

AWD contract heralds a new era

Twenty years after signing a contract to build Australia's fleet of Collins Class submarines, ASC secured the agreement to construct Australia's air warfare destroyers (AWDs).

Heralding a new era for the company, ASC signed the Alliance Based Target Incentive Agreement (ABTIA) in ASC's AWD shipyard in Osborne, South Australia.

The ABTIA commits ASC to building the Royal Australian Navy's next generation warships.

Speaking at the contract signing ceremony, ASC Managing Director Greg Tunny said the significance of the milestone – representing the start of construction activities - could be likened to signing the Submarine Build contract twenty years earlier.

"While ASC has been involved in the Air Warfare Destroyer Program for two years now, today we signed the agreement that will ultimately see Australia's air warfare destroyers built," he said.

"This is tremendously exciting news for the company; both for our employees and for ASC's future. We now set upon the challenging task of constructing Australia's air warfare destroyer capability."

To support the shipbuilding effort, ASC's workforce will double by an additional 1,000 people, with spin-off opportunities set to benefit local industry.

The Build Phase that ASC has now entered involves design planning, engineering and development, and commencement of air warfare destroyer construction activity.

Further information about career opportunities in the AWD Program can be found at www.asc.com.au



Top: Defence Minister Dr Brendan Nelson hails the AWD contract as a significant program milestone. **Above:** ASC Managing Director Greg Tunny signs the Phase 3 Build Contract for the Air Warfare Destroyer Program.

Staff spark employment interest

Some of our staff recently gave young people in Adelaide's southern suburbs a taste of the highly specialised trade skills we need.

With two major ongoing projects on our books – as shipbuilder for the Air Warfare Destroyer (AWD) Program and the maintainer and upgrade designer of the Collins Class submarines – we'll need hundreds of trades people to work on both.

Five electricians visited the Australian Technical College, Adelaide South at Christie Downs to give demonstrations of the unique trade work we do.

The visit was a trial for raising awareness among Adelaide's young people about the company's future employment opportunities.

As a tradesperson with ASC, you get to work on highly technical and specialised machinery and equipment that you just won't find anywhere else in Australia.



ASC's James Deal (centre) with Australian Technical College students Hayley Kinross and Tom Dempsey.



Celebrating a first-class upgrade

After 750,000 manhours and 7,500 tasks, it was time for us to celebrate!

The completion of Collins Class submarine, HMAS *Waller's* full-cycle docking (FCD) was one of the biggest jobs ASC has ever performed, and it seemed only fitting to celebrate a first class upgrade with a first-class barbecue.

The FCD included four 'big-ticket' upgrades which were first-of-class: a replacement combat system, heavyweight torpedo, sewage automation and halon.

ASC Managing Director Greg Tunny paid tribute to the hundreds of staff who worked on the FCD.

"Many different people, groups and departments worked efficiently and capably throughout all phases of the project, and on behalf of all the

senior executives, I offer my thanks for a job well done."

Our staff and the crew of HMAS *Waller* were treated to a gourmet barbecue to celebrate the completion of a major activity and a job well done.



Above: Members of ASC's Executive Group cook the barbecue for staff.
Above right: ASC employees enjoy a well-earned feast.

Supporting our engineers of the future

We realise that engineers are a scarce resource these days, so we're doing our bit to increase their population through our engineering scholarships.

Awarded annually to children of our employees who are studying a relevant engineering degree, a \$2,500 financial boost ensures our future workforce receive the support they need.

Scholarships are renewed for each year of study, pending academic results. Scholarship winners are also given the opportunity to undertake paid work experience at ASC during university holidays.



Brian Archer, General Manager – Human Resources with ASC's engineering scholarship recipients: **Leonie Potgeiter, Brandon Tuohy and Peter Fuchs.** Absent were **Tom Ravenscroft and Steven Burnside.**

Maritime Skills Centre receives the go-ahead

The Federal and South Australian Governments have joined together to give the go-ahead for construction of the Maritime Skills Centre.

To be located within Techport Australia's \$6 million purpose-built facility (adjacent ASC's shipyard), it's main role will be to provide critical training in the trade and technical skills required to build the Royal

Australian Navy's air warfare destroyers (AWD).

Construction has already commenced and will conclude in February 2008 in readiness for training to commence at the facility from March 2008.

Minister for Defence Dr Brendan Nelson said that a shared commitment to building a skilled workforce is critical

to the successful delivery of the AWD Program – the largest, most complex naval procurement project in Australia's history.

South Australian Deputy Premier Kevin Foley said the centre forms a centrepiece of the State Government's commitment to support the skills growth required by modern shipbuilding.

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Fun, food and frivolity

Once again, ladies donned their frocks while the men sported their tuxes for ASC's night of nights – the annual Social Club Spring Ball.

The Adelaide Convention Centre was a buzz with 300 employees and their partners wining, dining and dancing the night away.

The Spring Ball is just one of the many functions that our Social Club organises throughout the year.

No more excuses

Many people complain that they "don't have time" to exercise in their busy schedules. We're making it easy for our employees – with an onsite gym.

Research shows that exercising at work increases camaraderie, self-confidence and productivity, while improving decision making and contributing to a happier workplace culture.

It sounds pretty good to us, which is why we're establishing an onsite gym, so our valued employees can embrace a healthier and fitter lifestyle with our support.

Further information

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