



# Land Forces

## AUSTRALIA INDO ASIA PACIFIC

### INTERNATIONAL LAND DEFENCE EXPOSITION

1 - 3 JUNE 2021, BRISBANE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE, AUSTRALIA

## MEDIA RELEASE MEDIA RELEASE MEDIA RELEASE

8 February 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR \$15,000 LAND FORCES INNOVATION AWARDS

**Innovative individuals and companies in the land domain have until 16 April to enter the prestigious LAND FORCES Innovation Awards, to be presented at the LAND FORCES International Land Defence Exposition at Brisbane's Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1-3 June.**

LAND FORCES is Proudly Supported by the Queensland Government.

Innovation Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- **LAND FORCES 2021** National Innovation Award
- **LAND FORCES 2021** SME Innovation Award
- **LAND FORCES 2021** Young Innovator Award (including a \$15,000 cash award).

The award winners will be announced in advance of LAND FORCES and will be presented with their awards at the event.

"The awards reflect our altruistic purpose, which is to promote the development of aviation and Australia's industrial, manufacturing and information/communications technology resources in the fields of aviation, aerospace, maritime, defence and security," said Ian Honnery, CEO of the national not-for-profit AMDA Foundation which organises the biennial LAND FORCES exposition.

"Since we launched the Awards in 2012, we have presented nearly \$400,000 in SME Innovation Award Grants and Young Innovator Awards, to encourage and reward excellence by our small companies and emerging engineers and scientists."

"Australia's defence industry is now recognised by the Department of Defence as a Fundamental Input to Defence Capability (FIC) and Defence is putting ever-greater emphasis on industry innovation," said Mr Honnery. "Industry's ability to deliver for Defence and the ADF is underpinned by its ability to innovate and bring to the market new defence products and services. That is what our awards seek to encourage."

The awards are open to Australian companies or the Australian subsidiaries of overseas parent companies. The innovation could be anything from a new product or service to a new approach to business. Entries will be judged on originality and their understanding of user needs.

The LAND FORCES Innovation Awards stand alongside similar Innovation Awards presented biennially at the AVALON Australian International Air Show and Aerospace & Defence Exposition at Avalon Airport and the INDO PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition in Sydney. These are still the only awards specifically created to recognise and reward innovative Australians in these critical sectors of our national economy.

For more on the eligibility criteria or to submit an entry for the LAND FORCES Industry Innovation Awards go to: [www.landforces.com.au](http://www.landforces.com.au).

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The 2018 award winners included:

**National Innovation Award:** Boeing Defence Australia – for developing the Currawong Battlespace Communications System, a mobile, scalable system that provides huge transfer capacity of voice, graphics, video and text data needed to support real-time situational awareness for deployed commanders and their staff.

**SME Innovation Grant:** DronesShield – for developing the lightweight DroneGun Tactical, designed to counter hostile or threatening UAVs by jamming their control signals.

**Young Innovator Scholarship:** Mr Angus Bean – Industrial designer (and now Chief Technology Officer) at DronesShield, who led the design team that created the DroneGun Tactical and other miniaturized counter-UAV products.

**For enquiries about the awards please contact:**

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**About LAND FORCES – [www.landforces.com.au](http://www.landforces.com.au)**

Presented in collaboration with the Australian Army, LAND FORCES is an international industry exposition to showcase equipment, technology and services for the armies of Australia and the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

The biennial LAND FORCES exposition is a powerful forum for key decision-makers from throughout the region, enabling government representatives, defence officials, military procurement managers and senior army officers to network with defence materiel manufacturers, equipment suppliers and service providers.

**About AMDA Foundation – [www.amda.com.au](http://www.amda.com.au)**

AMDA Foundation Limited is an Australian not-for-profit corporation established to promote the development of aviation and Australia's industrial, manufacturing and information/communications technology resources in the fields of aviation, aerospace, maritime, defence and security.

It achieves these goals by delivering Australia's most prominent world-class biennial industry expositions as platforms for interaction between industry, defence, government and academia. These include:

- AVALON Australian International Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition
- INDO PACIFIC International Maritime Exposition
- LAND FORCES International Land Defence Exposition
- ROTORTECH Helicopter and Unmanned Flight Exposition

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