

Lockheed Martin Supports Successful MRGBAD Capability Demonstration In Partnership With The Commonwealth Of Australia And The US Navy

CANBERRA, 29 July 2026 – Lockheed Martin, in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Australia and the U.S. Navy, has successfully supported Taipan Strike 26, a live fire test of a developmental Medium Range Ground Based Air Defence (MRGBAD) prototype at the Woomera Test Range in Australia. This active missile demonstration showcased the integration of various systems to demonstrate a robust air defence capability option paving the way for continued integration efforts.

Key Highlights of the Demonstration:

- **Advanced Radar Threat Detection:** The demonstration featured CEA's radar system from the Australian Defence Force (ADF), which identified and tracked a representative threat.
- **Expeditionary Capability:** Virtualised Aegis Weapons System capabilities were deployed in a small-scale, expeditionary form factor to support command and control.
- **Launcher Integration:** Aegis initialised a mobile ground-based launcher to engage the representative target.

The Taipan Strike 26 demonstration leveraged the Aegis baseline developed for the Hunter Class Frigate and the Hobart Class Destroyer modernisation programs, unlocking cross service integration and interoperability, delivering greater capability and value while leveraging existing ADF investments.

Strategic Perspectives:

"This demonstration showcased how existing systems can be integrated across domains and orchestrated across coalition partners to achieve mission success," said Joe DePietro, Mission Integration Command and Control Vice President and General Manager at Lockheed Martin. "This prototype demonstration lays the groundwork for air defence modernisation, providing decision-makers with more time to respond and increasing the effectiveness of coordinated air and missile defence systems."

"This live fire demonstration provides accelerated capability options to deliver a medium-range, ground-based air defence capability for the Australian Defence Force," said Jeremy King, Chief Executive, Lockheed Martin Australia and New Zealand.

"This prototype system leverages existing weapons, launchers and command and control. It can fire any of the weapons currently fielded on the Hobart Class Destroyers or future Hunter Class Frigates."

King added, "A medium range ground-based air defence platform will propel the ADF from point defence to a network integrated, medium range deterrent that will fundamentally enhance our operational flexibility, deterrence posture and coalition interoperability."

This successful demonstration of the developmental MRGBAD capability not only showcases Lockheed Martin's system integration expertise but also provides a promising outlook for future air defence projects. It demonstrates the potential for enhanced air defence capabilities that can be tailored to meet the specific needs of countries and regions.

As the strategic partner for Defence's AIR6500 Joint Air Battle Management System, Lockheed Martin Australia stands ready to integrate future MRGBAD capabilities into the ADF's integrated air and missile defence architecture.

About Lockheed Martin

Headquartered in Canberra, Lockheed Martin Australia is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation. The company employs more than 1,800 people in Australia working on a wide range of major programs spanning the aerospace, Defence and civil sectors.

Internationally, Lockheed Martin is a global defense technology company driving innovation and advancing scientific discovery. Our all-domain mission solutions and 21st Century Security® vision accelerate the delivery of

transformative technologies to ensure those we serve always stay ahead of ready. More information at [lockheedmartin.com](https://www.lockheedmartin.com).

Image courtesy of the ADF. Additional imagery can be found at the [ADF photo library](#).

###

Media Contacts:

(AU) Stacey Ward, +61 439 369 305, stacey.l.ward@lmco.com

(US) Robin Peak, +1 619-728-8657, robin.peak@lmco.com

Additional assets available online: [Photos \(1\)](#)

<https://news.lockheedmartin.com/2026-07-29-Lockheed-Martin-Supports-Successful-MRGBAD-Capability-Demonstration-in-Partnership-with-the-Commonwealth-of-Australia-and-the-US-Navy>