

PRESS RELEASE

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Naval Group Australia and ASC sign Framework Agreement to deepen co-operation for Sovereign Submarine Programs

Naval Group Australia today signed a Framework Agreement with ASC identifying ways they can work together in a closer and more effective manner as participants in the Australian Sovereign Submarine Programs.

The Framework Agreement details the terms and conditions through which Naval Group Australia and ASC will collaborate through separate commercial arrangements for the provision of supplies and services to each other, including:

- Workforce development – co-ordinate resources and talent pools to plan future activities in support of both Australian Sovereign Submarine Programs. These measures will help ensure both Naval Group Australia and ASC have the skills and experience to meet the immediate and long term demands of the submarine programs.
- OH&S training and services – draw on ASC’s well established safety culture and system to support Naval Group Australia to grow its own safety program in Australia. Collectively, this will help build a better, safer sovereign submarine enterprise.
- Supply chain services – draw on each other’s existing supply chain knowledge to further develop the supply chains in the Australian Sovereign Submarine Programs. Leveraging this knowledge will provide many benefits, including maximising Australian Industry Capability, reducing through-life costs and promoting investment by industry.

Naval Group Australia and ASC will establish joint working groups to manage the Framework Agreement and identify, develop and recommend other collaboration opportunities.

"Naval Group and ASC are natural partners," said John Davis, Chief Executive Officer, Naval Group Australia. "We share common values and are ideally placed to maximise the synergies between the ongoing Collins class sustainment program and the design and build of the Attack class submarines."

"This innovative collaboration with ASC is a key enabling component of Naval Group’s commitment to design and build 12 Attack class submarines. It will support the development of a sovereign submarine capability, providing economic benefits and supporting industrial development to deliver a multi-generational submarine enterprise to Australia," said Mr Davis.

ASC Chief Executive Officer Stuart Whiley said: "It’s an exciting time for ASC and our people to be working with Naval Group for the Attack Class Submarine program and this agreement will provide Collins Class life-extension program access to Naval Group technology. With Naval Group and ASC working together, I’m confident that both Australian Sovereign Submarine Programs will deliver for Australia now and in the future."

The construction and sustainment of the Collins class submarines by ASC since the 1980s has delivered beyond-world benchmark submarine availability to the Royal Australian Navy. Naval Group will work with ASC to leverage this experience and the achievements and lessons from the Collins Program, to help ensure the success of the Future Submarine Program.

About Naval Group

Naval Group is a European leader in naval defence. As an international high-tech company, Naval Group uses its extraordinary know-how, unique industrial resources and capacity to arrange innovative strategic partnerships to meet its customers' requirements. The group designs, builds and supports submarines and surface ships. It also supplies services to shipyards and naval bases. In addition, the group offers a wide range of marine renewable energy solutions. Attentive to corporate social responsibility, Naval Group adheres to the United Nations Global Compact. The group reports revenues of €3.6 billion and has a workforce of 14,860 (data for 2018).

About ASC

ASC Pty Ltd is Australia's builder, sustainer and in-service designer of the Collins Class submarine fleet, employing more than 1,300 personnel in South Australia and Western Australia. In addition, ASC is the contract lead for the shipbuilding of the Air Warfare Destroyer and Offshore Patrol Vessel programs in the Osborne Naval Shipyard, South Australia.

With 30 years' experience in submarines in Australia, ASC is the platform system integrator and supply chain manager for the Collins Class fleet, working as partner in the Australian Submarine Enterprise, with the Department of Defence, the Royal Australian Navy and combat system integrator Raytheon Australia.

ASC submarine personnel also work across Collins Class Life-of-Type Extension, Future Submarine Technical Office and in collaboration with major equipment suppliers for submarines in Europe and North America.

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