



The Hon Andrew Stoner MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Trade and Investment
Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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**PACIFIC 2012 TO FEATURE GLOBAL LAUNCH OF NSW
MARINE TECHNOLOGY**

International naval and business leaders will converge on Sydney this week for a key Asia Pacific maritime defence expo at which world-first NSW marine technology will be launched onto the global market, Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade and Investment Andrew Stoner said.

The Pacific 2012 International Maritime Exposition at Darling Harbour, from 31 January to 3 February, is an important biennial industry event for the commercial maritime and naval defence industries. The NSW Government is sponsoring the expo through NSW Trade & Investment.

“Pacific 2012 will provide unique opportunities to explore the latest developments in defence and maritime design, architecture, engineering and science,” Mr Stoner said.

“It will attract key industry, defence and government decision-makers from Australia, Asia Pacific and the world, including high level naval representatives from over 30 countries.

“We will use the opportunity to promote NSW strengths and industrial capabilities, and promote NSW as a defence and maritime business and investment location.

“Our State offers Australia’s largest and most diverse economy with national leadership in manufacturing, logistics, electronics, ICT, business services and other areas relevant to Australian defence and maritime needs.”

Mr Stoner said Pacific 2012 provides companies from the Sydney, Hunter and Shoalhaven regions with an opportunity to promote their innovative capabilities and products.

“One highlight will be the prototype launch of the world-first Unmanned Ocean Vessel (UOV) to be totally powered by renewable wind and solar energy together,” Mr Stoner said.

“NSW companies Solar Sailor and Forgacs Engineering are combining their renewable technology and shipbuilding expertise to design, prototype, build and market this new vessel which is expected to be a global game-changer.

“It will provide national governments and other users with an unmanned vessel that can potentially spend an unlimited amount of time at sea using only wind and solar energy.

“This will offer opportunities in a range of potential areas - from coastal surveillance, national security and military applications to scientific, weather and oceanography monitoring.”