



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**  
Capability Acquisition and  
Sustainment Group



# Australian F-35A Project Update

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# Australian F-35A Project – Key Messages



F-35A is the **right capability** for Australia



F-35A capability is **far beyond 72 aircraft**.



The F-35 Program is **transforming Australian industry** and growing the Australian economy



We are **on track** to achieve Initial Operating Capability by December 2020



The risks that remain in the project are being **proactively managed**.

# F-35A – The Right Capability for Australia

- F-35A Capability - What it is.
- More than just the aircraft
- The Global Program
- Australian Industry Involvement
- Major Milestones



# F-35A Conventional Take-Off & Landing (CTOL)



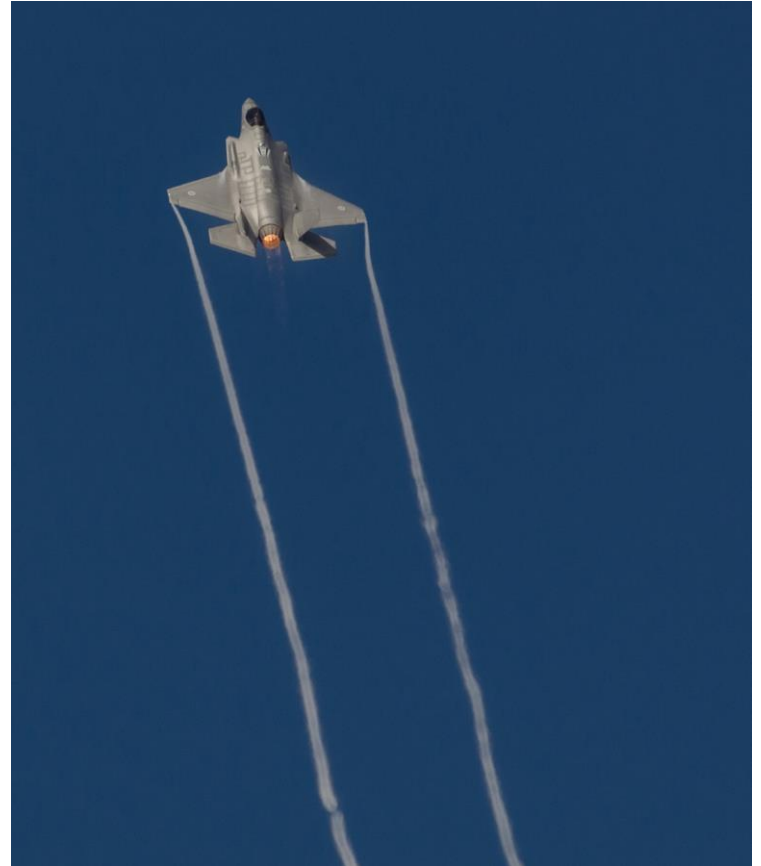
## F-35A Specifications

Length	51.4 ft / 15.7 m
Height	14.4 ft / 4.38 m
Speed	Mach 1.6
Wingspan	35 ft / 10.7 m
Wing Area	460 ft <sup>2</sup> / 42.7m <sup>2</sup>
Combat Radius (internal fuel)	>590 n.mi / 1,093 km
Max Take-Off Weight	~70 000lbs
Range (internal fuel)	>1,200 n.mi / 2,200 km
Internal Fuel Capacity	18,250 lb / 8,278 kg
Max g-rating	9.0
Weapons Payload	18,000 lb / 8,160 kg
Propulsion	F135-PW-100
Thrust*	40,000 lb / 25,000 lb Mil

\*Max Power (Max) = with afterburner / Military Power (Mil) = without afterburner

## PILLARS OF CAPABILITY

- The F-35 is the most capable and affordable aircraft to meet Australia's future threat environments. **Why?**
  - Lethal
  - Affordable
  - Survivable
  - Supportable



**Next Generation Technology = Total Air Dominance**



# What is 5<sup>th</sup> Generation

## The Evolution of Stealth



Capability



- 1st Jets
- Subsonic
- Guns
- Bombs
- Rockets

Parity

1st Gen

40s



- Supersonic
- 1st Radar
- Missiles
- Guns

Parity

2nd Gen

50s



- Multi-Role
- Supersonic
- Radar
- Missiles

Parity

3rd Gen

60s



- Adv Avionics
- Guided Weapons
- Agility & Speed

Advantage With Training

4th Gen

70s

- Stealth
- Fighter Performance
- Internal Payload
- Information Fusion
- Network Centric Ops
- Sustainable
- Deployable

Total Air Dominance

5th Gen

2005+

# Jet Fighter Generations

## Generation 4.5

*The United States Government defines 4.5 generation fighter aircraft as fourth generation jet fighters that have been upgraded with **AESA radar**, high capacity data-link, enhanced avionics, and "the ability to deploy current and reasonably foreseeable advanced armaments*



*Mikoyan MiG-35*



*Saab JAS 39 Gripen*



*Sukhoi Su-30*



*Sukhoi Su-33*



*Dassault Rafale*



*Boeing F/A-18E/F  
Super Hornet*



*Sukhoi Su-34*



*Sukhoi Su-35*



*Eurofighter Typhoon*

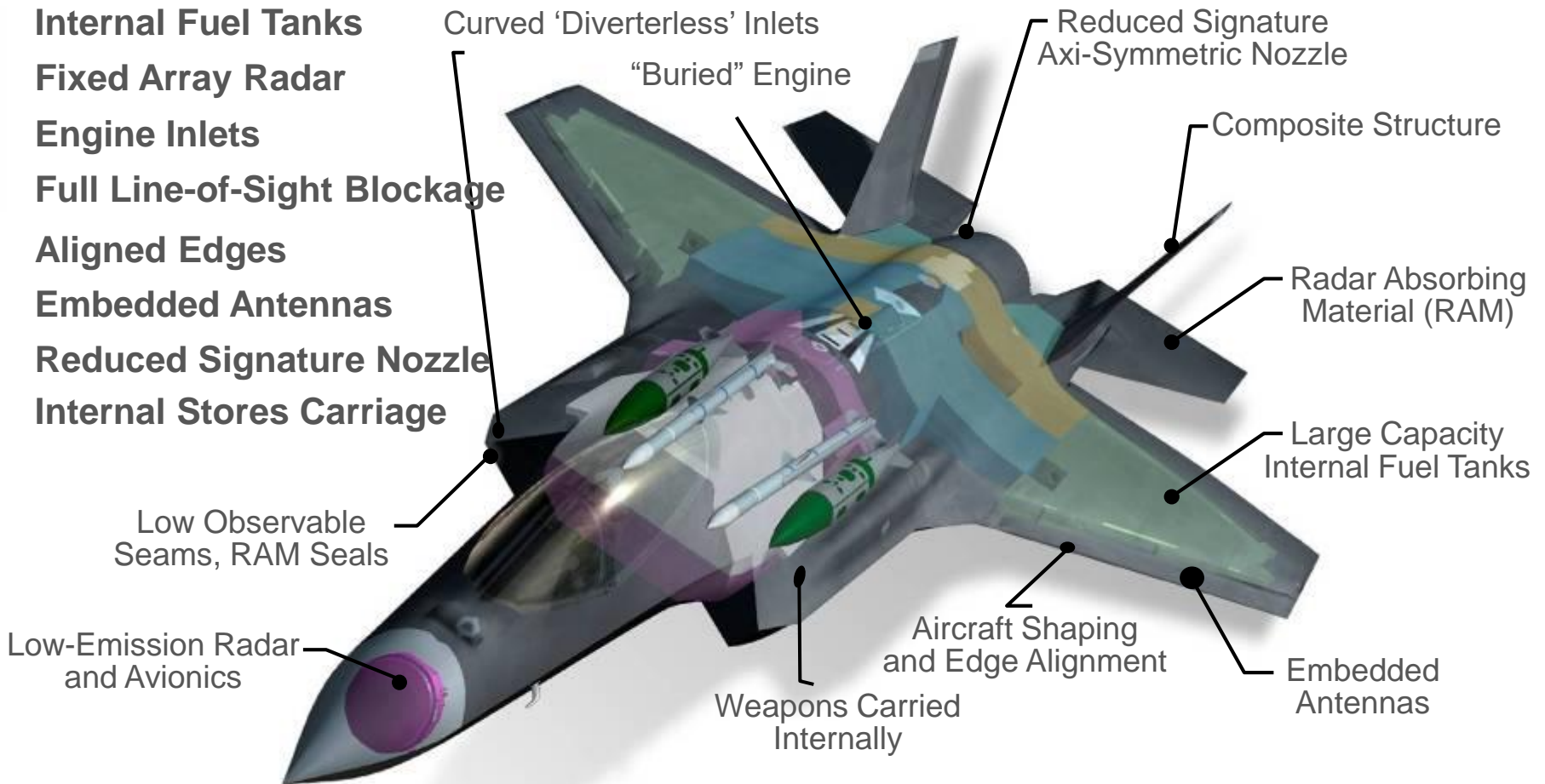


*McDonnell Douglas  
F15E Eagle Strike*



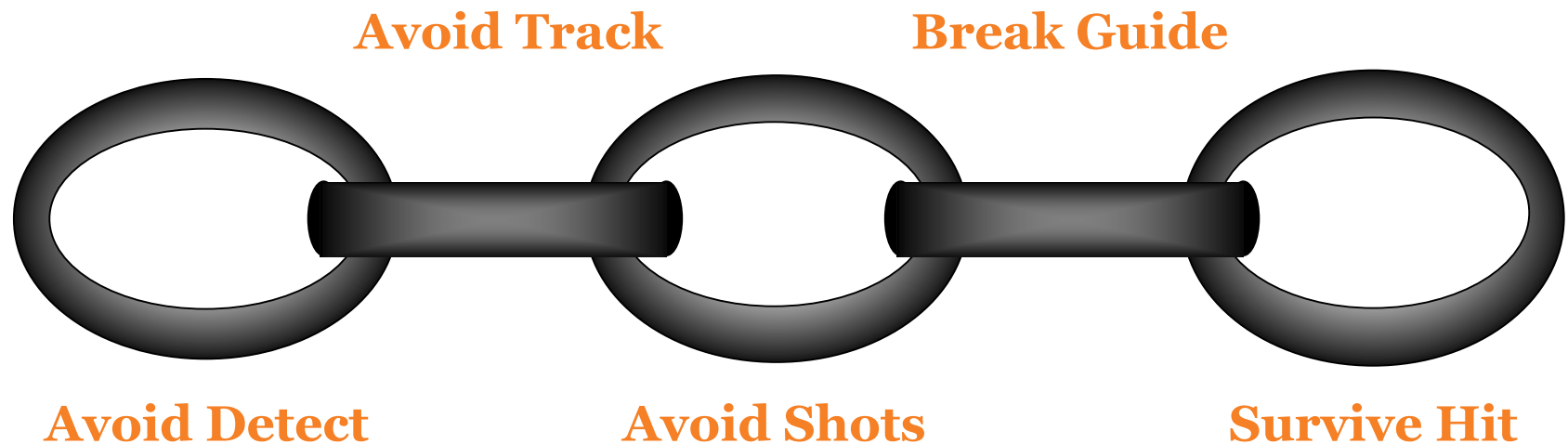
*Sukhoi Su-37*

# Fundamental 5<sup>TH</sup> Gen Design Features Can Not Be Retrofitted





Survivability Kill Chain –  
Break **Any Link** to Survive, Earlier is Better



# VIDEO – F-35 Smart Fighter for the Warfighter

# More than Just an Aircraft



## The **Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS)**

- The off-board information system for the F-35;
- Essential to F-35 operations;
- Provides the information system infrastructure (hardware, software and data) that performs:
  - Flight Scheduling
  - Mission planning / debriefing
  - Maintenance Management
  - Fault diagnostics
  - Supply support
  - Training Management



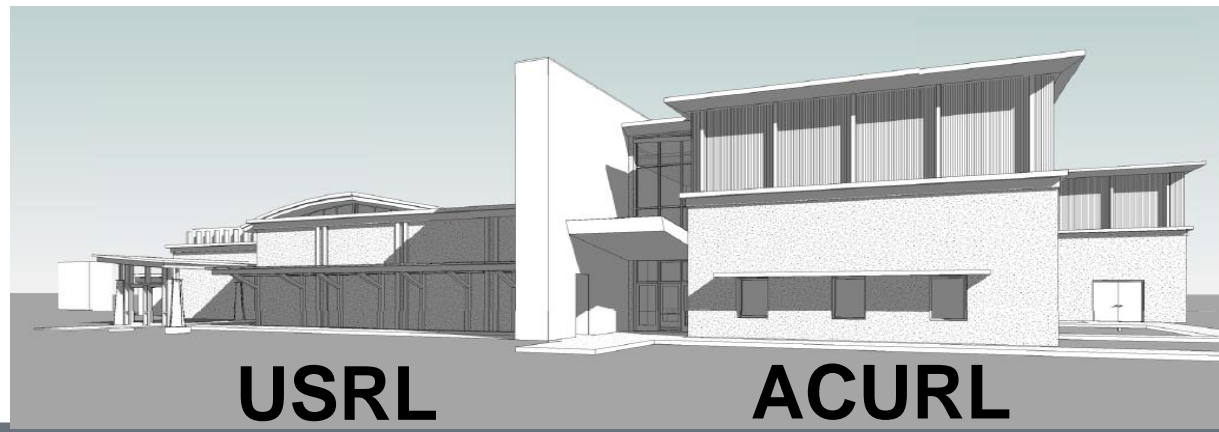
## The Off Board Information Support Centre (OBISC)

- A 'Sand Pit' for ALIS
- Provides a safe test environment for upgrades
- Development of Procedures
- Integration into Defence Networks
- Opened 5 July 2017 – JSF's first Australian Facility
  - Williamtown

# Video: Keeping the F-35 Mission Ready

# What is ACURL?

- Australia Canada United Kingdom Reprogramming Lab (ACURL)
- Mission Data Files (MDFs) enable the F-35 to be a “smart” aircraft
- MDF compiles information about the threat environment (eg other assets in the area) and is loaded onto the aircraft via a “brick”
- Enables the clearest battle space picture of any modern platform
- The Reprogramming facility that produces the MDFs is due to be operation by the end of 2018
- Located at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida co-located with US Reprogramming Lab



# F-35 Global Program



- US Government Leading – Joint Program Office (JPO)
- Nine Partner Nations
- Foreign Military Sales
- Production will reach **200** F-35s by the end of 2017
- Global F-35 fleet of around 3,000 by 2035
- F-35 Global Support Solution (GSS)
- Global Industry opportunities
- Collaboration and competition with Partners



## US Services (USAF, USN, USMC)

- US (2443 F-35s)

## Partners (signatories to PSFD MoU) < 1000

- UK (135 F-35s)
- Italy (60 F-35A's / 30 F-35Bs)
- Australia (100 F-35As)
- Turkey (100 F-35As)
- Netherlands (37 F-35As)
- Canada (65 F-35As)
- Norway (52 F-35As)
- Denmark (27 F-35As)

## • FMS

- Israel (50 F-35As)
- Japan (42 F-35As)
- South Korea (40 F-35As)



# A Maturing Program

- Complex Program – developing, building, operating and sustaining aircraft all at the same time
- Production ramp starting now
- Still in development phase of Program
- Early technical challenges being overcome

**Egress**



**Helmet**



**Weapons/MS  
Integration**



**Engine**



# A Maturing Program

- 46 F-35s delivered in 2016
- The F-35 is now operating from 12 different locations
- Collectively, the F-35 fleet has flown over 95,000 flight hours
- Around 200 F-35s in operational service
- More than 400 pilots trained
- Almost 4,000 maintainers trained
- System Development and Demonstration (SDD) phase 95% complete by April 2016
- 229 jets on contract

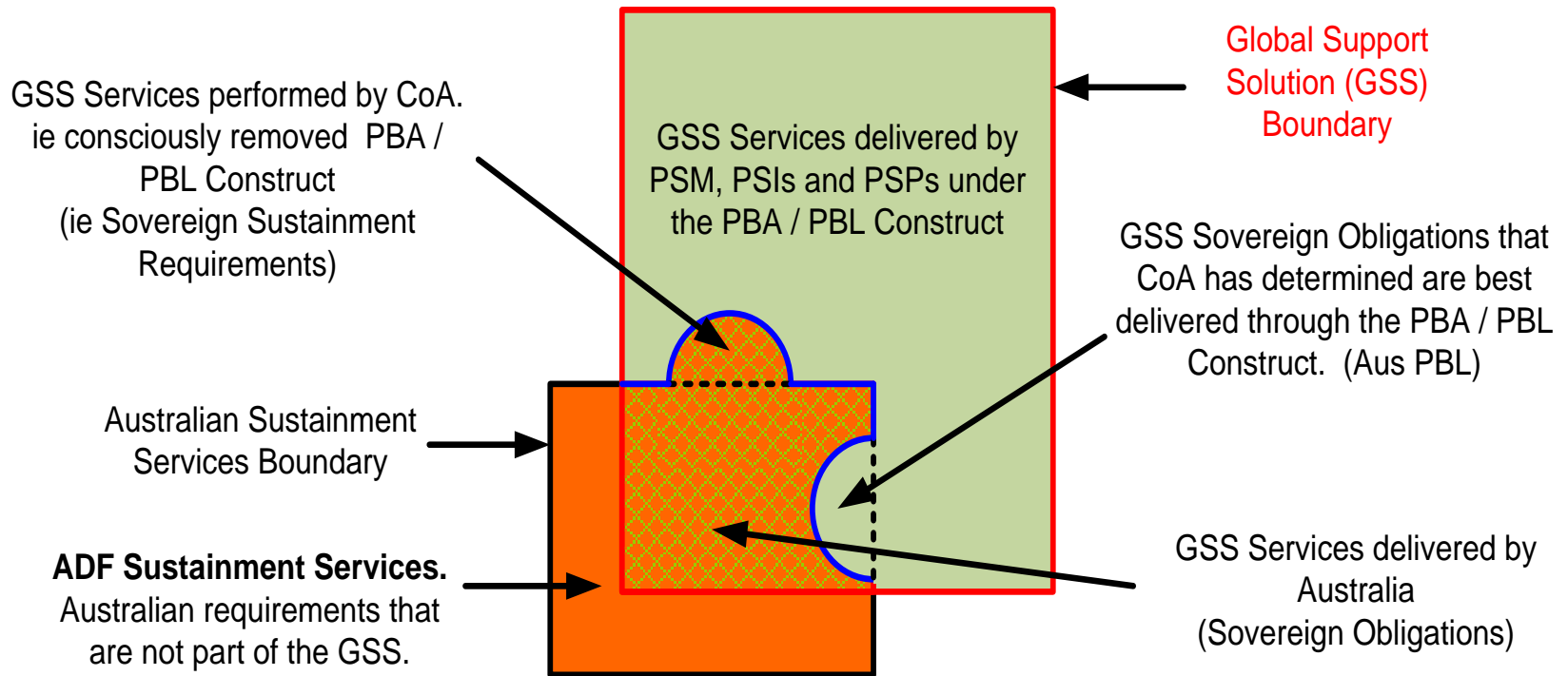


# The Global Support Solution (GSS)

- Partners in the F-35 Program have invested in a Global Support Solution (GSS)
- Three broad regions – Europe, US and the Asia-Pacific
- Best value, available and common support system for F-35s worldwide
- JPO is challenging Partner nations to find mutually beneficial ways to reduce costs
- Performance based construct
- Overall objective of the GSS is to improve cost, schedule and performance
- Australia leveraging the GSS but also ensuring sovereign support requirements are maintained
- This is a transformational way of doing business

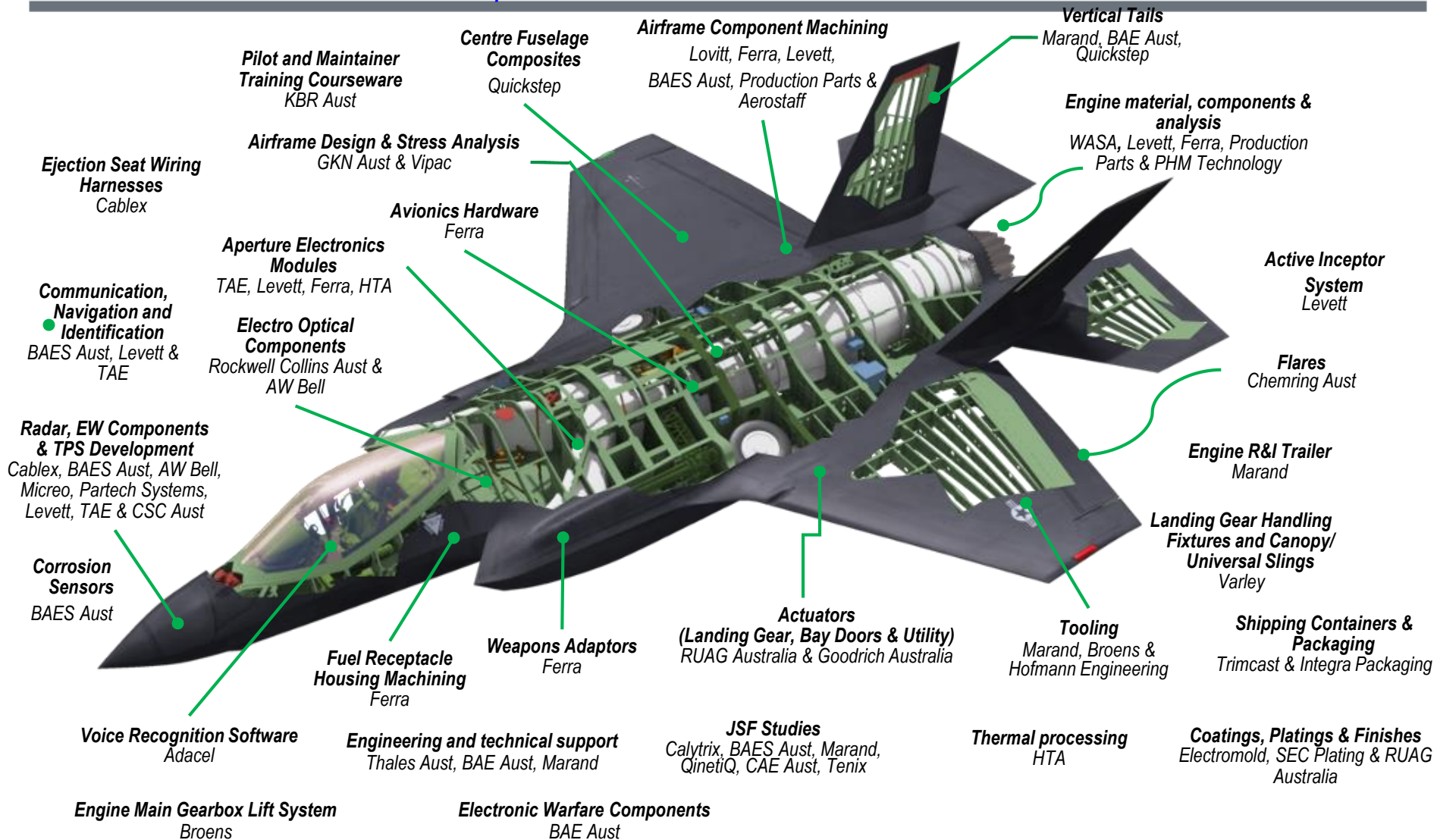


# The Global Support Solution (GSS)



# F-35 Australian Industry Participation

More than \$800 million worth of contracts to date



Australian industry involvement in F-35 production is expected to reach \$2 billion by 2023.



# Facilities - RAAF Base Williamtown



- Further opportunities expected as F-35 production rates triple
- Performing better than initial Defence forecasts
- Value of Australian contracts increased by 23% (Dec 15 – Dec 16)
- Further opportunities in F-35 Sustainment

# F-35 Program Industry Export Opportunities

The F-35 Program is driving innovation and efficiency and opening up export opportunities for Australian industry.

- PwC Economic Impact Report released March 2017.
- Participation in the F-35 production program has supported an additional 2,400 jobs across the Australian economy.
- At peak production workload, forecasts indicate AUD\$1 billion (real GDP) contributed to the Australian economy with an additional 5,000 jobs supported across the Australian economy.
- By 2038, Australian economy will be AUD\$1.2 billion (real GDP) greater with an additional 6,300 jobs supported.



# Australian F-35A Project Update



- First two jets delivered December 2014
  - Over 1,000 combined flying hours to date by Australian F-35A's
  - Four qualified Australian pilots and two more in training
  - Collaboration with Partners
- 
- On schedule to achieve IOC by December 2020
  - Total approved budget for Australian F-35A Project is **AU\$17.7** billion
  - Includes 72 F-35A aircraft along with infrastructure, training and support systems, and weapons.

# Australian F-35A Project Milestones

- 2014 – Delivery of first jets in the United States
- 2015 – Training starts in the United States
- 2018 – First aircraft arrive in Australia
- 2020 – Initial Operating Capability
- 2023 – Final Operating Capability

**Australia has one of the most aggressive F-35 integration schedules of any Partner nation outside the United States**

Australia's acquisition profile:

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
2	0	0	0	8	8	15	15	15	9	72

- Support systems in place ready for first ferry in 2018
- Adapting F-35 Program training systems to meet Australian requirements
- Integrating the F-35 Autonomic Logistics Information System (ALIS) into the Defence Information Environment (DIE)
- Achieving Australian industry outcomes
- Being a smart customer and supplier of the Global Support Solution (GSS)
- Reprogramming
- Sovereign Data Management (SDM)
- Global Program spares issues
- Training

- We are working together to deliver the largest global Defence acquisition Program in ADF history – challenging and exciting times
- Addressing challenges head on
- **32** full time qualified Australian personnel based in the United States as part of the global Program
- Making steady progress to reach Initial Operating Capability by 2020
- Multi-level advocacy of Australian Industry capability will be crucial to achieving industry outcome



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Questions?

