

Submission to:

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Cyber Resilience: Inquiry into

Auditor-General's reports 1 (2019-20) and 13 (2019-20)

PREAMBLE

ASC Pty Ltd welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the findings of the ANAO Report into Cyber Resilience of Government Business Enterprises and Corporation Commonwealth Entities – No 1 – 2019-20.

INTRODUCTION

ASC is Australia's dedicated submarine sustainment organisation and for over 30 years has been a trusted partner of our customer, the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). ASC employs more than 1,300 personnel across two primary sites at Osborne, South Australia and Henderson in Western Australia.

CYBER RESILIENCE

As an integral part of Australia's maritime defence strategy and national security framework, ASC understands the critical importance of effectively managing cyber security risks.

As such, ASC welcomed the opportunity in December 2018 and January 2019 to participate in the ANAO audit as one of three select Government Business Enterprises and Corporate Commonwealth Entities.

ASC was found by the Auditor-General to have the equal third highest level of cyber resilience of 17 entities examined by the ANAO over the past five years, and a high level of protection from internal and external cyber security threats.

The audit also found that ASC had demonstrated a positive attitude to managing cyber risks and an open approach to continuous improvements to cyber security processes and practices.

While ASC is pleased with the findings, we are committed to using the details found in the report to further strengthen areas identified by the audit team.

In particular, ASC has been working to mature and improve our cyber security related behaviours and practices, as highlighted in the report.

Publishing further detail of these measures could potentially impact ASC's risk exposure, and it is on this basis we are not able to outline them in this submission.

ASC continues its contribution towards the development of a national cyber partnership between government, researchers and private enterprise through its cooperation and participation with both the National and Adelaide-based Cyber Security Centres.

CONCLUSION

While ASC was found by the Auditor-General to have a high level of cyber resilience, we remain committed to further improving and monitoring our levels of cyber resilience.

ENDS