



## **PRESS RELEASE**

04 January 2021

### **SHIPBUILDERS COMMENCE CONSTRUCTION ON FOURTH ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY OFFSHORE PATROL VESSEL (OPV)**

Today in a major boost for local jobs and advanced manufacturing, Luerssen Australia and Civmec continue to support Australia's historic shift to continuous naval shipbuilding. Celebrating commencement of construction and welding of steel for the fourth of twelve OPVs for the Royal Australian Navy SEA1180 Program in Henderson, Western Australia.

With its cutting edge-design and a pedigree of 145 years of continuous shipbuilding, Luerssen Australia the prime contractor and designer for the Arafura Class SEA1180 Program, has pledged to deliver the new fleet of 12 OPVs on time and on budget.

Luerssen Australia is partnering with Civmec in Henderson Western Australia to build 10 OPVs.

The first two OPVs are currently under construction by ASC in Osborne South Australia.

Luerssen Australia Chairman Tim Wagner said it was a great honour to be responsible for the delivery of the SEA1180 Program and to be partnering with great Australian companies.

"This is a momentous day for both Luerssen Australian and Australia's naval shipbuilding sector; a partnership with the Australian Government and local industry that points to a bright future."

"We are proud to be part of this nation's shipbuilding capacity, and to ensure that Luerssen design and technology can be married with the best of Australian industry capability." Mr Wagner said.

Luerssen Australia Chief Executive Officer Jens Nielsen said the SEA1180 Program forms part of the Australian Government's continuous national shipbuilding program and Luerssen Australia is committed to further develop Australia's sovereign capability through its supply chain.

Civmec Chairman James Fitzgerald said our incredibly skilled workforce is already at work and we look forward to completing the OPVs through our partnership with Luerssen Australia and the Australian Government.

"Together with Civmec, we take seriously our responsibility to deliver the 12 superior vessels to the Royal Australian Navy.

"Today's milestone, is another reminder that the construction of the Arafura Class represents an opportunity for Australia's defence industry," Mr Nielsen said.

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