LAND 121 Phase 3B
MEDIUM AND HEAVY VEHICLES
AND TRAILERS

PROJECT OVERVIEW
LAND 121 is a multi-phased program providing the Australian Defence Force (ADF) with current-generation, high-capability field vehicles, modules and trailers. It will acquire around 7500 protected and unprotected vehicles providing battlefield mobility and logistics support.

LAND 121 Phase 3B will acquire 2707 medium and heavy vehicles along with 3858 modules and 1704 trailers. The key part of the project will deliver a range of modern mediumweight (4x4), medium (6x6) and heavy (8x8 and 10x10) trucks, in both protected and unprotected configurations, together with matching medium and heavy trailers.

The LAND 121 Phase 3B vehicle fleet will be delivered in the following configurations:

• Heavy trucks (equipment transporters);
• Medium and heavy recovery vehicles;
• Heavy truck variants (self-loading hook-lift trucks, fuel trucks and tippers); and
• Mediumweight truck variants (tray, tray with crane, and tippers).

The heavy trucks will replace the ADF’s Mack trucks and the medium trucks will replace its Unimog trucks. The Macks and Unimogs have been in service in the ADF since the early 1980s. The new vehicles will enhance performance and protection for the ADF’s training and logistic support capability by providing uniformity throughout the fleet. Around 40 per cent of vehicles delivered under Phase 3B will have protected (armoured) cabins to protect against ballistic and blast threats. Every truck will be fitted for military radios and the ADF’s Battle Management System as part of the Army’s move to a digitised capability.

CURRENT STATUS
Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles Australia (RMMVA) is in contract with the Commonwealth to deliver and support 2536 medium and heavy trucks and 3054 modules.

Haulmark Trailers Australia is in contract with the Commonwealth to deliver and support 1582 trailers.

In addition, the acquisition of 122 Mercedez-Benz G-Wagons and 122 matching trailers, and the modification of 49 existing Bushmaster Protected Mobility Vehicles, are being funded by LAND 121 Phase 3B but managed through other projects. This brings the total quantity to 2707 vehicles and 1704 trailers.
Over the period 2014-16, the project office and prime contractors are undertaking design and verification activities, including the integration of the digital communications equipment and the integration of vehicles with the matching trailer and modules.

Trailer deliveries to Defence commenced in December 2015. The first 12 trucks were delivered in April 2016, in time to support the start of training development and initial operator training in May 2016.

Delivery to Army units is scheduled to commence in 2017.

Subject to both companies’ performance, further quantities of vehicles, modules and trailers may be acquired under LAND 121 Phase 5B.

AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY

RMMVA has teamed with the following key subcontractors:

- G.H. Varley (Newcastle, NSW) – stores and maintenance modules;
- Holmwood Highgate (Loganholme, QLD) – fuel and water modules and tanker bodies;
- RPC Technologies (Seven Hills, NSW) – module interface to carry engineering bridging and boats;
- Sea Box International (Fyshwick, ACT) – flattracks (design to occur in Australia, but domestic manufacture is not economically viable);
- Thales Australia (Rydalmere, NSW) – crew intercommunication system and engineering support for communications integration; and
- Penske Commercial Vehicles (Wacol, QLD) – pre-delivery activities and spare parts supply.

The trailers are being manufactured at Haulmark’s existing facility at Rocklea, QLD. Haulmark has subcontracted Scientific Management Associates (SMA) (Hawthorn, VIC) to provide training and logistics support.

Maintenance and through-life support for all vehicles, modules and trailers will be undertaken in Australia.