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Australian Defence Shines at Talisman Sabre 2025 Showcase

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For the first time, Australian defence industry companies actively participated in Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025, the country's largest military exercise. Held between July 13 and August 4, the biennial event brought together more than 35,000 military personnel from 19 countries, including Australia and the United States, with activities conducted across various sites in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

A key component of this year's event was the Industry and Defence Science and Technology Showcase held at Gallipoli Barracks in Queensland on July 15. The showcase provided Australian companies an opportunity to present their innovations to defence ministers, military leaders, and officials from allied nations. The display was

designed to highlight Australia's sovereign capabilities in advanced defence technologies.

Michael Howell, First Assistant Secretary of Industry Engagement at the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group, emphasized the importance of strong collaboration among the defence sector, academia, and allied nations. According to Howell, these partnerships support the development of advanced capabilities tailored to the operational needs of the Australian Defence Force. The initiative aligns with the 2024 National Defence Strategy and the Defence Industry Development Strategy, both of which seek to strengthen Australia's domestic industrial base and enhance national security.

The showcase aimed to increase awareness of the growing role of Australian defence firms in the global market. By promoting interoperability with partner nations and sharing capabilities, Australia hopes to expand its role as a trusted supplier of defence technologies while boosting its own economic growth. Officials noted that international interest in Australian technologies continues to rise, particularly in areas related to secure communications, unmanned systems, and mobility platforms.

During Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025, the ADF conducted several firsts, including the live firing of the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) and operational use of UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters. These activities underscored Australia's expanding capability in high-tech and joint-force operations.

The participation of 19 countries, including Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, and New Zealand, reinforced the exercise's importance in building international partnerships and shared readiness. The involvement of Australian industry reflects a growing recognition of the private sector's role in national defence and its contribution to ensuring the ADF remains modern, agile, and prepared for future challenges.