

## Strong foundations. Stronger future.

### News Release

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#### TEAMING UP WITH OUR DEFENCE TEAMING CENTRE

The future of South Australia's defence sector will be boosted with **\$2 million** in State Government funding for the industry's peak association.

Treasurer and Defence Industries Minister Jack Snelling said the 2012-13 State Budget included funding for the Defence Teaming Centre (DTC) to make sure South Australia continues to capture the benefits of defence spending and the industry continues to grow.

"Securing defence contracts is vital to maintaining the supply of work to sustain our growing defence industries," Mr Snelling said.

"The DTC has more than 250 members who employ more than 17,000 South Australians.

"The bulk of their membership is small and medium South Australian enterprises that focus on making sure our state is best placed to generate military capability for the Australian Defence Force.

"South Australia is unique in having an association like the DTC and in the 16 years since they started they have assisted many companies to bid on defence contracts for this state.

"It is therefore important that the Government supports the critical work that the centre does and that is why we have prioritised funding in this year's Budget."

Mr Snelling said defence was a key industry for South Australia, currently employing an estimated 27,000 people (direct and indirect).

"It forms the foundation of our advanced manufacturing future and growing advanced manufacturing is one of the key priorities of this Government," he said.

"The Defence Teaming Centre provides a strong industry voice on long-term strategic issues such as industry policy and market development and play a lead role in driving the critical issue of workforce development across the sector.

"The Defence Teaming Centre also plays a key role in ensuring the sustainability of our local defence industry, through a range of enterprise development activities, in a time of major constraint in defence spending.

"The funding provided in the Budget will assist the DTC work with industry on its current challenges associated with that constraint in spending but also make sure were prepared for the growth in long-term defence spending."