

Maritime Australia

Fire Safety Research and Test Facility

Request for Information

Hunter Class Frigate Program

[February 2021]



Maritime Australia Approvals and Authorisations

Role / Title	Name
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Amendment History

Version	Date	Remarks
1	02/2021	Initial Release

Maritime Australia Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym	Description
BAEs	BAE Systems Maritime Australia
FTP	Fire Test Procedures
NATA	National Association of Testing Authorities
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
TDS	Technical Data Sheet

Definitions

Term	Definition

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1. Executive overview

Fire safety for the maritime environment is an important aspect for Shipbuilding. A typical naval vessel will utilise several methods of ensuring that it can appropriately protect the variety of compartments and systems contained on-board. These systems and any other product used to help control the firefighting capability of the vessel requires certification activities backed by empirical test evidence.

BAE Systems Maritime Australia (BAEs) is issuing a request for information (RFI) from Australian industry for the provision of or information relating to the use of a functional firefighting test facility usable for fire safety research and testing.

It is expected that the suppliers of the facilities will be capable of demonstrating the site's suitability to the requirements defined within Section 4, and be appropriately certified to relevant standards for Fire Testing.

Supplier responses to the RFI are to be submitted to BAEs via ICN Gateway.

Suppliers please note that the closing date and time for response to this RFI is midnight on the Monday 15th March 2021.

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2. General information

BAEs seeks information specific to this RFI from Australian industry for the purpose of understanding the potential future availability of a certified and function fire test and research facility with the aim of supporting the growing Shipbuilding industry in Australia.

Upon receipt and review of the submissions to this RFI, and subsequently, where BAEs determines the viability of any presented proposals regarding a fire test facility, a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be issued to those down-selected supplier/s. Therefore, the quality and accuracy of your response to this RFI will be used by BAEs to evaluate and inform business decisions.

In consideration of your response to this RFI, BAEs will base its evaluation of your response on the functional, technical or other express requirements stated in this RFI.

It is the suppliers responsibility to ask questions or request clarification if any aspect of the RFI is unclear.

BAEs reserves the right to withdraw this RFI and discontinue the process at its own discretion.

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3. Request for information

The purpose of this RFI is to identify what fire safety research and test facilities are available for use within the Australia market that would suit the needs of the Shipbuilding industry.

The objective of this RFI is to identify and engage with the suppliers and companies that manage these test facilities, to begin to develop a working relationship that will be used to improve the Australian capability in the area of fire safety research and testing.

Suppliers are requested to provide in their response the following:

- A technical site specification and plan that outlays the facilities available including layouts, test facility dimensions, possible test scope that can be conducted on-site.
- Certification evidence for the qualification of the site including the total list of certified testing apparatus.
- Portfolio of previously conducted testing on site that can be used to support the RFI
- Proposed areas where, if required, the facility can be developed further or expanded upon to improve capability
- Product support information related to the supplier, the facility and any related technical support personnel within Australia.

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4. RFI specifications

The following attributes are required of the supplier to enable BAEs to further consider your response to the RFI.

4.1. Functional requirements

- Accreditation to ISO9001:2015 where appropriate.
- Undertake a wide range of tests for industry based on Australian, international and many other standards
- Facilities are registered to the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA).
- Full scale maritime based fire testing and experimentation;
 - Facility should be suitable for, or capable of supporting:
 - Water based (seawater and freshwater) Firefighting
 - Foam additive based additive testing
 - Facility capable of research related to:
 - Sprinkler/Nozzle design
 - Structural member design
 - Material flammability

4.2. Technical requirements

- Certification to, or ability to gain, NATA accreditation for the facility
- Compliance to, or ability to certify to, the International Code for Application of Fire Test Procedures, 2010 (2010 FTP Code).
- Certification to other relevant standards relevant to maritime fire testing or certification of products for use in fire suppression
- Awareness of DEF(AUST) 5000 related to Naval vessel design.

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5. Response format

BAEs requests that supplier responses to this RFI be presented in a brief technical report format. The content of the report should include the presentation of the facilities, its key certified features and a technical response to the suitability of the facilities such that it details how the item meets, or could meet, the requirements referred to in Section 4.

Where certification of a facility is not yet possible, a proposal should be added to discuss how this could be achieved.

Where appropriate, responses should be accompanied by any certification documentation relevant to the facility.

All responses should be submitted to the ICN Gateway portal.

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6. Required supplier information

- I. Provide full details of previous major defence, maritime or commercial projects in which your company has delivered castings.
- II. Do you have previous experience supplying castings?
- III. What State/s do you have these capabilities in?
- IV. Have you worked on defence contracts before?
- V. Provide details of the company's management organisation structure.
- VI. Are you an Australian-owned company?
- VII. Are you an Indigenous company?
- VIII. Please provide the number of Indigenous/Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander employees your organisation has? (Stipulate Full Time and Part Time)
- IX. State acquired company certification and accreditations.
- X. Stipulate any further competitive discriminators that have not been identified in the answers to previous questions.
- XI. Have you updated your ICN company profile with the your trading name, contact details, website, ABN, number of employees, annual turnover, export details (if applicable) and ANZSIC codes? This information will be used in assessing this RFI.
- XII. Do you have quality system accreditation under ISO 9001:2015?

7. Closing date for RFI

This RFI will close at midnight Monday 15th March 2021.

Contact details

Please direct any questions or further clarifications you may have Daniel Bettcher (Senior Mechanical Engineer) daniel.bettcher@baesystems.com 08 8480 7420.