



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT  
15 JULY 2024

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## AUSTAL AUSTRALIA DELIVERS 20<sup>TH</sup> GUARDIAN CLASS PATROL BOAT

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Austal Limited (Austal) (ASX: ASB) is pleased to announce Austal Australia has delivered the 20<sup>th</sup> *Guardian*-class Patrol Boat (GCPB) to the Australian Department of Defence.

The vessel, *Tobwaan Mainiku* for the Republic of Kiribati, was accepted by representatives of the Department of Defence at the Austal shipyard in Henderson, Western Australia on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Austal Limited Chief Executive Officer Paddy Gregg said the delivery of the 20<sup>th</sup> *Guardian*-class patrol boat highlighted the industry-leading productivity of the Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project, now comprising 24 vessels.

“The Austal Australia team, together with our valued supply chain and defence industry partners, including the Department of Defence and the Royal Australian Navy, have now delivered 20 *Guardian*-class patrol boats to the Australian Government since December 2018,” Mr Gregg said.

“Effectively, we’ve delivered one new *Guardian*-class Patrol Boat every four months (on average) over the past 5 years, highlighting Western Australia’s industry-leading naval shipbuilding capability and productivity. It’s even more impressive when you consider the Austal Australia team has also delivered two *Cape*-class Patrol Boats, six *Evolved Cape*-class Patrol Boats and three large high-speed ferries to commercial operators around the world, during the same period.

“We again extend our thanks to our supply chain and defence industry partners for their continued support and collaboration in delivering the *Guardian*-class Patrol Boats for the Australian Government and our Pacific Island neighbours,” Mr Gregg added.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project was awarded to Austal Australia in May 2016, with subsequent, contract options awarded in April 2018, November 2022 and June 2024, taking the project to 24 vessels, valued at more than A\$400 million, in total.

The Pacific Patrol Boat Replacement Project continues to support 200 direct jobs at Austal Australia and more than 200 indirect jobs nationally, through Australian businesses contracted by Austal. Through close collaboration with supply chain partners and the Department of

Defence, Austal is achieving over 60% Australian Industry Content on the Guardian-class Patrol Boats and helping to build the National Naval Shipbuilding Enterprise and Australia's sovereign capability.

The 39.5 metre steel monohull patrol boat – designed, constructed and sustained by Austal Australia – is based on a proven design platform that has included the 38 metre *Bay*-class, 56 metre *Armidale*-class and 58 metre *Cape*-class patrol boats that are in service with the Australian Border Force and Royal Australian Navy. Faster than the previous *Pacific*-class patrol boats, with improved seakeeping, better amenities, and an enhanced mission capability – including an integrated RHIB stern launch and recovery system – the *Guardian*-class Patrol Boat provides Kiribati with another effective naval asset to carry out border patrols, regional policing, search and rescue, and many other operations domestically and internationally.

This ASX announcement has been approved and authorised for release by Paddy Gregg, Austal Limited's Chief Executive Officer.

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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.

In its 35 years of operations, Austal has built more than 350 vessels for 122 commercial and defence operators in 59 countries.

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

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial and defence vessel platforms.

Although the Company's roots are in aluminium shipbuilding – it is the world's largest aluminium shipbuilder – Austal builds conventional and autonomous ships in both steel and aluminium, as well as a range of other bespoke maritime build programs such submarine modules.

Austal was the first, and remains one of only two, foreign-owned prime contractors designing, constructing and sustaining ships for the US Navy.

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