

# AXIOM PRECISION AND K-TIG COLLABORATE ON DEFENCE WELDING

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Advanced manufacturer Axiom Precision Manufacturing and welding technology group K-TIG are to develop Australian manufacturing capability in advanced welding for the defence sector.

The two companies will share \$1 million in funding from the Centre for Defence Industry Capability to develop advanced armour and structural welding processes in a new 6,000 square foot facility built to what the companies call 'top secret' levels.

Axiom already has two purpose-built manufacturing facilities in Adelaide which deliver precision machined components, tooling and injection moulded components for defence, aerospace and medical device sectors.

Axiom and K-TIG will utilise armour steel manufactured by Bisalloy Steel to initially seek contracts for defence work such as the \$15 billion Land 400 program to replace 1,000 armoured vehicles.

K-TIG managing director Adrian Smith said: "The awarding of this federal government contract is a significant step towards developing the advanced welding capabilities needed in the global defence industry.

"K-TIG and its partner companies Axiom and Bisalloy Steel will accelerate our joint efforts to establish a world-leading process for armour and other advanced products that will develop and retain a vital strategic skillset."

K-TIG will supply Axiom with keyhole welding equipment and manufacturing protocols while Axiom will commission the new facilities.

Axiom already manufactures components for the Collins class submarine fleet and is a provider to BAE Systems Australia of components for the vertical tail fins of F-35 Lightning joint strike fighter.

Axiom general manager Craig Maynard said the project would provide significant manufacturing improvements and risk reduction for a number of vital defence programs.

Picture: Axiom Precision Manufacturing

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By Peter Roberts March 2, 2021