

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**IMDEX Asia hosts global navies and sets the stage for strategic exchanges for collaboration and innovation**

**SINGAPORE, 13 May 2019** – IMDEX Asia 2019, the biennial international maritime defence event in Asia Pacific, plays host to 25 chiefs of defence forces and navies, vice chiefs, directors-general of coast guards and senior naval officers who will congregate for strategic conversations to promote mutual understanding and collaboration in Asia Pacific. This 12<sup>th</sup> edition of IMDEX Asia will also be attended by 236 participating companies from 30 countries, and 10,500 trade visitors from 65 countries, from 14-16 May, at the Singapore Changi Exhibition Centre.

Delegates and visitors will have the rare opportunity to tour the 25 warships from 15 countries, and view the array of amphibious crafts, naval systems and ships that are on display at the Changi Naval Base. A key highlight includes one of Australia's big decks – HMAS Canberra – which will be making its debut appearance at IMDEX Asia 2019.

**Tapping on tech innovation to drive greater growth in the region**

Overall defence spending in Asia Pacific is set to rise to US\$515 billion<sup>1</sup> from 2015 to 2019, and is forecasted to be the world's biggest military spender by 2029. Against an evolving landscape and a resurgence in defence spending, the next generation of innovation takes centre stage at IMDEX Asia 2019.

More than 236 participating companies from 30 countries, both returning and new ones, will showcase game-changing ideas and exploration of innovative solutions. Building on the importance of innovation, IMDEX Asia 2019 will launch *What's Next*, a programme that avails a unique platform for start-ups to network with industry heavyweights, showcase their innovations and establish new business development leads. The inaugural *What's Next* features a total of 13 start-ups from France, India, Philippines, Singapore and USA.

Additionally, the *What's Next* programme features a Shipyard 4.X pitch challenge, where start-ups pitch solutions to potential investors, corporate businesses and end-users. *What's Next* will provide start-ups with an avenue to showcase their ideas to the global maritime community

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<sup>1</sup> Deloitte Asia-Pacific Defense Outlook 2016

that will inspire novel solutions for the shipbuilders, ship and port operators, as well as business owners from the supply chain and logistics sectors.

“IMDEX Asia embodies the collaborative and innovative spirit that defines the region’s naval and maritime defence sector. The breadth and depth of technological advances that are on display will empower naval defence and maritime stakeholders to harness the vast potential of technological innovation for solutions within a complex security landscape in Asia Pacific. With the presence of every emerging innovation in an environment of collaborative mindset, IMDEX Asia is truly where the finest in naval defence and maritime sector meet,” said Mr Leck Chet Lam, Managing Director of Experia Events Pte Ltd.

### **Navigating Asia Pacific’s complex maritime security landscape with a common language**

At the heart of IMDEX Asia 2019 is the exclusive International Maritime Security Conference (IMSC), where over 400 delegates from the naval defence sector will gather for pivotal conversations to promote mutual understanding and collaboration in Asia Pacific. This edition of IMSC focuses conversations on the theme *Safe and Secure Seas: Promoting Mutual Security in our Maritime Commons*, and comprises three panels that cover assessment of current rules-based maritime order, maintaining peace and strengthening cooperation and trust.

“This year’s conference will provide a forum for discussion and discourse on the maritime security challenges we face today. The sixth edition will see an exciting line-up of practitioners and academia who will speak at plenaries on the current rules-based maritime order, maintaining peace in our maritime commons, as well as ways to strengthen cooperation and engender trust,” said Senior Lieutenant-Colonel Ho Jee Kien from the Republic of Singapore Navy.

Complementing the IMSC are two business forums that will focus on *Cybersecurity in the Maritime Domain* and *Innovation in the Maritime Domain*. In the former forum, industry experts will explore how cyber is changing the landscape of the defence sector; while in the latter, conversations will examine how innovations are further changing the way navies operate.

### **Growing and grooming future talents**

With the partnership of the Singapore Maritime Foundation, IMDEX Asia 2019 will introduce the Maritime Campus, a 360° platform that aims to groom the next generation of talents by educating and showcasing higher education opportunities and careers in the maritime and naval industries. About 1,000 students from 13 participating secondary and tertiary institutions, and full-time national servicemen are expected to attend the inaugural edition that include talks, walk-through exhibitions and engagement with professionals and practitioners from the maritime and naval defence industries.

Organised by Experia Events Pte Ltd, IMDEX Asia 2019 is supported by the Republic of Singapore Navy, the Defence Science and Technology Agency, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia Information Sharing Centre, the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, and the Singapore Exhibition and Convention Bureau.

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### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

Ms Serene Goh  
Hill+Knowlton Strategies  
Tel: 9191 1726 / 6390 3320  
Email: [Serene.Goh@hkstrategies.com](mailto:Serene.Goh@hkstrategies.com)

### **About IMDEX Asia**

The biennial IMDEX Asia is Asia Pacific's most established international maritime defence show. A must-attend event among naval and maritime stakeholders, IMDEX Asia is recognised as an important ecosystem that sets out to facilitate strategic conversations that foster engagement, and accelerate global and regional collaboration for Asia Pacific's peace and security. IMDEX Asia 2019 comprises an exhibition, a strategic conference, two business forums, warships displays, start-ups showcase and education programmes for students. The 12<sup>th</sup> edition of IMDEX Asia 2019 will be held from 14 – 16 May at Singapore's Changi Exhibition Centre. For more information on IMDEX Asia 2019, please visit <http://www.imdexasia.com>.

### **About Experia Events Pte Ltd**

Experia Events specialises in organising and managing exhibitions and conferences of strategic interest, fostering industry development and thought leadership. It has built a strong portfolio in aerospace and defence with the highly successful Singapore Airshow, Asia's



largest aerospace and defence event, and key events such as IMDEX Asia, Asia Pacific's flagship maritime defence show; Rotorcraft Asia, the premier dedicated event for the global civil helicopter industry; and Unmanned Systems Asia, which presents the future of unmanned systems across a vast spectrum of commercial and defence applications. Experia Events' expertise also extends to the government and lifestyle sectors, through key events such as the World Cities Summit, Singapore International Water Week and CleanEnviro Summit Singapore. With a proven track record underscoring its aspirations to stage events that influence, Experia Events aims to diversify its range of strategic events globally. For more information, visit [www.experiaevents.com](http://www.experiaevents.com).

## **Appendix 1 – Warships participating at IMDEX Asia 2019**

1. Australia, Royal Australia Navy:
  - HMAS Canberra
  - HMAS Newcastle
  - HMAS Success
2. Bangladesh, Bangladesh Navy: BNS Shadhinota
3. Brunei, Royal Brunei Navy: KDB Daruttaqwa
4. China, People's Liberation Army Navy: PLAN Xiangtan
5. India:
  - Indian Navy:
    - INS Kolkata
    - INS Shakti
  - Indian Coast Guard: ICGS Vuaya
6. Indonesia, Indonesian Navy:
  - KRI Halasan
  - KRI Tombak
7. Japan, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force:
  - JS Izumo
  - JS Murasame
8. Korea, Republic of Korea Navy:
  - ROKS Wang Geon
  - ROKS Choi Young
9. Myanmar, Myanmar Navy:
  - UMS Kyansittha
  - UMS Sin Phyu Shin
10. Philippines, The Philippine Navy: BRP Andres Bonifacio
11. Singapore, Republic of Singapore Navy:
  - RSS Persistence
  - RSS Formidable
  - RSS Fortitude
12. Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka Navy: SLNS Samudura
13. Thailand, Royal Thai Navy: HTMS Bhumibol Adulyadej
14. USA, United States Navy: USS William P Lawrence
15. Vietnam, Vietnam People's Navy: VPN Quang Trung