



# ASX Announcement

## Aurora Wins \$1 Million Defence Grant Funding for Production Scale Up

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### Highlights:

**Aurora selected as a priority sovereign industrial manufacturer for defence applications and awarded grant funding from the Australian Government. Awarded \$1,000,000 under the Australian Department of Defence's Defence Industry Development Grant (DIDG) program, within the Sovereign Capability stream.**

**Aurora to match funding for a total \$2,000,000 co-investment to acquire a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) metal 3D printer.**

**Validates commercial relevance with Tier-1 defence primes and partners including MBDA, Department of Defence, InnoVaero, and SPS**

**Funding directly supports production scaling of Aurora's proprietary Micro Gas Turbine (MGT) propulsion systems for defence applications.**

**Strategic production model splits operations: High-risk R&D remains on Aurora's proprietary LPBF machines, while production transitions to COTS printers to ensure rapid capacity scale-up and support.**

**MGT products target critical, high-demand attritable defence markets: low-cost one-way effectors, loitering munitions, counter-UAS (C-UAS), and target drones.**

**Aurora Labs Limited (ASX: A3D) ("Company")**, an Australian leader in metal additive manufacturing and advanced propulsion technologies, is pleased to announce it has been awarded a Defence Industry Development Grant (DID-G) under the Sovereign Industrial Priorities Stream of the Australian Government's Defence Industry Development Grants Program.

The grant of \$1.0 million, alongside a dollar-for-dollar co-investment contribution from Aurora, results in a total combined investment of \$2.0 million. These funds will be directly allocated to the procurement and commissioning of a premium, large-format Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) industrial metal 3D printer at the Company's Canning Vale facility in Western Australia. This equipment is critical to establishing the manufacturing flexibility and volume capacity required to fulfil expected commercial demand for Aurora's micro gas turbine (MGT) propulsion units.

### About the Defence Industry Development Grants Program

The Defence Industry Development Grants Program (DID-G) is an initiative by the Australian Government aimed at strengthening the Nation's defence industry capabilities. The program provides funding to small and medium-sized



enterprises (SMEs) through the Sovereign Industrial Priorities Stream to provide co-investment funding to eligible SMEs to acquire manufacturing plant and equipment that develops and delivers against Australia's Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities — including autonomous systems integration, guided weapons components, and critical propulsion technologies.

### Alignment with Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities

Aurora's expanded manufacturing capability directly addresses two core Sovereign Defence Industrial Priorities:

- Development and Integration of Autonomous Systems: Providing reliable, high-speed domestic propulsion units for next-generation unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and robotic systems.
- Domestic Manufacture of Guided Weapons, Explosive Ordnance and Munitions: Delivering scalable, ITAR-free onshore production of advanced components for precision-guided weapons and loitering systems, reducing reliance on volatile international supply chains.

### Strategic Transition to COTS Manufacturing & Production Scale-Up

Aurora has leveraged its proprietary 3D printing architecture over recent years to execute extensive research and development (R&D) across complex aerospace geometries and advanced metal materials, particularly high-temperature materials. This R&D phase has successfully positioned the Company as an emerging market leader in the design and production of ultra-compact, high-performance 3D printed propulsion systems.

To accelerate production and achieve greater commercial scale, Aurora's Board and Management have finalised a strategic hybrid manufacturing model:

- Highly Innovative R&D and IP Generation: Continues exclusively on Aurora's proprietary printing machines, ensuring maximum technical flexibility, rapid iterative prototyping, and ongoing protection of core intellectual property.
- Commercial Scale Production: Transitions to market-available COTS industrial printers, enabling Aurora to rapidly expand fleet capacity, print multiple components across different materials concurrently, and leverage robust global vendor support networks.

The manufacturing plant and equipment procured under this grant will further support advanced process monitoring and quality assurance infrastructure required for defence-grade component certification, enabling Aurora to transition from low-rate initial production into higher-volume, repeatable manufacturing workflows. Enhancing Sovereign Supply Chains and Vertical Integration — a critical step in meeting anticipated demand from both domestic and allied defence programs.

### Addressing Critical Attributable Defence Markets

Aurora's MGT products are specifically engineered for integration into high-growth attributable defence systems. These systems represent the future of asymmetric defence doctrine, requiring highly reliable, low-cost propulsion units that can be manufactured rapidly at scale. The primary target platforms include:

- Low-cost, one-way effectors and precision strike systems
- Loitering munitions (one-use drones) requiring rapid throttle response and high power-to-weight ratios
- Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems (C-UAS) interceptors
- High-speed target drones used for advanced air-defence training

The validation of Aurora's technology suite is underscored by strong and advancing engagement from key global defence primes, national entities, and platform integrators. Organisations currently actively engaged or seeking to integrate Aurora's jet turbine propulsion technologies include MBDA, the Australian Department of Defence, and SPS, positioning Aurora as a capable domestic supplier across the full production lifecycle.



Managing Director, Rebekah Letheby commented

*“Securing the \$1.0 million Defence Industry Development Grant represents a definitive operational milestone for Aurora Labs. This co-investment accelerates our transition from an R&D pioneer into a high-rate, sovereign manufacturer of advanced defense propulsion technologies.*

*By adopting a hybrid manufacturing model keeping our high-risk IP creation on our own advanced printers while scaling production via robust, commercial off-the-shelf platforms we gain unmatched market agility. We can print multi-material, high-tolerance components concurrently, ensuring we can rapidly meet the scale and delivery constraints of global partners like MBDA and QinetiQ while answering Australia's sovereign call for domestic guided weapon and autonomous systems supply.”*

For more information on the Defence Industry Development Grants Program and the Sovereign Industrial Priorities Stream, please visit the official Australian Government website: [Defence Industry Development Grants Program | Business & Industry | Defence](#)

#### Ends

ASX CODE: A3D  
ACN: 601 164 505

**Approved for release by the Company's Board of Directors**

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## ABOUT AURORA LABS

Aurora Labs Limited (“the Company”), an industrial technology and innovation company that specialises provision of 3D metal printed parts for industrial applications, the development of 3D metal printers, and associated intellectual property. The Company is developing advanced propulsions systems for Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) for the Defence sector.

Aurora Labs is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: A3D)

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## FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This announcement contains forward-looking statements which incorporate an element of uncertainty or risk, such as ‘intends’, ‘may’, ‘could’, ‘believes’, ‘estimates’, ‘targets’ or ‘expects’. These statements are based on an evaluation of current economic and operating conditions, as well as assumptions regarding future events.

These events are, as at the date of this announcement, expected to take place, but there cannot be any guarantee that such events will occur as anticipated or at all given that many of the events are outside Aurora’s control.

Accordingly, Aurora and the directors cannot and do not give any assurance that the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this announcement will actually occur. For further information, please contact: [enquiries@auroralabs3D.com](mailto:enquiries@auroralabs3D.com)