Territory on show at the 2010 Land Warfare Conference

The Territory’s defence industry is being showcased to more than 3000 industry representatives from across the globe this week at the 2010 Land Warfare Conference.

Minister for Defence Support, Rob Knight today led a Northern Territory Government and industry delegation at the conference in Brisbane to highlight Northern Territory’s defence support capabilities to the national sector.

“There are more than 300 exhibitors and 3000 delegates from around the globe attending the conference. It is a great opportunity to promote local capabilities,” Mr Knight said.

“Defence related investment has helped underpin our economic and population growth and we’re actively seeking new opportunities for local businesses back in the Territory.

“Currently approximately 300 Territory businesses supply services to the Australian Defence Forces and our aim here this week is to explore additional opportunities for Territory businesses to get their fair share of defence business.”

During the conference Mr Knight will meet with industry to promote the Darwin Defence Support Hub and meet with key defence prime contractors to discuss further opportunities for Territory businesses.

“The Territory is already home to a significant proportion of the Australian Defence Force’s combat personal and equipment including 17 of Australia’s 21 Tiger helicopters, 41 Abrams Tanks and ten Armidale Class Patrol Boats,” Mr Knight said.

“The Northern Territory Government actively and aggressively seeks out opportunities to help Territory businesses secure defence contracts - including building the 53 hectare Defence Support Hub specifically designed to support businesses vying for defence work.

“The Defence Support Hub will bring together businesses in the defence industry and allow them to form strategic clusters so they are best placed to bid for defence business – crucially this investment by the Northern Territory Government will ensure defence work remains in the Territory.

“More than just business, the defence force and defence industry are important parts of the Territory and we look forward to seeing it grow along with the Territory.”

The conference concludes on Friday.

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