

TRADE MISSION

Exploratory AUKUS Trade Mission to Australia

November 10–14, 2025

Registration Deadline | September 12, 2025

Australia's defense sector is undergoing significant transformation, driven by the AUKUS tri-lateral security partnership and the Australian National Defense Strategy. This evolution presents substantial opportunities for Virginia companies to contribute innovative capabilities and forge long-term partnerships within the AUKUS framework.

Join VEDP International Trade for an exploratory AUKUS-focused trade mission. Virginia companies will visit the regions of Australia most connected to AUKUS activities and will benefit from one-on-one meetings with potential partners/distributors and government officials, panel discussions with local industry experts, and networking opportunities.

Australia is a major defense market for the United States and is pursuing a multi-streamed defense acquisition policy including substantially increased total expenditure; acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines, incorporating interoperability with the U.S. military; skills transfer and in-country R&D, assembly and manufacture as part of a development plan to grow the Australian defense industry; re-establishing a naval shipbuilding industry; and pursuit of international sales from Australian-produced defense systems.

- Australia is the 2nd largest US market for defense/arms sales over the past 15 years.
- FMS investment from Australia has increased 72% since AUKUS was announced in 2021.
- Australia forecasts defense investment moving from approximately 2% of GDP to 2.4% of GDP in the next decade.



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This event had a significant impact on developing and further enhancing relationships with potential customers in Australia. We established at least 3 new contacts which we hope will convert into tangible sales over coming years. We understand that this type of engagement is a very important step towards completing our sales cycle.

Australia Trade Mission Participant

EXPLORATORY AUKUS TRADE MISSION TO AUSTRALIA

The AUKUS Partnership aims to boost defense capabilities, accelerate technological integration and expand the industrial capacity of all three nations. It comprises two pillars: Pillar 1 is a trilateral effort to support Australia in acquiring conventionally armed, nuclear-powered submarines (SSNs); and Pillar 2 focuses on expediting cooperation in critical technologies, including cyber capabilities, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, additional undersea capabilities, hypersonic and counter-hypersonic, and a range of other initiatives.

Virginia companies interested in exploring opportunities with Australia's defense sector will benefit from:

- One-on-one meetings with potential partners or distributors
- Panel discussions with local industry experts
- Networking opportunities

Registration

Register your interest online by visiting australia-aukus-trade-mission-2025-interest.eventbrite.com.

Contacts

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