



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
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**AUSTAL TEAMS WITH ROHDE & SCHWARZ FOR ANZAC
COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE PROPOSAL**

Leading Australian defence prime contractor, Austal, has teamed with Rohde & Schwarz, internationally renowned supplier of integrated defence communications systems, to submit a proposal to the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) in response to the SEA 1442 Phase 4 request for tender.

SEA 1442 is a maritime communications modernisation program for the eight ANZAC Class Frigates of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) that will provide a significant capability improvement to the existing communications environment between RAN assets in support of Network Centric Warfare.

The 2011 Defence Capability Plan indicates the expected acquisition cost for this program is "\$300million to \$500million (Low end of band)".

Austal's ability to submit this response demonstrates not only the Company's expanded capabilities in its Systems division, but also a continued strengthening of the Group's defence credentials, demonstrated most recently by the award of a contract by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service for the supply and support of eight 58m Cape Class Patrol Boats.

Austal Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Bellamy, commented "our partnership with Rohde & Schwarz will add further momentum to the growth of Austal's capabilities as a prime defence contractor. Austal is very pleased to have formed this close working relationship with Rohde & Schwarz, who are internationally recognised for their experience in the field of integrated communications systems."

END

About Austal

Austal is a global defence prime contractor. The Company designs, constructs and maintains revolutionary platforms such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and the Joint High Speed Vessel (JHSV) for the United States Navy, as well as an extensive range of patrol and auxiliary vessels for defence forces and government agencies globally. Austal also designs, installs, integrates and maintains sophisticated communications, radar and command and control systems.

Austal benefits from its position as a world leader in the design, construction and support of customised, high performance aluminium vessels for the commercial high speed ferry market, an achievement gained over a period of nearly 25 years.

Austal's primary facilities comprise a combined defence and commercial shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia and a dedicated defence shipyard in Mobile, Alabama. The Company also provides vessel support services from its facilities in Australia, the United States, Europe, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

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