









#### **Snapshot**

South Metropolitan TAFE is one of Western Australia's most diverse training providers, with 12 campuses across the southern suburbs of the metropolitan area. SM TAFE delivers more than 300 courses to over 30,000 students.

SM TAFE also works with industry and businesses across the state, providing tailored workforce solutions to support and enable business growth.



# Meeting the workforce needs of Western Australia's Defence sector

South Metropolitan TAFE (SM TAFE) is working with Western Australia's world-leading Defence industry to deliver a pipeline of skilled workers to meet the future needs of the sector.

SM TAFE's Defence industry training can be customised to employers' needs or conducted within our framework of existing nationally accredited qualifications and utilising world-class facilities. Pathway programs are in place to bring together schools, TAFE, higher education, and the Defence sector to attract, train, retain, and re-train sector personnel.

SM TAFE training staff consult extensively with key industry stakeholders to ensure a whole-ofworkforce development approach is adopted to deliver the right skills at the right time.



# Defence industry training



**APPLIED ENGINEERING** 



**AUTOMATION** 



**AVIATION** 



**COMPOSITES TRADE** 



**CYBER SECURITY** 



DEFENCE INDUSTRY TRADES (INCLUDING FABRICATION, PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING)



**DRONE TECHNOLOGY** 



INDUSTRY 4.0 (see page 5)



LOGISTICS, WAREHOUSING AND CATERING



**MARITIME STUDIES** 



REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING



**SHIPBUILDING** 



**SUBMARINE MAINTENANCE** 



CONSTRUCTION (ELECTROTECHNOLOGY)



#### Technology, collaboration and flexibility

#### **Maritime Simulators**

SM TAFE's ship, bridge and engineering simulator training suite is used in advanced maritime operations and engineering training such as navigation, dynamic positioning, cargo handling, vessel and engine room operations, and maintenance. The Kongsberg and Wärtsilä simulators assist in training future shipmasters, officers and engineers. Using simulated port and ship databases, trainees acquire skills in navigating and operating in varied environments. The technology features the most advanced mathematical modelling and shipping databases in the world and the hardware replicates the current equipment installed on seagoing ships.

#### **Industry 4.0**

Industry 4.0 is known as the fourth industrial revolution and the next stage in manufacturing, while autonomous technology allows tasks to be performed without the control of a human. SM TAFE offers *MEM50822 Diploma of Applied Technologies*, which prepares individuals to undertake paraprofessional technical roles within the industry 4.0 manufacturing and/or engineering environments. The program is also currently available as an existing worker traineeship. SM TAFE, as part of a collaboration with the University of Western Australia, is also seeking to identify where gaps may exist in national vocational education training products.

#### **Cyber Security**

SM TAFE's Training Cyber Security Operations Centre (TCSOC) enables the college to be the first in the State to deliver a para-professional qualification in cyber security, tapping into the nationwide cyber security skills shortage. The TCSOC also has nodes to the SM TAFE Rockingham and Thornlie campuses, allowing all students to work in the safe environment. The centre is available for industry to hire to perform their own simulated scenarios, allowing investigations to test security posture in an officescale development environment and train staff on potentially hazardous IT scenarios in a safe and controlled space. This facility is currently utilised by the Australian Army to conduct cyber security training sessions.

## Automation and Autonomous Operation

SM TAFE was instrumental in launching Australia's first nationally recognised autonomous operation courses. Our *RII41522 Certificate IV in Autonomous Control and Remote Operations* was developed with input from the mining and resources sector to support the industry's shift towards greater safety, productivity and remote operations. Participants develop skills in autonomous remote workplace and remote control room operations. Automating processes is another one of the Industry 4.0 trends boosting the efficiency of organisations for the future.

#### **Future Battery Industries**

SM TAFE is collaborating with the national Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre at Curtin University. SM TAFE is also fostering innovations in training with local employers and analysing future workforce capability needs and skills requirements.







#### **Training delivery**

Full-time and part-time, on campus, online and on site – SM TAFE's workforce skills development and training options can be designed to meet the demands of its industry partners. Project-based learning and the use of state-of-the-art simulators are integrated into learning models that can also be customised to address specific skill sets within broader qualifications.



#### **Training**

- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
- · Virtual and traditional delivery
- Third-party agreements



#### Capability development

- Digital twinning programs
- · Embedded staff
- Corporate training



#### Consultancy

- Curriculum development
- Training needs analysis
- Program evaluation

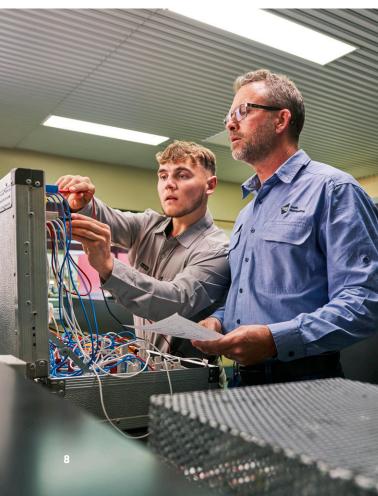


#### Co-design

- Curriculum co-designed with industry
- · Design of teaching materials









#### **Major partnerships**

SM TAFE is the training provider of choice for the Defence industry in Western Australia with its long-established Defence industry relationships playing a key role in ensuring a pipeline of skilled tradespeople.

#### **Defence Industry**

As Western Australia's largest trainer of apprentices and trainees, SM TAFE has a proven track record of collaborating with many major partners in the Defence sector, among them Austal, Babcock, BAE Systems, BRE Engineering, Civmec, Hofmann Engineering, L3Harris, Luerssen, Marine Technicians Australia, Raytheon, and Thales. We are providing trade and technical training for apprentices and trainees as well as contextualised GAP training for industry partners.

#### **TAFEcyber**

TAFEcyber is a national consortium of eleven TAFE providers. The Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC), which forms part of the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD), is working with TAFEcyber as a delivery partner to grow a pool of Essential Eight Assessors nationwide. This will assist government and industry to better apply the Essential Eight Assessment Guidance Package. Delivered at our Murdoch Campus, the Essential Eight Assessment course is focused on helping government agencies and private businesses achieve an appropriate maturity level in cyber security.

TAFEcyber on behalf of ASD has recently developed a course to bolster the technical skills of people who are not yet ready to undertake the assessment course. This new course is undergoing final checks and is projected to be offered by SM TAFE in the second half of 2025.

In time, these training courses will become stepping stones for prospective Infosec Registered Assessors Program (IRAP) assessors to complete their professional pathway to full IRAP endorsement and form a key part of the Australian cyber security training ecosystem.

#### **Defence Trade Training**

SM TAFE has a longstanding partnership with Defence, delivering a diverse range of upskilling courses, trade qualifications, and post-trade training programs for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). These programs include specialist training in Electronics, Engineering, Electrical Systems, Welding, Marine Technology, and Air Conditioning qualifications.

### The 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the Australian Army

SM TAFE is partnering with the 13th Brigade to achieve a number of objectives related to workforce development and employment for students and soldiers.

#### **ASC**

Since 2002, SM TAFE has partnered with ASC to provide a dedicated team of training system specialists, curriculum development consultants and training technology experts at the Submarine Training and Systems Centre at HMAS Stirling on Garden Island. Working closely with ASC and the RAN, SM TAFE provides training and support services to assist in the training of submariners. SM TAFE has also trained more than 45 apprentices indentured to ASC over the past ten years.

This partnership has seen SM TAFE develop leading edge training technology solutions including virtual reality, augmented reality, and virtual digital twin training environments. SM TAFE have also been instrumental in maintaining and creating all submarine training curriculum of the Collins Class Submarine and provides world-leading Collins Class training systems specialists in power systems, combat systems, platform operations and diesel maintenance and operation.

# The future of Defence: Educational pathways and partnerships

SM TAFE offers numerous dedicated Defence programs that create a seamless pathway between schools, TAFE, higher education and the Defence sector. High school students in years 11 and 12 can begin their Defence industry career journey via a range of study areas through SM TAFE's VET Delivered to Secondary Students (VETDSS) programs. VETDSS Defence career programs encompass:

- Shipbuilding
- Defence trades
- Engineering
- Submarine maintenance
- Logistics and warehousing
- Maritime studies

#### **Defence Industry Skills Centre of Excellence**

Led by SM TAFE, the Defence Industry Skills Centre of Excellence (the Centre) was established to design and deliver innovative training solutions focused on skilling, re-skilling and supporting Australians for defence industry jobs.

Training is delivered through SM TAFE's stateof-the-art campuses along Western Australia's Western Trade Coast, including Naval Base, Munster, Rockingham and Fremantle. These facilities feature advanced workshops, simulation suites and industry-standard equipment, creating authentic environments that mirror modern defence industry workplaces.

The Centre is a joint initiative between the Australian and Western Australian Governments under the National Skills Agreement.







Centre of Excellence



## **Defence Industry Pathways Program**

The award-winning program has been designed to bolster the State's Defence industry workforce. Trainees have been funded by the Department of Defence and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) where they undergo a combination of off-the-job training at SM TAFE and four work placement rotations with Host Employers within the Maritime Defence industry.

With the increasing demand for workers in the shipbuilding industry in Western Australia, SM TAFE has worked with Defence to develop a bespoke training program aimed to attract and support new entrants to the industry. The program offers participants a 'taster' of the Defence industry to assist in the selection of a career pathway. The nationally recognised 52904WA Certificate III in Defence Industry Pathways qualification will be delivered as part of this 12-month traineeship.

Due to the success of this program, a school-based version has also been implemented.

Trainees will gain over 400 hours of industry work placement experience throughout the traineeship while still completing their school studies. By enabling this early offering at school, students can progress to further Defence industry training options along their career pathway, ensuring long-term workforce sustainability for WA.

#### STEM pathways

SM TAFE brings together high schools and industry to promote career options that arise from the study of STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

SM TAFE manages delivery components within the P-TECH (Pathways in Technology) program, helping students transition from school to employment or further training and post-school qualifications. Work experience, industry mentoring, Defence career advice, and STEM subject study support are among the benefits enjoyed by participating students.

Industry partners include Austal, Civmec, Thales, Deloitte and Datacom.

### Women in Defence Industry

SM TAFE is partnering with industry to deliver the *Women in Defence Industry Scholarship* to encourage women to take up a career in the Defence industry. Scholarship participants complete training in two nationally recognised qualifications specalising in either Technical Engineering and Electronics or Cyber Security and Electronics which is fully funded training at SM TAFE. The scholarship has been designed to meet the needs of women who are returning to work, seeking a career change, recently completed high school, or as an alternative pathway to study in qualifications that relate to the Defence industry. The learning environment is structured to provide a high level of support for students returning to formal education.

The scholarship program is delivered under the Defence Industry Skils Centre of Excellence.





# INDUSTRY TRAINING









