

# News Release

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**Hon Kevin Foley**

Minister for Defence Industries

**Hon Tom Kenyon**

Minister Asst the Min for Employment,  
Training & Further Ed

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## **\$4.5M BOOST FOR SA DEFENCE INDUSTRY SKILLS**

Workers in South Australia's defence industries will soon be able to boost their skills and qualifications through more than 2,300 new training places - worth \$4.5 million.

Minister for Defence Industries, Kevin Foley and the Minister Assisting the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, Tom Kenyon announced the funding for the training places has now been allocated through a combined State/Federal Government/industry package.

Mr Foley says the 2305 training places have been allocated to the Defence Teaming Centre through the Productivity Places Program (PPP) for Existing Workers.

"The successful applicants include defence industry prime contractors, such as BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin Australia, Raytheon Australia Pty Ltd, and ASC AWD Shipbuilder Pty Ltd and members of their supply chains," Mr Foley said.

"Ensuring that these major players in South Australia's defence industries have access to the skilled workers they require will allow the continued expansion of this key sector of our State's economy."

Mr Kenyon says this allocation will fund 1,072 nationally endorsed training places at Certificate IV level, 945 at Diploma level and 288 at Advanced Diploma level.

"Training will be towards qualifications such as accounting; computer systems engineering; electrical engineering; manufacturing; project management; records management; building and construction; health and safety; human resources; marketing; purchasing; and transport and logistics

"The defence sector employs 24,700 people in SA and these new training places will help ensure workers gain the appropriate skills to meet anticipated future industry demand," Mr Kenyon said.

"The training places allocated through the PPP for Existing Workers support the State Government's *Skills for All* commitment to create 100,000 additional apprenticeships and training places over six years to boost the skills and qualifications of South Australia's workforce.

"*Skills for All* will result in more people in training, more choice about training providers, better skills, more jobs and a stronger South Australian economy," Mr Kenyon said.

The PPP for Existing Workers is worth about \$117 million over four years and will provide 39,000 training places for existing workers across the State by the middle of 2012.

This program is jointly funded by the Federal Government (50 per cent), the State Government (40 per cent) and industry (10 per cent).