



AIR PROGRAM

Through its Air Program, DMTC is focusing on delivering advancements in manufacturing (production) and sustainment of high-end military aircraft, including the Joint Strike Fighter. Guided by RAAF priorities and plans, including Plan Jericho, DMTC teams are working on a range of technologies, capabilities and platforms.

Ultimately, DMTC's projects will equip Australian industry with the expertise and capacity to support the RAAF and capitalise on regional and global supply chain opportunities as the future force comes to fruition.

Research in this program is exploring the potential for the use of additive manufacturing for the production of components, with the potential for significant reductions in wastage as well as weight savings and process optimisation.

Additive manufacturing is also being explored as a method for developing a range of cutting tools used in the production of complex, difficult-to-machine components for defence applications. Tools manufactured using this technique can be customised for specific applications, delivering improved manufacturing efficiency.

In addition, the Air Program is investigating additive manufacturing technology for the repair of aircraft components, as an opportunity to reduce the need to remove components for repair or replacement. This will increase aircraft availability and reduce the cost of ownership of the fleets.

The Air Program is embracing the concepts behind 'Industry 4.0', investigating smarter ways to digitally integrate with global supply chains and enhance manufacturing processes.

This involves the adoption of advanced manufacturing practices and the use of enterprise collaboration software to manage projects and share data to maximise benefits across the whole supply chain.



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