

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING SUMMIT 2026

**MANUFACTURING SOVEREIGNTY
AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE ADVANTAGE**
29 & 30 JULY 2026 | ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



DRAFT PROGRAM

DRAFT PROGRAM: WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2026

Registration, tea, coffee and networking (8:00am to 8:50am)

WELCOME

8:50am MC Ellen Fanning Journalist

9:00am Ministerial Address (TBC)

SESSION 1: GOVERNMENT POLICY & PROCUREMENT: UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANUFACTURERS

9:15am Phill Dowsett Deputy Industry Advocate, Office of Industry Advocate

9:35am Ashley Schneider Director of Nuclear Programs, H&B Defence

9:55am Libby Day CEO, Defence Teaming Centre

10:10am Q&A Session

Morning Tea (10:30am to 11:00am)

SESSION 2: BREAKING IN: HOW SMES CAN ACCESS THE DEFENCE SUPPLY CHAIN

11:00am Jeremy Satchell Head of Industry Capability BAE Systems

11:20am David Dietz Senior Director, Supply Chain Procurement H&B Defence

12:00pm Q&A Session

Lunch (12:20pm to 1:20pm)

SESSION 3: DEFENCE CAPABILITY IN ACTION: UPDATES ON KEY PROJECTS

1:20pm Ben Hudson CEO, Hanwha Defence Australia

1:40pm Danielle Bull Chief Capability Officer, ASC

2:00pm Brett Peek Industry & Supply Chain Management Specialist, Austal

2:20pm Q&A Session

SESSION 4: PANEL DISCUSSION - BUILDING A FUTURE-READY DEFENCE WORKFORCE

2:40pm	Cameron Baker	South Australian Skills Commissioner
	Callan Markwick	Executive Director Workforce Population and Migration
	Trevor Gauld	Deputy Commissioner, Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA)
	Nicole Dwyer	CEO, Workskil Australia
	Shane Brown	Head of Learning and Development, ASC
4:00pm	Day one concludes	

SUMMIT DINNER: WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2026

6:30pm	<i>Registration, pre-dinner drinks and networking</i>	
7:00pm	<i>Dinner commences</i>	
8:00pm	Guest Speaker (TBC)	
9:30pm	Dinner concludes	

DRAFT PROGRAM: THURSDAY 30 JULY 2026*Registration, tea, coffee and networking (8:30am to 9:00am)***SESSION 5: PANEL DISCUSSION - ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING: PRACTICAL OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS THE DEFENCE VALUE CHAIN**

9:00am	Simon Marriott	Managing Director, Additive Manufacturing CRC
	Bruno Le Bazar	Head of Additive Manufacturing, Starke-AMG
	Sean Ebert	Executive Director and CEO AML3D
	Matthew Yuen	Innovation Science & Technology Manager ASC

*Morning Tea (10:40am to 11:10am)***SESSION 6: SMARTER, FASTER, LEANER: PRACTICAL TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION**

11:10am	Mark Hayward	Operations Manager, RCR Mining Technologies
11:30am	Cori Stewart	CEO, ARM Hub
11:50am	Ash Bell	Head of Manufacturing Engineering, BAE Systems
12:10pm	David Heaslip	Managing Director, Century Engineering
12:30pm	Ben Quin	Managing Director, Trigonomics
12:50pm	Q&A Session	
1:10pm	Concluding Remarks	Geoff Crittenden, CEO, Weld Australia

Lunch (1:10pm to 2:00pm)

2:00pm	Summit concludes	
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Please note that this is a draft Program, which is subject to change.