

2023/24 FOUNDATION REPORT

AMDA Foundation Limited is an Australian not-for-profit corporation established to promote the development of Australia’s industrial, manufacturing and information / communications technology resources in the fields of aviation, space, aerospace, maritime, defence and security.

During the 2023/24 financial year, AMDA Foundation has provided the following benefits to meet the objectives and pillars of the Foundation:



\$740,000+

Exhibitor donations & discounts



\$310,000+

Industry & small business incentives



\$100,000

Innovation Awards presented



\$125,000+

Industry based sponsorships



\$45,000+

Community based organisational support

The objective of the AMDA Foundation is to benefit all Australians by promoting the development of the growth of Australian High-Technology industry capabilities. AMDA Foundations’ support for the development of Australian Industry capability is based on five key pillars:



INDUSTRY
ENGAGEMENT



EXPORT AND
TRADE



INNOVATION
AND
TECHNOLOGY



WORK PATHS
AND CAREER
PATHS



SOVEREIGN
INDUSTRY
CAPABILITY

The AMDA Foundation meets these pillars by:

1. Developing and running world class industry expositions and conferences to promote Australian industry both within Australia and globally. These events enable Australian companies to promote themselves and seek business opportunities. These forums enable the companies to promote themselves with the Australian public to enhance their ability to attract and retain staff and to broaden their contacts.
2. Promote and develop a range of industry and public focused student engagement programs, including scholarships as part of a formal careers and skills programs, with the aim of promoting interest in careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
3. Provides innovation awards to provide financial rewards to assist innovative Australian companies and researchers. There are currently three awards known as the National Industry awards, SME innovation awards and the young innovator awards.

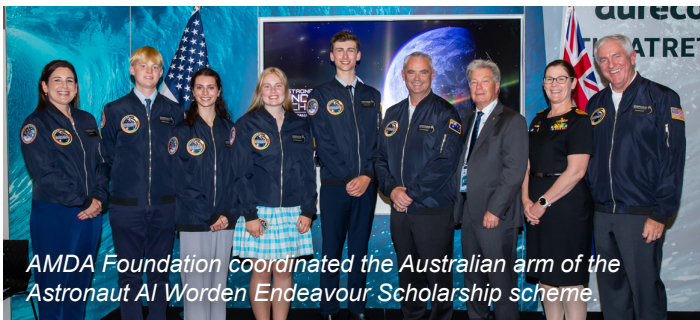
2023/24 FOUNDATION REPORT

The AMDA Foundation has developed a policy for determining its surplus requirements. Given the substantial cost of the airshow it has been determined that the first \$30m in reserves is held to meet potential obligations in event of event cancellation or weather impediments to the successful running of an airshow. The policy also allows for a further sum to be withheld to assist with Capital requirements and Working Capital to fund existing and future developed events.

The Foundation then has a process to allocate surplus funds to meet the above activities, identified in the Five Pillars. As examples, in the current year the Foundation:

- Staged the first Airshows Downunder Shellharbour airshow, after acquiring the former Wings Over Illawarra airshow event. AMDA Foundation intends to expand this airshow to promote careers in regional aviation, particularly across maintenance and other technical roles.
- Substantially increased its contribution as Principal Sponsor to the Recreational Aviation Australia Fly'n For Fun general aviation fly-in event at Parkes, New South Wales. This event promotes grass roots general aviation and the airport / general aviation industry.
- Sponsored the inaugural Australian Helicopter Industry Future Fund scholarships, devised to assist young engineers with their training, to counter a shortage of engineers in the Australian helicopter industry.
- Coordinated selection of Australian winners in the Astronaut Al Worden Endeavour Scholarship program, in which four secondary students and a teacher win scholarships to attend an internationally renowned Space Camp at NASA's Huntsville, Alabama site in the United States.
- Sponsored the Andy Thomas Foundation Australian Space Forum, a national event aimed at promoting and developing the Australian space industry.
- Sponsored the Rear Admiral Holthouse Award, a memorial scholarship presented to a Royal Australian Navy engineer to help further their training and personal development.

The foundation has also increased the value of the innovation awards and is looking to expand its scholarship program to underrepresented disciplines needed to support Australian High Technology Industries.



Events Held During The Period:

- Airshows Downunder Shellharbour
- Indo Pacific International Maritime Exposition
- RotorTech Helicopter and Uncrewed Flight Exposition
- Regional Aviation Association of Australia Convention 2024

Career and Skills Events Held During The Period:

- Airshows Downunder Shellharbour
- RotorTech Helicopter and Uncrewed Flight Exposition
- Both events included Secondary School industry presentations and tours.