MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON ROBERT HILL
Minister for Defence
Leader of the Government in the Senate

Tuesday, 10 June 2003

AUSTRALIAN COMPANY, CEA TECHNOLOGIES, TO DEVELOP ADVANCED RADAR FOR NAVY

The Government will invest $7 million to develop Australian-designed leading edge radar technology which could be installed on the Royal Australian Navy’s new air warfare destroyers, Defence Minister Robert Hill announced today.

The high-powered phased array radar has been designed by Australian Capital Territory-based company CEA Technologies.

Senator Hill said the investment would allow further development of the radar so that it could be used in medium to long range air warfare and may be capable of meeting theatre ballistic missile defence requirements.

“The Navy's new air warfare destroyers will rely on the technological edge of the active phased array radars to search and detect potential air and surface threats,” Senator Hill said.

“The technology can also be applied to smaller ships and has the potential to significantly enhance the capability of our ANZAC frigates.

“Navy is currently testing a lower-powered production version of this Australian-designed radar that promises to be significantly more capable than comparable radars in providing anti-ship missile defence for the ANZAC frigates and similar sized vessels.

“The technology is leading edge, making it a sound investment in Australian industry and a significant export opportunity.”

Senator Hill said the decision highlighted the Government’s 2000 White Paper commitment to support high technology projects, foster Australian industry’s innovative use of advanced technologies and seek opportunities in the global market.

Media contacts
Catherine Fitzpatrick (Senator Hill) 02 6277 7800 0405 351 245
Raveena Carroll (Defence) 02 6265 1263 0405 310 176

www.defence.gov.au