

EDITED BY John Kindler

# \$74M AIR DEFENCE CENTRE

**LOCKHEED MARTIN AUSTRALIA (LMA)** has announced plans to invest \$74 million to create a secure National Integrated Air and Missile Defence Ecosystem, recommending the centre be located at Williamstown, NSW.

Missile defence systems are designed to shoot down incoming cruise and ballistic strike missiles. Lockheed Martin has three such systems which it is likely to seek to adapt for Australia.

The company said the proposal was made in parallel with its bid for Defence's \$2.7 billion Joint Air Battle Management System to be delivered under Air 6500, but is not dependant on that being successful. LMA and Northrop Grumman Australia have been down-selected for a role as the Commonwealth's strategic partner for Air 6500 and both have submitted bids.

Part of the \$74 million investment will be seed money to kickstart research and development activities to ensure the capability can be grown and begin to develop a sovereign industry. The facility will be run by the Commonwealth.

Sources: *Australian Defence; Newcastle Herald*



## Leonardo lands Spartan contract



**LEONARDO HAS WON** a \$70 million contract to replace and upgrade the radio capability on Australia's C-27J Spartan fleet. Australia currently has 10 Spartans operated by No.35 Squadron from RAAF Base Amberley, focused on peacetime operations such as search and rescue and aeromedical support.

Air Vice-Marshal Leon Phillips, head of aerospace systems division, said, "Upgrading the cryptographic radio function of the C-27J platform will ensure ongoing availability of secure communications, including interoperability with key strategic partners and intelligence networks, and increased overall safety for Australian Defence Force personnel."

Source: *Defence Connect*



ABOVE C-27J Spartan.

## HAULMARK TRAILERS

*A symbol of quality*

Leading the way in the supply of military trailers and tankers

- Manufacturers of Specialised Road Transport Equipment
- Certified Quality Assurance to ISO 9001

For more information contact your nearest Haulmark Office:

**Brisbane** Ph (07) 3277 3666  
**Darwin** Ph (08) 8984 3533  
**Adelaide** Ph (08) 8283 8585