

Awards for Excellence

DMTC Maritime Program Leader Stephen van Duin has been presented with the prestigious DMTC Collaboration Award for his outstanding leadership of the program.

The DMTC Awards for Excellence were presented at the DMTC Annual Conference Dinner at the National Gallery in Canberra.

The Awards for Excellence recognise significant contributions made by individuals and teams that have resulted in successful outcomes for DMTC and its partners.



Associate Professor van Duin is based at the University of Wollongong, a long-time research partner of DMTC. The Collaboration Award goes to an individual who embodies the spirit of collaboration that is integral to DMTC's strategic intent.

DMTC Chief Executive Officer, Dr Mark Hodge, praised Stephen for his leadership of the program and noted the credibility he enjoys with the SEA 5000 Program Office and other stakeholders in Defence and defence industry.

"We have seen significant growth in our Maritime Program in the time that Stephen has been the Program Leader. Those two things are absolutely connected, in my mind," Dr Hodge said.

"What's very clear is the respect and credibility Stephen has earned with our Defence partners, our industrial partners and the research community."

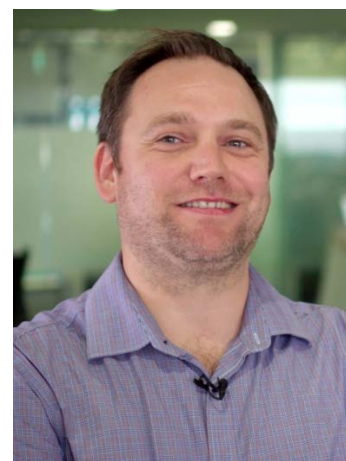
Across a range of emerging technologies, DMTC's Maritime Program is making a substantial contribution to industrial capability in Australia in support of the SEA 5000 Future Frigate program and the naval shipbuilding program more broadly.

Awards were presented by Dr Hodge and Senator David Fawcett, representing the Australian Government.

Award Winners

DMTC congratulates Stephen and all the award winners.

- The Industry Partnership Award is awarded to individual researchers whose efforts contribute significantly to the capability of a DMTC Industry partner. This year's award went to **Steven Knight** from Swinburne University of Technology for his contribution to a project that is developing a corrosion monitoring and prognostics tool that is currently the subject of on-ship trials on Navy Anzac class frigates in consultation with Defence and industry partner BAE Systems Australia.



- The Project Leadership Award is awarded to leaders of a project team who have contributed significantly to achieving project outcomes. This year's award was presented to **Dr Mitali Sarkar-Tyson** for her outstanding leadership of a project involving research partners at the University of Western Australia, DST Group, the Peter Doherty Institute and the University of Wurzburg. The project is focused on delivering novel anti-irulence compounds, which are active against potential bio-warfare agents including *Burkholderia pseudomallei*.
- The Early Career Award recognises the contribution of early career technical officers, engineers and scientists to DMTC projects, rewarding efforts 'above and beyond'. It is open to technical officers, engineers and scientists, including PhD students, who are working on DMTC research projects and are aged under 35. Defence Science & Technology Group (DSTG) researcher **Vanessa Pickerd** was recognised for her contribution to a DMTC project to consider and enhance life-of-type evaluations of Navy frigates.
- The Capability Improvement Award is awarded to the project team who achieves a significant improvement in technical capability in the area of materials and/or manufacturing technology. This year's award went to the teams at **ANSTO and Thales Australia** who are developing a single crystal growth process to pave the way for in-country production of sonar transducer components.



Looking ahead to the impending celebration of 10 years of DMTC in the middle of the year, the DMTC Board used the dinner to induct three DMTC Fellows in recognition of their contribution to the establishment and life of the organisation.