim is to reduce the cognitive burden on operators and analysts, increase speed of decision-making and situational understanding.

Focus:

1. What can industry provide to facilitate data integration and analytics to reduce manual processes and cognitive burden?
2. What can Industry provide to support near real time sharing of data, information and intelligence within the Land Targeting Enterprise and to the Integrated Force down to tactical level.
3. What would prevent industry from integrating with multiple systems that may be from different vendors?
4. Is there an industry preferred data model and architecture to support integration.

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### Littoral Manoeuvre Program

Title:

*Littoral Manoeuvre Program*

Theme:

Army is to be transformed and optimised for littoral manoeuvre operations by sea, land and air from Australia. The establishment of the littoral manoeuvre capability is a vital step in the restructure and re-posture of the Integrated Force.

Under the strategic shipbuilder pilot, Landing Craft Medium and Landing Craft Heavy will be built at Henderson by the strategic shipbuilder, Austal. This contributes to the growth of a productive and resilient sovereign shipbuilding industrial enterprise, including its underpinning supply chains and workforce.

The Program Sponsor will provide an update on the progress of program. It will include a strong focus on the NDS/IIP intent and ensuring the provision to industry of useful insights on the program.

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### Special Operations Modernisation (SOMOD)

Title:

*ADF SO Program Update*

Theme:

Brief to attendees on the progress of the ADF SO Program since LEWG 2024.

Undertaking Capability Development activities in a fiscally constrained environment.

1. Enabling an accelerated Capability Development pathway, through revised assessment and approval methodology, for low Technical Readiness Level (TRL) capabilities.
2. Focus on supporting and leveraging opportunities from sovereign Australian Industry partners, especially those entities with sound commercial and technical innovation operational foundations.
3. Strengthening Non-US International Collaboration / Industry Partnerships.
4. Industry Partner / SME Primers for discussion: Where are your pressure points? How can SOMOD support your success?

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### Land C4 and Land Network Integrations Centre (LNIC)

Title:

*Accelerating Tactical Communications Modernisation (immediate priorities)*

Focus:

How can industry contribute to the development of a tactical communication system at the edge that is free from International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), operates at lower classification levels (PROTECTED and below), enhances regional interoperability options and leverages coalition Mobile Ad-hoc NETWORK (MANET) waveforms such as Tactical Scalable MANET. How do we integrate these networks into traditional higher classified networks? How do we manage and provide a support system to these networks? How do we enable command and control for a focused, littoral land force all the way to the tactical edge, at extended ranges and beyond-line-of-sight. How do we manage its signature?

Title:

*Enhancing Network Resilience and Tactical Decision Superiority in a Contested Environment (medium priorities)*

Focus:

1. How can industry deliver secure, resilient, and adaptable LC4 solutions that provide assured Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT), Zero Trust architecture, and Electro-Magnetic Spectrum (EMS) awareness to ensure operational effectiveness in littoral and long-range manoeuvre environments?
2. How can we leverage multi-orbit SATCOM? How can we integrate automation and AI for real-time decision superiority while evolving from COTS/MOTS to next-generation capabilities.
3. How can we achieve temporal advantage in the EMS?

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### Land C4 and Land Network Integrations Centre (LNIC)

Title:

*Interoperable and Modular Communication Systems for Future Multi-Domain Operations (longer term priorities)*

Focus:

How can industry develop deployable LC4 solutions that embrace modular open systems architectures to support agility and interoperability options across a range of Army platforms and headquarters?

Title:

*Land Network Integration Centre (LNIC)*

Focus:

How Defence plans to accelerate capability delivery of the Land Combat System architecture through Model Based Systems Engineering.

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### Land Fires Program

Title:

*Close and long-range fires*

Theme:

Generating affordable mass for strike

Focus:

**Question 1.** How can Army generate low-cost precision at tactical ranges and mass at operational ranges with indirect fires systems?

- Discuss current tactical and operational indirect fires systems
  - Cannon
  - Rocket
  - Precision Loitering Munitions (PLM) / One Way Effects (OWE)  
/ Ground Launched Effects (GLE)
- Define some of the innovation boundaries

**Question 2.** Describe some of the major bottlenecks slowing speed to capability and scaling. Introduce industry opportunity to build capability and capacity in this field in parallel to domestic manufacture.

- Ballistic engineering and technical integration.
- Supply chain vulnerability and limitations

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### Land Survivability Program

Title:

*Counter-small Uncrewed Aerial System*

Theme:

How can the ADF enable a whole of nation response to the domestic UAS threat?

Focus:

**Question 1:** How can the ADF track and defeat UAS swarms through a one-to-many CUAS operator capability?

**Question 2:** How can the ADF defeat Group 3 UAS in a manner that is cost balanced in terms of effectors versus UAS?

Title:

*Combat Engineer Support and Bridging*

Theme:

How can the Future Integrated Force achieve counter-mobility and terrain shaping effects against an adversary in the Indo-Pacific littoral environment in support of Australia's National Defence Strategy of Denial?

Focus:

**Question 1:** How can we leverage new low-cost and emerging technologies to achieve counter-mobility effects at scale while complying with Australia's obligations under international treaties and other agreements?

**Question 2:** What terrain shaping effects can we achieve through the combined effects of long-range fires and advanced ISR systems?

**Question 3:** What are the options for low-cost scalable capabilities vs high-cost exquisite capabilities that can achieve a terrain shaping effect?

**Question 4:** How can we use mobile or robotic systems to achieve a terrain shaping effect?

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### Land Survivability Program

Title:

*Counter Explosive Hazards*

Theme:

How can the amphibious capable Combined Arms Integrated Force ensure mobility, freedom of movement and agile force protection in an Explosive Hazard environment?

Focus:

**Question 1:** How can robotic and autonomous systems enhance the ability to find and neutralise explosive hazards at greater speed and scale to current methods?

**Question 2:** How can current and legacy counter IED capabilities be adapted or utilised to respond to high-end conventional explosive hazards fitted with advanced sensor systems and integrated to kill chains?



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### Landworthiness

Title:

*Defence response to Recommendation 61 of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide – Management of traumatic brain injury: Industry Engagement*

Theme:

Recommendation 61 from the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (RCDVS) Final Report requires Defence to establish a brain injury program to mitigate and treat the impacts of brain injury from low-level blast exposure and other neurocognitive issues experienced by serving ADF members. Blast exposure and brain injury are complex issues. Defence is investing in significant research to understand blast exposure, the implications to health and training as well as the identification of the most appropriate ways to mitigate the risks to personnel. Current research is identifying potential options to protect Australian Defence personnel.

Problem statement:

For the Australian Defence Force context particularly with respect to training the force, how can industry contribute to the development of appropriate controls and systems to mitigate the risks of exposure to blast pressure effects associated with the use of weapon systems and explosive breaching systems so far as is reasonably practical.

Director General Landworthiness will provide an update on the progress of Defence's work in this space. The following will be covered:

- Outline of Defence expectations for suppliers to the ADF under the WHS Act 2011 to identify, consider, treat and monitor risks associated with products or services supplied to the ADF
- Outline of Defence's system for evaluating equipment procured for the ADF to ensure that that equipment meets functional requirements, is safe to use for the intended operating environment and satisfies fundamental input to capability requirements

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### Landworthiness

- Outline of Defence's approach to understanding and addressing the risks to ADF personnel associated with blast exposure
- Outline known international approaches to managing the risks associated with blast exposure