

Media Release – 10 October 2018

## COUNTDOWN TO MAJOR SUBMARINE CONFERENCE

It's just four weeks until the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA) Conference 2018 and just over two weeks until registrations for the event close.

Another high-profile line-up of speakers has been assembled, including Australia's Chief of Navy, confirming the conference's reputation as the leading submarines forum in the Asia-Pacific region.

Speakers at the conference, which will be held in Canberra from 6-8 November, include:

- Senator the Hon David Fawcett, Australia's Assistant Minister for Defence;
- Hon Richard Marles MP, Shadow Minister for Defence;
- Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO, RAN, Chief of Navy;
- Rear Admiral Gregory Sammut AM, CSC, RAN, Head, Future Submarine Program, Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, Department of Defence;
- Rear Admiral David Goggins USN, Program Executive Officer – Submarines, Naval Sea Systems Command, United States Navy; and
- Hon David Johnston, Australian Defence Export Advocate (Conference Dinner Speaker).

SIA President, Mark Sander said: "Recent publicity about the contracting arrangements for the Future Submarines, included discussion and debate about the importance of the Collins-class submarines in maintaining Australia's sovereign submarine capability.

"Therefore, it has turned out to be timely that the theme for this year's conference is 'Collins Life-of-Type Extension – Issues and Opportunities'."

Tickets to the conference are selling quickly. For further information about speakers and how to register, please visit the SIA's website: [www.submarineinstitute.com](http://www.submarineinstitute.com).

### Further information:

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