



STATEMENT OF COOPERATION

between

THE UNITED STATES NAVY

and

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

on

**THE RESEARCH AND USE OF ALTERNATIVE
FUELS**

1. Introduction

1.1 In accordance with the Australia – United States Joint Statement of Principles on Interoperability, the alliance relationship between Australia and the United States is an expression of commitment by both nations to work in close partnership in times of conflict, and to build peace and security, both globally and in the Asia-Pacific region.

1.2 Australia and the United States plan to support military capabilities that enable the United States and Australia to effectively conduct combined military operations in support of our shared security interests. Successful combined operations within the framework of the Alliance, both now and into the future, rest on the foundation of high levels of interoperability.

1.3 The development and use of alternative fuel sources by either navy has the potential to positively assist interoperability if we take action to share fuel specifications, research outcomes and certification documentations between the alliance members.

1.4 Such action will ensure that all fuel types in use by one navy can be used by the other.

2. Purpose

2.1 Both navies recognize potentially significant benefits from the use of advanced drop-in alternative fuels, notably:

- a. Gains in national energy security from reduced reliance on imported fuels;
- b. Improved national balance of payments; and,
- c. Increased certainty of energy supply and price.

3. Objectives

3.1 In this Statement of Cooperation (SOC), the United States Navy (USN) and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) consent to mutually share in the results of our research, development and implementation of advanced alternative fuels for naval aviation and surface and subsurface platforms.

3.2 As the USN moves toward fleet wide use of a 50/50 blended biofuel product by 2020, the RAN will work toward certification of its aviation and maritime assets to ensure interoperability is maintained.

3.3 To achieve these interoperability goals, the RAN and the USN will seek to:

- a. Promote the safe and operationally effective use of alternative fuels.
- b. Exchange views on strategic direction for alternative fuels through consultation, dialogue, and information transfer.
- c. Collaborate on alternative fuels research projects in accordance with existing research agreements.
- d. Collaborate on alternative energy demonstration activities including the USN Great Green Fleet initiative planned for 2016.
- e. Exchange research information to minimize duplication of research and development effort.
- f. Exchange platform test, evaluation and certification information to minimize duplication of effort and to ensure safe and efficient transition to alternative fuels usage.
- g. Work toward ensuring that energy efficiency is a key aspect considered during future capability development and acquisition.

4. Disclaimer

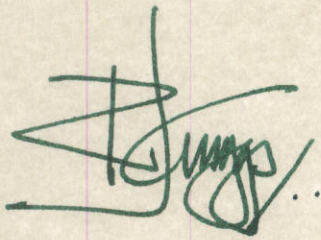
4.1 This SOC provides no authority for either Australia or the United States to commit resources in connection with any activities pursued under this SOC. Such authority will be derived specifically from national projects that may be undertaken separately or collaboratively by Australia or the United States.

5. Effective Date

5.1 This SOC will come into effect on the date of last signature of the Participants.

6. Signatures

6.1 This SOC will be signed (in duplicate) by the authorized representatives designated below.



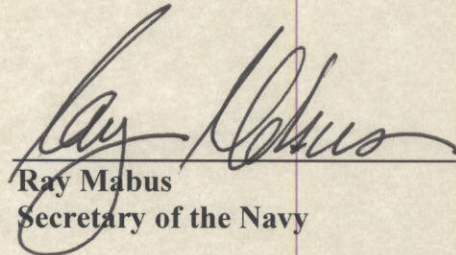
Vice Admiral Ray Griggs, RAN
Chief of Navy

for

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

Date..10 July 2012

Place.....Canberra.....



Ray Mabus
Secretary of the Navy

for

UNITED STATES NAVY

Date... July 2012

Place...USS Nimitz
at sea