

## Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith MP

Minister for Defence Industries

Thursday, 27 April 2017

### **Local companies get the low-down on cyber security**

Defence SA will tomorrow host the second in a series of cyber security industry forums aimed at increasing the cyber readiness of South Australian companies and developing the state as a natural cyber hub.

Minister for Defence Industries Martin Hamilton-Smith said South Australia's efforts were in line with the Australian Government's increased focus on cyber security capabilities and last week's launch of the Australian Cyber Security Growth Network's Cyber Security Sector Competitiveness Plan.

The forum will provide an update for industry participants on current threats and South Australian cyber initiatives, as well as providing practical steps to address cyber risks for companies of all sizes.

### **Background**

The first South Australian cyber forum was held on 6 December 2016, with tomorrow's forum set to continue establishing a community of interest to address cyber strategies. The forum will be attended by nearly 60 participants, nearly double the amount which attended the inaugural forum.

Guest speakers include Daniel Floreani and Derek Grocke from CYBEROPS who will update on the current threat and the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) essential eight cyber risk mitigation strategies; Mick Lehman from Elbit who will give a demonstration of 'cyberbit' simulator and cyber range trainer and Kim Scott from TAO Consulting with information about South Australia's role in cyber security.

A third forum is planned for August 2017 which will include practical demonstrations of cyber-attacks and threats.

Companies can still register for the forum by contacting Defence SA via email [rsvp@defencesa.com.au](mailto:rsvp@defencesa.com.au) or phone 8463 7104. The forum will take place at Innovation House at Mawson Lakes on Friday 28 April from 8.45am-12.45pm.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Defence Industries Martin Hamilton-Smith**

The South Australian Government is serious about supporting our industry and arming them with the appropriate strategies to protect against cyber threats.

Cyber-security is more than firewalls and anti-virus software, this is an extremely high-tech multi-billion dollar industry and South Australia has a real opportunity to position itself as an expert in the field.

Cyber security is a real and evolving threat across all industries. Cyber-attacks on large Australian companies and key government agencies are now occurring daily so there are obvious risks for those who don't take cyber security seriously.

If you aren't putting cyber security at the forefront of your planning, now is the time to get involved in these forums, learn everything you can and start putting strategies in place. It's those companies who are proactive with cyber security that will have a competitive edge and win work in defence and other industries.

If you haven't secured your place at the forum, I encourage you to do so immediately.

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