

Delivering the Innovation Edge

At Defence Science and Technology (DST) Group we are renewing our focus on our own internal innovation challenges and strengthening our role as the innovation integrator for Defence. To deliver innovative solutions we are acknowledging the barriers that hinder the innovations reaching the war-fighter and streamlining our innovation approach. The DST Innovation Roadmap is built upon four broad themes:

Unleashing our potential

We are focused on enhancing our organisational readiness and addressing the barriers to delivering innovation by transforming the way we work and ensuring we are a modern, well connected and innovative organisation.

Building teams that deliver

We will endeavour to make a paradigm shift to building open teams across the National Innovation and Science (NIS) community, removing the barriers to partnering with Defence and implementing mechanisms to better engage the NIS Community.

Contributing to the Ideas Boom

We will look to be better engaged as a member of the NIS community and strengthen our Innovator Integrator role to attract a more diverse set of capabilities to engage in solving Defence's technology challenges and to better exploit the knowledge, skills and infrastructure available.

Delivering the Technological Edge

We will implement a new approach to leverage the Next Generation Technologies Fund to address the priorities identified in the Defence White Paper.



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A New Approach to Defence Innovation

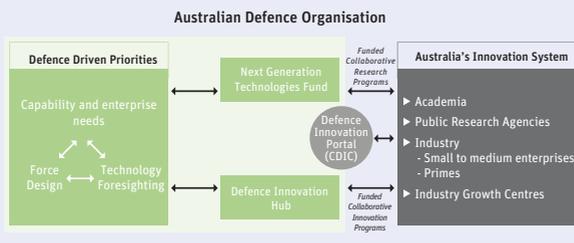


Defence Innovation System

The 2016 Defence White Paper outlines a blueprint for transforming the Australian Defence Force into an innovative, integrated, and networked force.

The government also released a Defence Industry Policy Statement, which for the first time has clearly backed the ability of Australian industry, universities and government research organisations to deliver innovative solutions to Defence.

The transformed Defence innovation system is founded on four key initiatives: the Next Generation Technologies Fund; the establishment of a Defence Innovation Hub; the Defence Innovation Portal—as part of the Centre for Defence Industry Capability; and a changed culture and processes in Defence to systematically remove barriers to innovation.



The Government has positioned DST Group to lead its new investment in game changing technologies through the establishment of the Next Generation Technologies Fund. This will tackle the important defence scientific and technological challenges utilising Australia's national innovation system consisting of academia, industry and publicly funded research agencies. These programs will embrace technical risk and will create new knowledge that can be applied by the Innovation Hub or Defence's acquisition and sustainment organisation to produce valuable defence systems.

Next Generation Technologies Fund

Around \$730 million (over the decade to FY 2025–26) will be invested in strategic next generation technologies that have the potential to deliver game-changing capabilities.

Defence Innovation Hub

Around \$640 million (over the decade to FY 2025–26) will be invested in a new virtual Defence Innovation Hub to enable industry and Defence to undertake collaborative innovation activities throughout the Defence capability life cycle from initial concept, through prototyping and testing to introduction into service.

Defence Innovation Portal

As part of the Centre for Defence Industry Capability, the Portal will facilitate engagement between Defence and innovation activities across Australia. The Portal will provide vital connections between small to medium enterprises and Defence, helping companies understand Defence capability needs and supporting their ability to contribute to Defence innovation requirements.

Changed culture and processes

Defence will change its culture and business processes to systematically remove barriers to innovation. The first step will be to develop new contracting and intellectual property policies that encourage investment in Australia's good ideas, keep profits in country, and provide incentives for larger companies to innovate in Australia.

The Defence Innovation Hub and the Next Generation Technologies Fund will deliver a balanced Defence investment strategy with an agreed risk profile that will enable improvements to Defence capability. The programs will consist of large scale collaborative research programs (multiyear programs in the low tens of millions of dollars), medium scale programs (multiyear programs in the low millions of dollars) and small scale programs in the tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Utilising established technology foresighting methods, the Defence Industry Policy Statement identified areas where scientific and technological progress is substantially transforming Defence operations as well as high potential game changing technologies. Defence operating domains being transformed by S&T include:

- Cyber Electronic Warfare**
- Integrated ISR**
- Space Capabilities**
- Undersea Warfare**

The Defence Industry Policy Statement also identifies the following potentially game changing technology areas worthy of Australian Defence investment:

- Trusted Autonomous Systems**
- Enhanced Human Performance and Resilience**
- Hypersonics technology**
- Quantum Technologies**
- Multidisciplinary Material Sciences**