



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT
11 OCTOBER 2022

AUSTAL SETTLEMENT WITH ASIC ENDORSED BY FEDERAL COURT

Austal Limited (**Austal**) (ASX:ASB) refers to its ASX announcement on 9 September 2022 which advised shareholders that the Company had reached a settlement with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (**ASIC**) with respect to historical matters concerning the Company's market disclosures about its Littoral Combat Ship (**LCS**) program prior to 4 July 2016. ASIC's investigation commenced in January 2019.

The settlement was considered in a hearing before Justice O'Bryan in the Federal Court on 10 October 2022. Justice O'Bryan made the orders agreed by Austal and ASIC, consisting of a declaration of one contravention by Austal of continuous disclosure provisions of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) for the period 16 June 2016 to 4 July 2016, and that Austal pay the agreed penalty of \$650,000.

Reasons for the decision will be published at a later date. During the hearing, a number of factors relevant to the finding were discussed, including:

- The period from when Austal had relevant knowledge until a trading halt was called was only 10 business days at the end of a detailed and complex investigation undertaken by the Company;
- There is no assertion that the contravention was deliberate or reckless;
- Austal co-operated with ASIC to resolve the proceedings and its admissions avoided the need for a lengthy trial;

Austal Chairman John Rothwell welcomed the closure of the matter.

"As we noted previously, Austal takes its disclosure obligations very seriously," he said. "Austal has co-operated with ASIC's investigation, and is pleased to have resolved the matter with ASIC and that the settlement has been approved by the Court after an investigation lasting over three and a half years. Settling this matter was in the best interests of Austal as we continue to focus on our development of our shipbuilding business globally."

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by John Rothwell, Austal Limited Non-executive Chairman.

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About Austal:

Austal is Australia's global shipbuilder and defence prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining some of the world's most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

For more than 30 years Austal has contracted more than 300 vessels for over 100 commercial and defence operators in 54 countries, worldwide.

Austal is Australia's largest defence exporter and first ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry-leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America, Philippines and Vietnam with service centres worldwide, including the Middle East.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world's largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy.

Austal is the only foreign-owned prime contractor designing, constructing and sustaining ships for the US Navy.

Austal has grown to become the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder and is Australia's largest defence exporter.

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