

ASC welcomes Prime Minister

Very few companies have the opportunity to host a visit from Australian Prime Minister John Howard. But earlier this year, ASC had 921 million reasons for a visit from Australia's leader.

On his April visit to Adelaide, Prime Minister John Howard popped in to inspect the successful installation of the Collins Class submarines' replacement combat system and heavyweight torpedo.

Based on the United States Navy submarine system, the replacement combat system enables the submarine to detect, acquire and track targets, while the heavyweight torpedo upgrade allows the boat to engage both surface vessels and other submarines.

HMAS *Waller*, the first submarine to receive the significant \$921 million of capability enhancements, is now considered the most lethal within Australia's Collins Class fleet.

Speaking at ASC on 3 April 2007, Prime Minister Howard acknowledged Australia's close cooperation with the United States Navy, as well as the dynamic relationship between the Royal Australian Navy and ASC.

"Through this arrangement, Australia has gained unprecedented access to United States' technology and capability," said Mr Howard.

In return, "the United States has gained the advantage of Australian experience in conventional shallow water submarine operations."



Prime Minister John Howard celebrates with HMAS *Waller*'s crew to mark the combined efforts of the Royal Australian Navy and ASC to enhance the submarine's capability.



The Prime Minister inspects the periscope in HMAS *Waller*'s control room.

During his visit to ASC, the Prime Minister took the opportunity to tour



The Prime Minister congratulates the Royal Australian Navy and ASC on a job well done.

HMAS *Waller* – his very first experience inside a submarine.

ASC gets a taste of things to come

Close on two years after winning the role of shipbuilder for the Hobart Class Air Warfare Destroyer (AWD) Program, ASC had the opportunity to welcome to Australia the Spanish F100 (designed by Spanish firm Navantia) and the USS Lassen (designed by United States' firm Gibbs & Cox).

Navantia's F100 'Existing' option is in competition with Gibbs & Cox' 'Evolved' option for selection as Australia's AWD design, to be later constructed at our Osborne, South Australia, facility.

According to John Gallacher, Chief Executive Officer of ASC Shipbuilding, "the ships' visits have given ASC personnel a valuable opportunity to truly appreciate the size, scope and complexity of the mammoth shipbuilding task ahead".



In service with the Spanish Armada, Navantia's F101 air warfare destroyer.



In service with the United States Navy, Gibbs & Cox' USS Lassen destroyer.



A world-class facility in WA

Construction has commenced on ASC's new submarine support and upgrade facility in Western Australia.

Located in the heart of the Australian Marine Complex, our new facility will enable a highly productive world-class maintenance operation.

Upon completion, about 185 people will be based at the facility, undertaking several million dollars worth of submarine repair and maintenance activities each year.

With the construction of a large maintenance hall for undercover submarine work, use of a floating dock and access to the Western Australian Government-funded Common User Facility's eastern wharf extensions, we will be able to carry out maintenance on as



An artist's impression of ASC's main upgrade and maintenance facility.

many as three submarines at any one time. ASC will undertake its first

submarine maintenance docking at its new facility in 2008.

British engineer enjoying his sea change

Gary Swarbrick is one of the many defence and engineering professionals who have relocated from overseas to work in Australia on ASC's unique submarine and shipbuilding programs.

Formerly with BAE Systems in Barrow-in-Furness, United Kingdom, Gary came across an opening at ASC and quickly jumped at the opportunity to join us as a Senior Mechanical Design Engineer, working on the Collins Class submarines' compressed air and hydraulic systems, as well as special forces' upgrades.

According to Gary, the lure of a big city is what finally sealed the deal.

"Barrow is not a very big place compared to Adelaide and my family wanted to move to Australia to live in a bigger city," said Gary.

"Since moving to Australia, and joining an entirely new organisation, I have found the people at ASC to be more relaxed, yet extremely focused and good at their jobs."

If you're looking for a sea change, check out www.asc.com.au for career opportunities within South Australia and Western Australia.



Gary Swarbrick, Senior Mechanical Design Engineer... lured by a big city.



Junior Power players meet an ASC fan.

Kicking back at Alberton

Hard work is always rewarded at ASC and this year employees were treated to a day of fun, food and entertainment at the Port Adelaide Football Club.

With the historic Alberton Oval grandstand as a picturesque backdrop, employees and their families took full advantage of the face-painting, clowns, animal farm, bouncy

castle and the Port Adelaide Power players who were keen to share their footy skills.

A rare visit to the players' locker rooms and gymnasium, normally inaccessible to the public, capped off the day.

briefly

A call for graduates

The search is on for the 2008 intake for ASC's Graduate Program. Our two-year program exposes graduates to various departments across our business, including a three-month placement in Western Australia, with all associated costs met by us.

Graduate opportunities in our 2008 program cover mechanical engineering, mechatronic engineering, electrical engineering, naval architecture, accounting/finance, information technology and supply chain. Check out www.asc.com.au for more information.

Designing a great future

ASC's status as a submarine designer continues to improve after posting our highest ever designer rating at the end of 2006.

We achieved a score of 80 out of 100 based on the assessment model developed by our submarine capability partner – United States' firm Electric Boat.

This score demonstrates that we have the capability and expertise to undertake the most complex of submarine design tasks. It also shows we're on track to having the capability to support a new submarine design later this decade.

Further information

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