



CCA PROTECT

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Combat Clothing Australia Pty Ltd, trading as CCA Protect, is a privately-owned Australian company specialising in the design and manufacture of a wide range of military and paramilitary accoutrements. We develop aircraft and vehicle armour (including ballistic body armour), combat helmets, soft and hard armour plates, clothing and apparel, load carrying vests and specialist packs and pouches. CCA Protect has supplied armour for the Blackhawk and CH47 Chinook helicopters along with manufactured pouches and webbing for the Australian Defence Force's Land 125 project. Load-bearing vests have also been designed and manufactured for state-based organisations, including the Melbourne City and Adelaide City councils. Combat Clothing began operations in 1982, initially making clothing and equipment for the sports shooter and fisher before expanding into military clothing in the late-1980s. The Defence business has since grown to the point where we are now a leader in the design and manufacture of innovative ballistic garments and military equipment in Australia. CCA Protect operates as a prime contractor to the Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinean Defence Forces.



Other key customers include the police forces of Queensland and Western Australia. We export to New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Solomon Islands, Hong Kong, the United States, the Middle East, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia. Our 4000 metres of factory floor space accommodates over 120 industrial sewing machines. Our R&D and production facilities also accommodate Australia's largest autoclave in its class, helmet presses, a ballistics fabric cutter and a NATA-certified ballistic testing facility.



UNIQUE VALUE PROPOSITION

CCA Protect offers customers considerable flexibility in how their product design and production requirements can be accommodated. While we can handle large-scale production, one of our key strengths is a highly-skilled design team staffed by professionals with significant combat experience which can cater to small scale prototyping, sample manufacturing, and quality assured short time-cycle deliveries. To support these services, we utilise leading-edge automation to manage variable design-iteration labour costs to ensure that Australian-based facilities retain competitive advantage over offshore suppliers. Working closely with our customers, CCA Protect can provide maximum value for money in product design, the streamlining of production schedules and the reduction of risk. Product design is undertaken within a construct that maximises personal comfort, testing for prevailing customer climatic durability, strength and mobility. All products carry ISO 9001 Quality Assurance and/or certificates proving ballistic performance criteria. CCA Protect recognises that evolving customer requirements cannot be satisfied by reference to a standard-range or catalogue. We operate on the principles of service, reliability, strong R&D, and stringent testing and quality assurance.

OUR ROLE IN HORIZON DEFENCE SYSTEMS

CCA Protect is fortunate to have played a key role – along with Redback Boots and TCF Services – in the inception and design of the Horizon Defence Systems corporate Alliance business model. “It’s a brand-new model for Australian defence-oriented SMEs, and we’ve put a lot of thought into it based on CCA’s experiences over the last 30 years,” said Stuart Bruce. “It’s important for Australia in achieving the goals of the Defence Industrial Capability Plan to become more self-sufficient, and for our current dependency on imported materiel to be brought back to a more sensible balance.” Mr Bruce said Australia possesses some amazing technology relevant to Defence Integrated Investment Plan requirements which is being sold all over the world, but not to date to the Australian Defence Force. “In the past, local product has often been overlooked in favour of imports. We need to mature our military procurement culture, so it is encouraging that the Australian Government has re-prioritised the need for sovereign capability that is supported by Australian-owned prime industrial enterprises,” he said. “The new Horizon Defence Systems corporate Alliance model offers Defence an opportunity to bring back into balance past practices that have seen so much work passed to 100% foreign-owned companies.



A balance must be restored in how Defence work is allocated to local companies versus foreign-owned enterprises, as at the end of the day, sustainable employment and profits end up going offshore with little benefit to the Australian economy.” Mr Bruce added the Horizon model offered Defence the power of a one-stop-shop new military capability generator that could carry materiel acquisition projects from start to finish.

OUR VISION IN DEFENCE

CCA Protect considers the world is witnessing a step change in how military capabilities will be accommodated in future soldiers, who essentially, will become fully integrated “electronic” entities in the battlefield. As such, the various devices that are currently worn separately will need to be seamlessly integrated, and this will most easily and economically be achieved by various component suppliers working collaboratively within structured alliances such as Horizon Defence Systems. The difference with Horizon over previous alliance approaches is that members have both a financial stake in the enterprise as well as the prospect of sharing profits from whatever business is won by the Alliance. Mr Bruce considers Horizon Defence Systems is ideally placed to offer the ADF full combat ensemble packages that sit at the leading edge of technology and manufacturing. “Around the globe, Australian troops are becoming increasingly more recognisable due to their operation of unique high-quality products designed and manufactured in Australia. Whether it be the Bushmaster armoured vehicle, Redback’s combat boots or specialist locally-sourced kit, body armour and helmets – the trend of Australian-sourced equipment underpinning the capabilities of the Australian Defence Force is set to continue as the new age of integrated electronics is applied to the Army’s soldier combat systems,” he said.

