

Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith MP

Minister for Defence and Space Industries

Monday, 9 October 2017

SA deepens ties with Japanese and Korean space agencies

South Australia's space and defence leaders will meet with the heads of space organisations, Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), during this week's South Australian North-East Asia business mission.

The meetings not only follow September's successful International Astronautical Congress held in Adelaide where it was announced Australia will finally establish a national space agency, but also come after the State Government's decision to establish the SA Space Industry Centre (SASIC).

Led by Investment and Trade and Defence and Space Industries Minister Martin Hamilton-Smith, this week's mission will also focus on other opportunities for SA business including agribusiness, education, health industries, aged care and advanced manufacturing sectors.

The Minister said that creating new partnerships with key Japanese and Korean space players will be high on the agenda. The mission will also include a tour of the National Space Organisation (NSPO) and its cyber centre, in Taiwan, on Thursday, aimed at further developing collaboration opportunities in space and cyber.

The mission will also explore investment and partnership opportunities with Seoul-based Hanwha Group, which is bidding for the LAND 400 phase 3 project.

Background

The South Australian Government last week announced the South Australian Space Innovation Complex, a new partnership with more than 15 Australian and international space start-ups. The consortium will work closely with the State Government to establish innovation facilities in South Australia for launch testing, technology development, stepped flight-proving programs and space-qualification missions.

The State Government has a long-standing relationship with the Japanese space agency JAXA, supporting its mission to land the unmanned Japanese spacecraft Hayabusa at Woomera test range in 2010.

Hanwha Group is bidding for LAND 400 phase 3 – the acquisition of an infantry fighting vehicle (IFV) and a mobility support vehicle (MSV) – due for government consideration early

2018. The global company also plans to establish a manufacturing hub in Australia to build a global supply chain to fill their off-shore orders.

Quotes attributable to Defence and Space Industries Minister Martin Hamilton-Smith

This mission is a perfect opportunity to build on the momentum from the International Astronautical Congress in strengthening South Australia's key relationships and international collaboration in the space sector.

The opportunities arising out of the space industry for South Australia are incredibly lucrative.

As an industry, space is growing at more than three times the world annual GDP – there is so much growth potential here in South Australia. We've done the hard yards nurturing South Australia's space ecosystem and we're now well positioned to play a leading role as the Commonwealth establishes a national space agency.

Japan, Korea and Taiwan have advanced space industries, and we are keen to build relationships with these key countries as we look to develop our own space ecosystem.

During the congress we had some excellent opportunities to increase our collaboration with some of the major players in the global space race. Now is the time to launch further into this booming industry by capitalising on these relationships.

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