

# News Release

[www.premier.sa.gov.au](http://www.premier.sa.gov.au)



**Hon Jack Snelling**  
Minister for Employment, Training &  
Further Education  
Minister for Science & Information  
Economy  
Minister for Road Safety  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

---

Tuesday, 28 September 2010

## **\$1.7M BOOST TO UPSKILL SA DEFENCE INDUSTRY WORKERS**

Nearly 1200 new training places will soon become available in South Australia's growing defence industry through a \$1.7 million combined federal/state funding allocation.

Further Education, Employment and Training Minister, Jack Snelling says the 1185 training places will further enhance South Australia's standing as the nation's defence hub.

"The training places have become available following a successful Defence Teaming Centre funding application in the latest round of the Productivity Places Program (PPP) for Existing Workers," Mr Snelling said.

"They'll benefit workers from seven large defence companies and 23 small to medium enterprises working in the defence sector," Mr Snelling said.

"South Australia has secured about \$44 billion worth of defence projects to be rolled out over the next two decades, which will generate sustainable and meaningful jobs and careers.

"\$8 billion worth of the Royal Australian Navy's new Air Warfare Destroyers will be produced and launched at the Techport Australia site opened in February this year.

"The 12 next-generation submarines – the largest conventional submarines of the type in the world – will also be constructed at the site.

"The AWD project alone is estimated to deliver more than 3,000 direct and indirect jobs and an estimated \$1.4 billion to our State over the next 10 years," Mr Snelling said.

"18 registered training organisations will deliver the PPP training to existing defence industry workers in several areas, including electronics and communications engineering, manufacturing, aviation, project management, business skills and electrical engineering.

"The Defence Teaming Centre has so far been successful in each round of the Productivity Places Program, bringing the overall number of allocated industry training places to 1852.

"The State Government is investing \$194 million over the next six years to create more than 62,000 additional training places - which combined with the Productivity Places Program delivering 38,000 training places - will bring the total to 100,000 extra training places over six years.

“We’ve also recently announced a ten point *Skills for All* reform agenda which sets out a blueprint for modernising and renewing the VET system aimed at significantly increasing the State’s skill levels to lift workforce participation and increase productivity,” Mr Snelling said.

“This PPP round is worth \$32 million - the largest government and industry investment in training committed since the program began. Almost \$28 million of this funding has now been allocated for training across the State with the remainder to be distributed later this year.

“The PPP for Existing Workers is worth about \$117 million over four years and will provide 39,000 training places for existing workers across the State by the middle of 2012.

“The program is jointly funded by the Federal Government (50 per cent), the State Government (40 per cent) and industry (10 per cent),” Mr Snelling said.