

Acquisitions and deals signal start to South Australian defence build up

DEFENCE

A flurry of defence deals have been signed at Euronaval 2018 in anticipation of the start of major naval shipbuilding in Adelaide.



French engineering firm Groupe FIVA announced in Paris today that it would acquire Cadgile, the largest independent CAD drafting specialist in South Australia.

Groupe FIVA, based in Cherbourg and a partner with Naval Group France, which is building the next generation of Australian submarines, will work with Cadgile's staff to develop engineering services for the defence, energy and environment sectors in Australia.

The announcement comes after Groupe FIVA, which already has established an office in South Australia, signed a collaboration agreement with ASC to work on current and future naval programs in Australia and France.

ASC, based in Adelaide, South Australia, also agreed to collaborate with Endel Engie, a long-term partner of Naval Group, to create joint business opportunities on Australia's \$50 billion Future Submarine program.

Spanish company Detegasa signed on with South Australia's SAGE Automation to expand its through-life-support capabilities for the Royal Australian Navy surface ship by providing in-country support for Detegasa equipment on-board LHD, DDG and future AOR vessels.

SAGE general manager for defence Paul Johnson said the deal opened opportunities for Detegasa to manufacture equipment in Australia for future programs, including the Hunter class Future Frigates.

"We see this agreement and partnership with Detegasa as a game changer for our TLS delivery. We very much look forward to working with Detegasa to bring value to the Defence support managing contractors and Navy assets," Johnson said.

South Australian advanced manufacturing company Redarc Electronics and local manufacturer Rowlands Metalworks formalised a MOU with German naval C2 and navigation system integrator Raytheon Anschütz to partner for future Australian naval projects, including the Hunter class Future Frigates.

The Team Defence Australia stand at Euronaval has 18 South Australian companies and four local universities and education institutes.

Defence SA chief executive Richard Price said South Australian businesses made up almost half the Australian contingent.

“It’s great to see South Australian defence companies taking a proactive approach to forming strategic partnerships with international defence companies.

South Australia is pivotal in Australia’s plans to regenerate the Royal Australian Navy with new submarines, frigates and offshore patrol vessels. The ships will be built at the Osborne Naval Shipyard in Adelaide, which is undergoing a \$500 million upgrade, and is currently the base for work on Australia’s Air Warfare Destroyers and Collins class submarines.

The South Australian government last week opened a [Defence Landing Pad in Adelaide](#) to attract more international defence companies to set up in South Australia.



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