

Media Release – 24 October 2018

## UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF FUTURE SUBMARINES

The progress of Australia's Future Submarine Program will be one of the speaking topics at the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA) Conference 2018.

Speakers at the conference, which is taking place in Canberra in two weeks' time, include the Chairman of Naval Group Australia (the design partner for the Future Submarines), M Jean-Michel Billig, the Chief Executive Officer of Naval Group Australia, Mr John Davis, and the Head, Future Submarine Program, Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, Department of Defence, Rear Admiral Gregory Sammut AM, CSC, RAN.

"There has been a lot of public debate about the progress of the Future Submarines," said the President of the SIA, Mark Sander. "Given this, the SIA is pleased that conference delegates will be able to hear first-hand from both Defence and Naval Group about how this vitally important program is progressing."

With workforce development having been identified as one of the challenges facing the Future Submarine Program (as well as other major naval shipbuilding projects), the head of the new Naval Shipbuilding College, Mr Bill Docalovich, will also present at the conference.

"The Naval Shipbuilding College is playing an important role in ensuring Australia's naval shipbuilding major projects have enough skilled workers," Mr Sander said. "The college's presentation at the conference will focus on how it is collaborating with defence industry and education stakeholders."

Other confirmed conference speakers include, the Assistant Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon David Fawcett; Shadow Minister for Defence, Hon Richard Marles MP; Chief of Navy, Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO, RAN; Director General Submarines, Navy Strategic Command, Commodore Tim Brown RAN; and the Australian Defence Export Advocate, Hon David Johnston. In support of the conference theme, "Collins Life of Type Extension – Issues and Opportunities", United States Navy (USN) Program Executive Officer – Submarines, Naval Sea Systems Command, Rear Admiral David Goggins USN will describe USN experience in submarine service life extension programs.

For conference registrations not received by Friday of this week (26 October), late charges will apply. 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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SIA Ref: 18/REL/1024

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