

Media Release – 8 March 2019

2019 SIA CONFERENCE – ANNOUNCEMENT OF DATES, THEME, CALL FOR PAPERS

Innovative advances in submarine technology will feature in the presentations at the 5th Submarine Science, Technology and Engineering Conference 2019 (SubSTEC5), which is being convened by the Submarine Institute of Australia (SIA).

The SIA has announced this year's event will take place from 18-21 November in Fremantle and the theme for the conference is "innovation and investment in the subsea environment".

The SIA is seeking participation from representatives of defence and other government agencies, academia, maritime/sub-sea industry and research organisations.

"This will be the first time the SIA SubSTEC conference has been held in Fremantle," said SIA Executive Director David Nicholls.

"This is terrific for submariners and for defence industry and offshore resources exploration companies located in WA.

"So far in 2019, there has been further progress on implementation of the plan to enhance Australia's submarine capability. This includes the signing of a Strategic Partnering Agreement between the Australian Government and Naval Group, a framework agreement being announced between Naval Group and ASC and the contract for the design of the Attack class submarines between the Government and Naval Group has been signed. In addition, key decisions about extending the life of the current Collins class submarines are looming.

"The SIA conference is the leading forum in the Asia-Pacific region for information-sharing, debate and networking on all matters relating to submarines, which the SIA defines as including submarine operations, engineering, history and commercial sub-sea engineering."

The SIA has issued a call for papers for the conference, with the deadline for submissions of proposed papers being 25 March 2019. Beyond this, authors will be invited to submit full papers for peer review and, ultimately, presentation at streamed sessions on days two and three of the conference.

Accepted papers will be formally published. The conference will also feature poster presentations.

Mr Nicholls said: "Any person, organisation or company in Australia and around the world who is interested in applying to present a paper at the SIA conference will need to submit an abstract in the forthcoming few weeks."

Suggested topics include, but are not limited to:

- Offshore science/technology/engineering;
- Engineering design;
- Emerging/disruptive submarine technologies;
- Research and development/test and evaluation policy and management;
- Workforce skills development;
- Sovereignty/intellectual property protection;
- Integrating multi-national technology; and
- Complex program management.

For people who wish to attend the conference as delegates, registrations will open on 1 May.

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SIA Ref: 19/REL/0308

