



**Defence
Science
Institute**

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Closing the door to 2024, in preparation for an exciting 2025

From all of us at DSI we wish you and yours a very Happy Holiday Season!

2024 has been another big year for DSI with lots happening, including big changes at DSI itself. At the end of May, we farewelled Adrian Pearce, our Director of nine years and welcomed Toby Murray as the new DSI Director at the same time.

This year has also seen the Tasmanian Government join the University of Tasmania as an official part of the DSI family. We are excited to be working with the Department of State Growth increasing the opportunities for Tasmanian companies, students and researchers in the Defence sector, not to mention the increased opportunities for field trips!

And we look forward to seeing everyone at the [Avalon International Air Show 2025](#), where the new [Blue Sky Thinking Innovation Award](#) will be making its debut. Taking the popular Innovation PitchFests to the next level, the Blue Sky Thinking Innovation Award offers \$10,000 prize money for early-stage ideas that challenge conventional boundaries. Make sure to get your entry in by 3 February.

We thank you all for the great things this year and look forward to working with friends both old and new in 2025.

Our office will be closed from 23 December 2024 – 5 January 2025 and will reopen on 6 January 2025.

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Army Innovation Day 2025 Challenge - Land-Air Autonomous Tactical Teaming in the Littoral at Scale



Army is seeking submissions demonstrating innovative capabilities to enhance the range and lethality, sustainment, and survivability of Robotic and Autonomous Systems (RAS)-enabled forces for operations in distributed littoral environments.

Capabilities should support platoon or troop size RAS-enabled forces, enabling soldiers and systems to continually adapt and seize advantages with emerging and disruptive technologies.

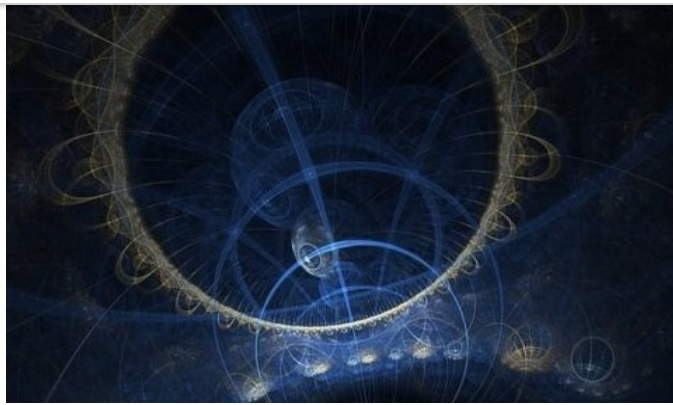
Submissions must meet a minimum entry TRL of 5 and meet an exit TRL of 8

Projects are required to deliver a minimum prototype quantity for test and evaluation (Q4 2026), with training for Army units in Q1 2027) for deployment in Operation Talisman Sabre (July 2027).

Submissions are due **11am AEDT, 3 February 2025** via AusTender: [Ref LCD-22-0002-AID25](#).

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**Dept of Industry, Science & Resources - Critical
Technologies Program - Round 2**



Round 2 of the Critical Technologies Challenge Program will open for applications 15 January 2025, closing **26 February 2025**.

\$100,000 - \$500,000 is available for Stage 1 Feasibility projects of up to 6 months duration. These projects are to test and demonstrate the technical viability of proposed challenge solutions/solution components.

Consortia must include at least one Australian industry based organisation and one Australian research organisation.

Funding is to be used to develop quantum technology solutions or a component(s) that contribute to a solution to one of the market-led challenges. Solutions may also involve the use of other advanced technologies.

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National Indigenous Space Academy - Applications Open



Applications are open for the 2025 National Indigenous Space Academy.

NISA students will undertake a Space Boot Camp run by Monash University, in preparation for their 10-week internship at [NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory](#) in California.

Applicants must identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and be studying science, technology, engineering or maths at any Australian university, at undergraduate or postgraduate level.

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Other Opportunities



[ASCA - Emerging and Disruptive Technologies Program - Decision Advantage closing 24 January 2025](#)

[Defense Industrial Base Consortium - Kinetic Capabilities closing 30 January 2025](#)

[Advanced Technology Industries Strategy - Public consultation closing 31 January 2025](#)

[Avalon 2025 - Blue-Sky Thinking Innovation Award closing 3 Feb 2025](#)

[SmartSat CRC Vic Node - Open Call for Projects.Submissions close **3 February 2025.**](#)

[ONI - National Intelligence Postdoctoral Grants - GO7318 closing 21 Feb 2025](#)

[76th International Astronautical Congress, Sydney - Call for Papers, closing 28 February 2025.](#)

[@AuManufacturing - 50 Most Innovative Manufacturers - Nominations Open until 8 March 2025](#)

[Australian Army Journal Submissions by 24 March 2025](#)

[BSides Ballarat - 3 May 2025 - Call for Speakers](#)

[AIAA - Student Design Competitions, eam registration closes 7 February 2025, with final proposals due **16 May 2025.**](#)

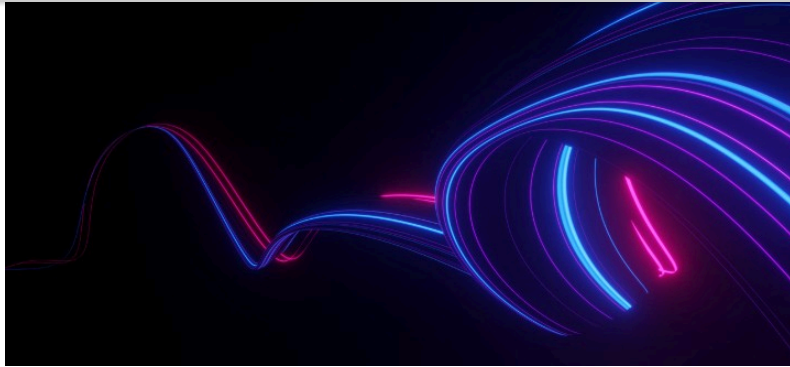
[Australian Digital Defence Industry Matrix](#)

[Dept Industry, Science and Resources - Industry Growth Program](#)

[Dept Industry, Science and Resources - Concessions on Goods for Space Projects](#)

[Dept of Industry, Science and Resources - Software-Related Activities and R&D Tax Incentive](#)

Defence - International Opportunities



DARPA - eX Virentia (eXVi) Phase 0 - DARPA-EA-25-01

Abstracts are due **10 January 2025**

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DARPA - Simulated Microbial Systems (SMS) - DARPA-PS-25-04

Abstracts are due **15 January 2025**

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DARPA - Request for Information - Quantum Entanglement Enhanced Novel Sensing (QUEENS)

RFI responses are due **15 January 2025**, via email to DARPA-SN-25-18@darpa.mil.

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DARPA - Emon Disruption Opportunity - DARPA-PA-24-04-04

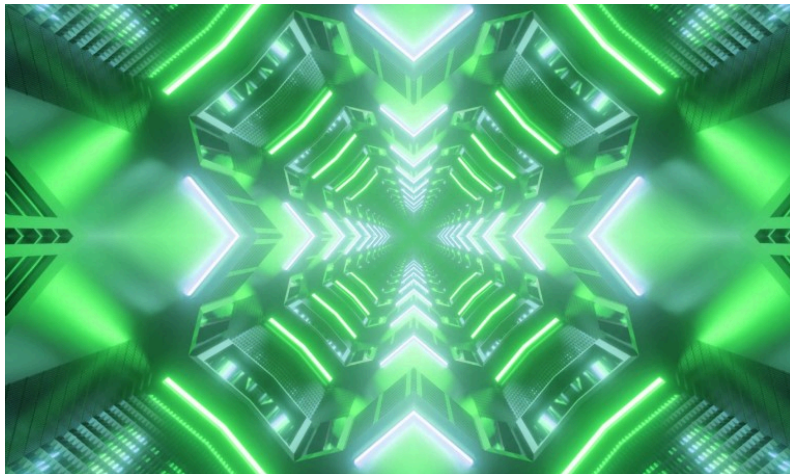
Proposals are due **24 January 2025**.

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DARPA - Expedited Research Implementation Series (ERIS) - DARPA-PS-25-05

ERIS will accept video pitch submissions (up to 7 minutes) and supporting documents up until **30 May 2025** on an ongoing basis.

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UK Intelligence Community - Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

Applications close **29 April 2025**.

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DASA - Market Exploration - Air Launched Effects: Revolutionary Deployment Systems

Responses are due **4 February 2025**.

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DASA - Future-proofing Biosecurity by Strengthening the UK's Microbial Forensic Capability

Proposals are due **18 February 2025**.

[Webinar](#)

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Upcoming Events



- [Malware and Reverse Engineering Conference 2025, Melbourne - 3 & 4 March 2025](#)
- [HUMS2025, Melbourne 24-25 March 2025](#)
- [Avalon Airshow 2025. 25-30 March 2025](#)
- [BSides Ballarat - 3 May 2025](#)
- [76th International Astronautical Congress, 29 September - 3 October 2025, Sydney](#)

Current DSI Opportunities

[DSI - APR.Intern : New Defence Internship for Victorian & Tasmanian Companies](#)

[Victorian Defence Industry Scholarships \(Undergraduates\)](#)

[Tasmanian Defence Industry Scholarships \(Undergraduates\)](#)

[Nuclear Powered Submarine Program](#)

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