

**Qualcon 2005**

**Sector Approach to Aviation and Aerospace Industry Development**

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## **THE COMMITMENT – QLD GOVERNMENT**

The Queensland Government is firmly committed to the development of Queensland as an aviation and aerospace hub for the Asia-Pacific region and is providing the leadership that is driving the establishment of the Hub towards reality.

This vision will be achieved when the Hub is internationally recognised by the aviation industry and the level of commercial activity generated by the Hub encourages sustainable and globally competitive business growth.

The Queensland Government, through the Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation (DSDTI) works to support sustainable economic development in Queensland that will secure growth and employment.

The Department is the Queensland government's lead agency in relation to economic development and is the focal point in the State government for raising and negotiating matters impacting on the State's development and innovation with other levels of government.

The Department contributes to economic growth by fostering a positive business environment for business and industry, promotes sustainable regional development, actively pursues strong partnerships with key industry sectors, aggressively seeks to identify major new opportunities to assist the State's future development and involves the private sector in capturing these opportunities, and strengthens the State's export performance.

Ensuring a whole-of-government approach, the Department also supports innovative enterprises, boosts the development of projects and works to ensure that efficient infrastructure meets the changing needs of industry to enhance Queensland's economic strength and competitiveness.

State Development, Trade and Innovation is the central entry point for Queensland businesses to access government services, providing extensive business information, advice and support.

The Aviation and Defence Sectoral Development Team within the Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation has been tasked with developing and implementing a number of integral projects across a broad industry sector.

One such project is the Aviation and Aerospace Capability Assessment, which confirms company capability across a number of categories, identifies opportunities, gaps and impediments and promotes best practice. To date over 750 companies have been assessed, with 500 being included within a Capability Report. The aim of the Assessment is to link capable small to medium enterprises into major project opportunities and supply chains identified by multinational corporations.

## **QUEENSLAND AVIATION STRATEGY**

Implementation of the Queensland Aviation Strategy commenced in 2002 and endeavors to continue to build on the Queensland Government's strong record of achievement in the

aviation industry. In doing so, the Strategy is a key contributor to the achievement of the Government's policy priorities, particularly the Government's priorities of:

- Growing a diverse economy and creating jobs; and
- Realising the Smart State through education, skills and innovation.

The aim of the Queensland Aviation Strategy is to promote a growing aviation industry that provides an increasing number of highly skilled jobs through both direct employment and the positive effects of enhanced services on other industries. It also aims to ensure appropriate aviation infrastructure, services and planning throughout Queensland.

The Queensland Government is responsible for specific aspects of the aviation sector including:

- promoting route development of regional, domestic and international commercial air services;
- supporting the growth of aviation tourism;
- ensuring access to air services in rural and remote areas of Queensland;
- supporting the development of rural and remote airports;
- influencing regional and local planning for airports;
- attracting and establishing new aviation industry capabilities in Queensland;
- enhancing the training and skills capability in aviation;
- achieving a high level of aviation exports and overseas business;
- purchasing air travel arrangements for its employees; and
- operating aircraft in support of respective agency roles through Emergency Services and the Queensland Police Service.

The Commonwealth Government is responsible for defence and national aviation policy, designation of international gateways, regulation of federal and privatised airports, safety, security and some environmental aspects of aviation.

Underpinning the Queensland Aviation Strategy are three sector implementation plans including the:

- Queensland Aerospace Industry Development Plan;
- Queensland Commercial and Tourism Aviation Plan; and
- Queensland Airports and Regulated Air Transport Plan.

## **INTERNATIONAL TRADE (EXPORT ENHANCEMENT)**

As a key driver of economic growth, International Trade is a critical outcome of the Smart State agenda. The Trade and International Operations Division of the Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation is providing targeted assistance to current exporters who want to grow their exports, as well as providing targeted programs specifically designed to assist new exporters.

Companies interested in obtaining information or seeking advice about international trade are encouraged to contact the Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation so their requirements may be explored and action plans developed.

## **SKILLS AND TRAINING**

The Queensland Government has recognised that it will only succeed in attracting the industries Queensland needs, and in keeping them in Queensland, if there is a sophisticated workforce here to support them. And for this reason, the Queensland Government continues to promote collaboration between industry, government, educational institutions and training providers.

### ***Aviation Australia***

Aviation Australia is an ISO 9001:2000 accredited, world class training organisation established by the Queensland Government to **support the development and growth of the aviation and aerospace industries** in Queensland and the Asia Pacific region.

The company is a **registered training organisation** in accordance with the requirements of the Australian National Training Authority. From inception Aviation Australia was designed to be a Part 147 training organisation gaining approvals with CASA, EASA (formerly JAA), HKCAD and other National Aviation Authorities.

The company was created with the support of Australia's major airlines, aerospace companies and Queensland's Universities to take the lead in addressing the need for **vital skills training**. Aviation Australia continues to have the backing of the Queensland Government and significant major aviation companies, including QANTAS, Virgin Blue and Boeing.

Specific courses currently on offer at Aviation Australia include Certificate IV in Aeroskills training for Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's, specialising in Avionics, Aircraft Maintenance Engineering - Mechanical or Aircraft Maintenance Engineering - Structures Maintenance, as well as Cabin Crew, Emergency Procedures and Management training

### ***Gateway's to the Aerospace Industry***

The project, a joint initiative of the Queensland Government, Boeing Australia, Australian Aerospace, Brisbane Airport Corporation, Smiths Aerospace and Aviation Australia, aims to boost career opportunities for students in the booming aviation industry.

Students get the opportunity to undertake work experience and traineeships with Boeing Australia in areas such as aircraft maintenance and engineering, information technology and administration.

Schools involved in the project include Balmoral State High School, Bremer State High School, Hendra Secondary College, Redbank Plains State High School, Iona College and Ipswich Grammar School.

From 2006, Aerospace Studies will be offered as an Authoritative board subject enabling the Gateway's to the Aerospace Industry project to be expanded from 6 to 10 schools.

### ***Universities***

In response to industry needs, Queensland's universities review and deliver courses that provide the appropriate skills the Aviation and Aerospace Industry require. Boeing

Australia Limited continues to demonstrate their support of Queensland Universities by funding two chair people at QUT and the University of Queensland. Griffith University is committed to becoming an International Aviation University.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE – HARD & SOFT**

The Queensland Government continues to commit to the development of world class infrastructure with the recent announcement of a \$55billion South-East Queensland Regional Plan and State Infrastructure Plan.

In addition to this commitment, the Queensland Government recently announced the purchase of a 170-hectare parcel of land adjacent to the Amberley RAAF base to be developed into the Amberley Aerospace Park. Development of the Amberley Aerospace Park aim's to complement a \$285 million redevelopment plan for the Amberley RAAF Base announced by the Commonwealth Government.

Australia Trade Coast, incorporating the Brisbane Airport, continues to become a significant trading hub in the Asia-Pacific Region. In particular, the Brisbane Airport Corporation is committed to delivering Brisbane one of the world's most modern airports through a \$1.5 billion infrastructure investment program over the next seven years, including major expansion to the Domestic and International Terminals, upgrades to the internal road system and a new parallel runway.

The Queensland Government is dedicated to delivering world class soft-infrastructure activities in support of the aviation and aerospace industry through projects including the 'Making Queensland's Future – Manufacturing Development Plan', a plan designed to assist manufacturers achieve World Class standards.

Research and Development activities, innovation and technology transfer are also recognised as key drivers of business success. Consequently, QMI Solutions and the Australian Microelectronics Centre, universities including the University of Queensland, QUT and Griffith University, the CSIRO and the Commonwealth Government (through the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources), contribute through specific soft infrastructure projects.

## **UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES**

The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) industry is the fastest growing segment of the international aerospace industry. With more than 60 years experience in developing and using UAVs, Australia's aerospace industry has been successful in accessing the highly competitive global UAV market.

The significant UAV culture that exists in Queensland has been developed through the collaborative and cooperative relationships that exist between research institutions, industry and individuals, and their capability and commitment to UAV development.

- Kingfisher Unmanned Aerial Systems – Australia, a Queensland based firm led the world in the operational use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Civil Airspace and worked closely with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) in framing legislation to approve this activity. The end result was that the establishment of the CASA Unmanned Aerial Vehicle field office in Brisbane.

- Queensland has a significant number of companies and research institutions involved in the design, research and development, manufacture and operation of engines, structures (composite-fibre, thermo-plastics and metal), avionics suites, sensor packages and software for UAV's. As well, one of Queensland's firms (HELImetrex Pty Ltd) has an Air Operators Certificate for the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Civil Airspace.
- Queensland University of Technology (QUT) is a leading research institute in avionics and unmanned technology, providing both undergraduate and post-graduate study opportunities. QUT with the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) have been awarded \$3.53 million under the Smart State Research Facility Fund to establish the Australian Research Centre for Aerospace Automation (ARCAA).

Based at Brisbane International Airport's 'Da Vinci precinct', the ARCAA will undertake leading edge research into the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in commercial applications. Testing for these Unmanned Aerial Vehicles will be carried out at Kingaroy. This civilian airspace integration opportunity is unique to Australia with commercialisation opportunities exportable particularly to the United States.

- The development of the UAV Capability Demonstrator Project under the Federal Government's 'Aerospace Industry Action Agenda' is well underway with some 60 (sixty) Australian companies, research institutions and Government agencies having joined together to create Unmanned Technologies Australia Pty Ltd. Unmanned Technologies Australia Pty Ltd charter is to demonstrate the integration of UAVs with manned aircraft to encourage new civilian applications for UAV systems. The outcome will be to place Australian Industry into global supply chains. A significant proportion of these firms (30%) are based in Queensland.
- A significant event and key driver of future UAV opportunity in Queensland is the establishment of the UAV test area and facility at Kingaroy, North-west of Brisbane.

This opportunity was facilitated by the Department and Kingaroy Shire Council and has led to the Federal Government working with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority to define an area 30 nautical miles wide by 300 nautical miles long to an altitude of 50,000 feet for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle operations.

The Kingaroy Shire Council proposes to construct a 'common user' facility at Kingaroy Airport, which could be used by Unmanned Technologies Australia Pty Ltd and the other firms that hold Air Operators Certificates (HELImetrex, Codarra, BAE Systems and Aerosonde). Unmanned Technologies Australia Pty Ltd has been initially designated as the primary operator for the Kingaroy facility and its operations.

- Aviation Australia, the Queensland Government's internationally recognised centre for aviation skills training has approved in-principle the use of their facility for UAV operator training.

The Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation is working pro-actively with the Australian UAV industry and will continue to market Queensland as an ideal location for UAV basing, research and development, testing, training, manufacturing and through-life logistics support for both military and civilian UAV's.

## **OUR MESSAGE**

The Queensland Government supports the development of Queensland as a major Aviation and Aerospace Hub for the Asia-Pacific region.