



**COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
24 NOVEMBER 2017**

AUSTAL STATEMENT ON OFFSHORE PATROL VESSEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Federal Government has announced today that Luerssen will be awarded the prime contract to deliver the Royal Australian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs).

Austal is pleased that the Government has indicated that Luerssen will use Austal to build the 10 OPVs designated to be built in Henderson, Western Australia, subject to the conclusion of commercial negotiations. Contract negotiations are expected to take place over the coming months, following which the overall impact of this program can be outlined to shareholders.

Austal CEO David Singleton said that the OPV program would be a further and important addition to the \$2.5 billion of work Austal has won in the past 18 months, including an unprecedented run of orders for its commercial high-speed ferry business. Austal's commercial and US businesses have never looked brighter than they do today.

"I congratulate Luerssen on being selected for the OPV and Austal looks forward to establishing a long and productive future working together. This important program will not only deliver new capability for the Navy but will continue to build the industrial base in Australia in line with the Government's stated intent," Mr Singleton said.

"The Australian Government has made a commitment to a continuous naval shipbuilding industry and Austal looks forward to playing a role in making this happen. We thank the Australian Government for this endorsement of our shipbuilding capability, which will ensure Austal's ongoing naval shipbuilding presence for the next decade and beyond," he said.

"As I have said many times, the OPV program is very important for our Henderson workforce and we welcome the fact that our employees will have an opportunity to build these vessels," Mr Singleton said.

Austal Chairman John Rothwell AO commended the Federal Government on its vision for the naval shipbuilding industry.

"I am especially pleased the Government has selected Western Australia as one of two centres of naval shipbuilding in this country.

"It is fortunate that we have some very active and influential Western Australian politicians in Government in Canberra who have achieved this outcome for our State," Mr Rothwell said.

The OPV program will see 12 vessels built in total, with the first two being constructed in Adelaide by ASC.

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Investor Call

Austal will host an investor call at 12.45pm (Eastern Daylight Saving Time), the details for which appear below:

Conference call details:

Date: Friday, 24 November 2017

Time: 9:45am Perth time (AWST) / 12.45pm Sydney time (AEST) – participants are requested to dial in 5 minutes prior to the start time

Dial-in details:

Domestic participants can dial either of the numbers below to join the call.

Toll free: 1800 123 296 or Toll: +61 2 8038 5221

Conference ID: 8396695

International toll-free numbers are listed below. For countries not listed below, the Australian Toll number can be dialled.

Canada	1855 5616 766	New Zealand	0800 452 782
China	4001 203 085	Singapore	800 616 2288
Hong Kong	800 908 865	United Kingdom	0808 234 0757
India	1800 3010 6141	United States	1855 293 1544
Japan	0120 477 087		

Archived Call:

An archived copy of the conference call will be available shortly after the conclusion of the call via <http://www.openbriefing.com/OB/2612.aspx>.

Contact Details

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About Austal

Austal is an Australian shipbuilder and a global defence prime contractor which designs constructs and sustaining some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

Austal successfully balances commercial and defence projects and celebrates 30 years of success in 2018. Austal has designed, constructed and delivered more than 300 commercial and defence vessels for more than 100 operators in 54 countries worldwide.

Austal is Australia's largest defence exporter and the only ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America and Philippines and service centres worldwide.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world's largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy. Austal has grown to become the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder.

