Proposed New Schedule

Developing the Defence Support Industry

The Parties Agree the Issues are:

- The Defence White Paper 2000, the Defence Capability Plan 2004-2014 and the four defence sector development plans for the Shipbuilding and Repair, Electronics, Aerospace and Land and Weapons sectors create a framework of opportunities and demands for Northern Territory’s defence support industry.

- Three outputs of the Defence Capability Plan will result three new major defence platforms being based in the Northern Territory within the next two years, which will require ‘through life support’ (repairs and maintenance) of this equipment to be undertaken locally for a period of at least 15 years. These platforms are the Armidale Class Patrol Boats, the “Tiger” Armed Reconnaissance Helicopters and the Abrams Tanks. The collective value of the through life support could exceed $135M per year. In addition, the Commonwealth has entered into an agreement with the US Government to develop the Delamere Bombing Range and the Bradshaw Field Training Area as components of the US-Australia Defence Joint Training initiative. These, and other developments in the defence sector, will create a workforce demand in the Northern Territory for highly skilled people in existing and new technologies,

- There is a need to maximise economic development from the Northern Territory’s engagement in major Defence projects evolving in the Territory, and this engagement will require building new skills and competencies in the defence support industry,

- There are synergies between defence support and existing and emerging local industries.

- There is opportunity to grow the reputation of the Northern Territory in key areas of defence support, including electronic engineering, gas turbine technology, and logistics.

The Parties Agree the Goal of this Schedule is:

To maximise economic and community benefit to the Northern Territory from engagement in the major defence activities and projects being based or evolving in the Territory over the next fifteen years.
The Parties Agree the Strategies to be implemented through Collaboration are:

**Phase 1**

- CDU / DBIRD / DEET commission an industry endorsed quantitative assessment through Australian Industry Defence Network (AIDN-NT) of the potential demand for skilled labour (including professionals) by vocation (four digit ASCO code), number required and year expected to arise due to the current and emerging defence force projects over the next 10 years.
- CDU / DEET negotiate with successful / potential proponents to tailor training courses required to meet defence support industry requirements
- CDU / DEET negotiate/readjust training profile to service the industry endorsed training demand in VET that CDU elects to service.
- DBIRD / DEET / CDU / OTD ensure close coordination on major projects that allow for re-skilling and up-skilling training for NT businesses to work across industry groups.
- DEET / CDU to map the infrastructure needs to deliver the industry endorsed VET training and negotiate into the DEET / CDU strategic infrastructure plan for VET.
- Working with DEET and DBIRD’s Defence Support Division, map the scope of registration of the Charles Darwin University against the strategic workforce development needs to create a training schedule that will produce a workforce capable of engaging in the support needed for the major defence platforms and defence activities in the Northern Territory,
- Investigate and map the linkages between the needs of the defence force industry and existing and emerging local industries.
- From the above work scope further opportunities in the broad area of defence support studies

**Outputs / Performance Measures**

- Quantitative assessment completed 2004/2005
- Mapping of available training programs together with expected student numbers
- Adjustment of training profile for new resource agreement 2005/2006