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ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY COMPANY EXPANDS CAPABILITIES FOR FUTURE GROWTH

The Minister for Defence, The Hon. Senator Robert Hill officially opened a major extension to CEA Technologies’ premises in Canberra. The new facilities enhance CEA’s manufacturing, testing and R&D capabilities for radar and communications products. These products are supplied to Defence, Government and the international market.

The expansion of CEA’s facilities includes a new building, and extension and major renovation of the original premises. Included is a specialised Antenna Test Facility (ATF). This facility is unique to Canberra and one of only a few in Australia. The ATF includes a purpose-built anechoic test chamber for validation and calibration of CEA’s active phased array systems and other antenna development, testing and support requirements. CEA’s Chairman, VADM Don Chalmers AO RANR, said “CEA has been in business for 20 years and this marks a significant milestone in the company’s growth.”

The $4.25M works provide a substantial improvement in specialised facilities and working conditions. This includes upgrade of the existing premises, the new buildings and expansion space to accommodate growth over the next few years. The total floor area is increased from 2300 sqm to 4100 sqm, with emphasis on improving the working environment both inside and outside the buildings.

The company’s locally developed radar technology is in service in Australia, the US and Middle East in the areas of Defence, counter terrorism, border protection applications and for the management of shipping in commercial ports. CEA’s Managing Director, Peter Croser, said “Since the company was founded in 1983, staff numbers have doubled every three years. This growth has been sustained by our success in Australia and overseas. The new facilities will allow us to better support our in-service systems and pursue and fulfil the requirements of future large-scale domestic and international programs.

The presence and growth of companies able to sustain indigenous R&D, manufacturing and support capabilities are fundamental to a strong ADF and the growth of Australian business in general.

For further information, please contact:

Mark Foster, Marketing Manager
Phone: +61 (0)2 6213 0000
Mobile: +61 (0)413 612 388
Email: mf@cea.com.au