

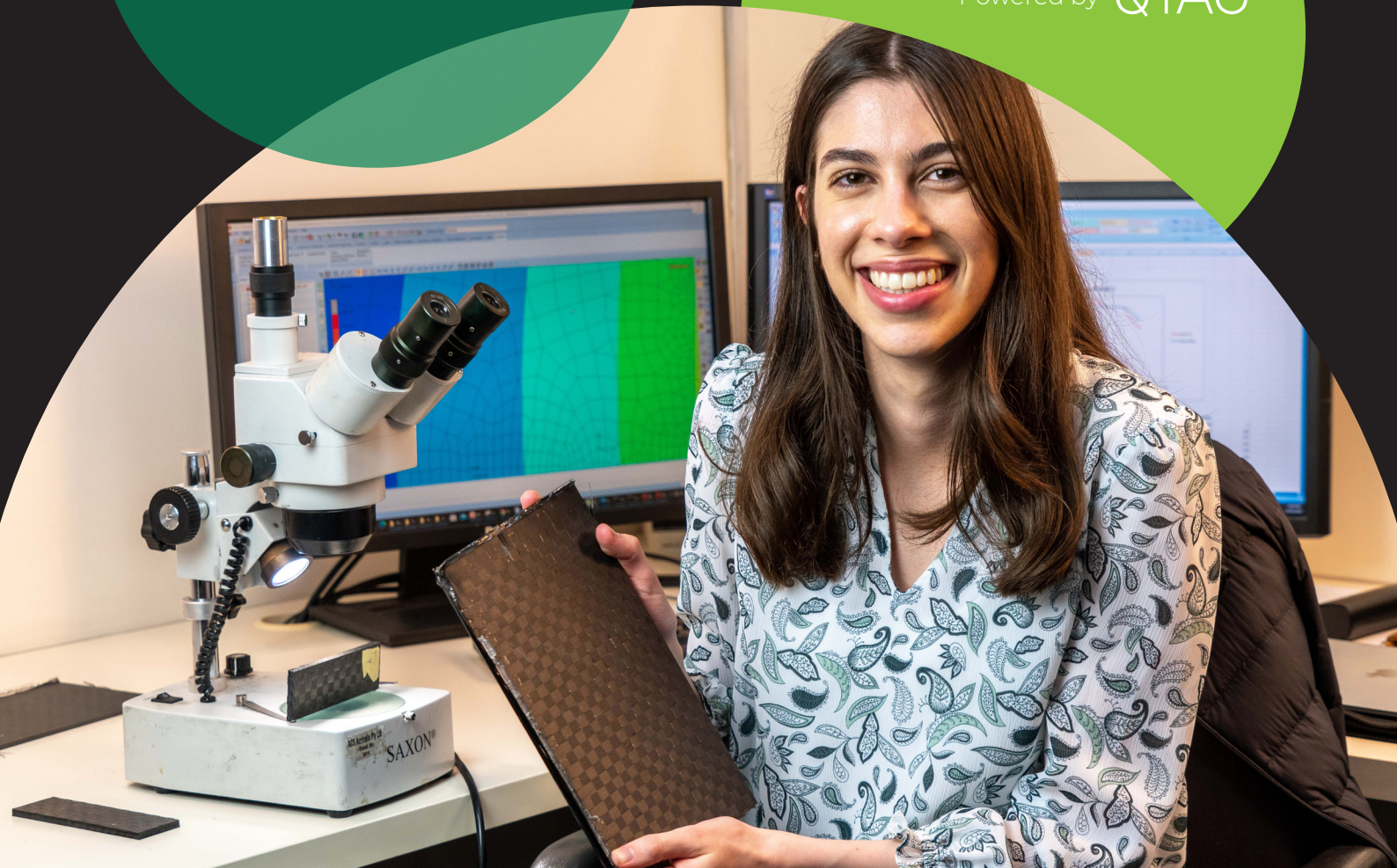
diip

Defence Industry Internship Program

Year in Review
2022/2023

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2022 DIIP REVIEW

Now in its fifth year since QTAC commenced administration of the Defence Industry Internship Program (DIIP), it continues to grow from strength to strength. This year we were excited to introduce the new Technology stream to the program which has widened the scope of opportunities to our participating students.

95 students were placed into engineering and 25 students were placed into technology focused opportunities in 60 SMEs across 66 sites nationwide. This year we were also able to have students travel interstate for some opportunities enabling them to experience a new adventure away from home.

With travel restrictions being lifted in 2022, the DIIP team have also been able to complete both progress visits for each participant on site. We have found this process to be an extremely rewarding opportunity for all involved and gives our students the chance to demonstrate their amazing experiences.

120 interns
placed at
66 sites
across Australia



Elphinstone Pty Ltd had the pleasure of hosting two DIIP interns for three months in 2022/23.

The two students who had not previously met, relocated from NSW to North West Tasmania, and lived together for this period while completing their DIIP.

The interns were exposed to real-world problem-solving tasks, Jig and Fixture design using CAD and front-end project cost analysis.

The quality, professionalism, organisation, and communication from both the interns and QTAC was seamless. We look forward in participating in the next intake.

Kaimon Johnson, Defence Manufacturing Lead, Elphinstone

OUR SME'S HAVE TOLD US

Our interns continue to impress the host SMEs with their enthusiasm and knowledge, with our host companies commenting that their interns compare favourably with graduate engineers. We believe this is due to the stringent process the team have when selecting eligible students and the relationship building that has taken place with our SMEs ensuring there is an understanding of the right match.

Whilst ongoing employment is not an expectation, many of our hosts tell us that they are looking for potential future employees, so the choice and quality of the intern placed with them is of utmost importance as it often leads to ongoing employment. This may be in the form of a short-term contract, or part time work whilst the student completes their final year of studies, or in the case of final year students, can be a full-time permanent role on completion of the internship period.

We find it extremely rewarding to be instrumental in assisting our students to achieve an internship offer which could be the start of their future career in the Defence industry.

OUR INTERNS HAVE TOLD US

Our interns are all looking to gain practical experience in the workplace, something which they acknowledge cannot be taught at university. At the site visits most of our students tell us that they have learned more in 12 weeks of the internship that in the past year at university. All that theory just falls into place when presented with the high tech equipment and machinery offered by our host companies and the interns love the practical hands on nature of the work.

They also enjoy the mentoring and support of great engineers who most often are keen to impart skills and knowledge to their young interns and see them grow in confidence as the internship progresses. Many students were not previously aware of the range of career opportunities to be found in the defence industry and once they start working with the cutting edge technology available, they realise that the defence industry offers wonderful future career prospects.



Murray Consulting students



**Callum and Mitchell, Interns
Toolcraft**

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The Defence Industry Internship Program provided me with an invaluable experience working alongside industry professionals on real-world projects. Through mentorship and guidance at PHM Technology, I developed critical skills in problem-solving, collaboration, and communication, which will benefit me in my future engineering career.

Additionally, this DIIP internship broadened my understanding of the defence industry's impact on society, giving me a new appreciation for the importance of innovation and technology in ensuring national security.

Overall, I am grateful for this opportunity, which has shaped my career aspirations and prepared me for future challenges.

**Henry Delbridge, Intern,
PHM Technology**

On the path to becoming a professional engineer, my internship at Gilmour Space provided countless opportunities to develop my technical and transferable skills.

I was provided with guidance and supervision from a number of highly professional and friendly individuals, yet still afforded the autonomy to make my own engineering decisions.

Further to the support I received from Gilmour Space, the team at DIIP and QTAC provided assistance through all stages of the internship, from application submission right to the internship conclusion.

The dual layer of support provides a streamlined experience that no other internship program offers, I could not recommend this program highly enough to eligible engineering students.

**Harrison Roberts, Intern
Gilmour Space**



For more information, please visit:

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