



## ASC: Opens its new \$35 million submarine repair and maintenance facility

Naval submarine designer and builder, ASC Pty Ltd, was officially opened by Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Procurement Greg Combet, in April 2008.

The new world-class submarine repair and maintenance facility is on a site adjacent to the Common User Facility.

ASC (formerly known as the Australian Submarine Corporation), is the designer and builder of the Royal Australian Navy's Collins Class submarines. ASC will use this facility to maintain and upgrade the submarines as part of a 25-year Through-Life Support contract with the Commonwealth of Australia.

ASC has had a presence in Western Australia since 1996, and the opening of ASC West merges their three former service facilities into one consolidated, cutting-edge submarine support facility.

Mr Combet said the new ASC West facility was a pivotal milestone for Australia's submarine community and represented a major step forward in the delivery of greater submarine capability and availability.

"It is impossible to overstate the importance of the Collins Class submarines to Australia's security, they are a national asset, Mr Combet said.

"The billion dollar Collins Class submarines have, to date, had to be maintained in very difficult conditions, open to dust, sand and weather.

"This new facility, delivered on time and on budget, demonstrates a path to vastly improved submarine support."

Fully supported by the Australian Defence Force, the new facility will ensure ASC is better equipped to efficiently respond to Navy requirements.



The first submarine is scheduled to be serviced in late 2009 when the new floating dock comes online along with the Self Propelled Modular Transporters transfer system, both of which were part of a \$174 million State Government commitment to upgrade CUF infrastructure.

The purpose-built facility is set to inject millions of dollars into the Western Australian economy, and will provide an excellent opportunity for WA workers to gain new skills in a state-of-the-art industry.

ASC West's main hall is undercover with a total space of 2600 square metres, ample room to work comfortably on the 78-metre, 3000-tonne submarines.

The facility will house 185 employees and have dedicated facilities for Royal Australian Navy boat crews and Defence Materiel Organisation personnel.