AUSTAL (ASX: ASB) today confirmed the contract for two Guardian Class Pacific Patrol Boats (PPB) for Timor Leste. The additional contract is worth A$29.7 million and increases the total program from 19 to 21 vessels.

The potential for the extension to the existing PPB contract was first announced, last year, in Perth by Prime Minister Turnbull and Prime Minister Alkatiri and has now been formally signed with Austal. The Pacific Patrol Boat program creates inter-governmental co-operation to aid regional security in the South Pacific by helping to secure maritime borders in that region.

“The first PPB is on schedule for launch at the end of May with construction of the following two vessels already well underway with the fourth vessel commencing construction in June,” Austal CEO, David Singleton said.

“Austral has a wealth of experience in shipbuilding having built over 300 vessels for 55 customers in 100 countries. We have utilised that experience and have met all major project milestones in the program on time.”

“This program will support 200 direct jobs at Austal and a further 200 indirect jobs in the broader industry. This is in addition to several hundred jobs supported at Austal by a number of large commercial export contracts currently under construction and planned for construction at our Henderson shipyard.”

“We are working on other export opportunities for the Guardian Class patrol boat thereby helping Australia sustain its sovereign naval shipbuilding industry which has already delivered over 40 Patrol Boats to international customers,” Mr Singleton said.

The Pacific Patrol Boat contract was awarded to Austal in May, 2016 and is worth A$305 million for the original 19 vessels and associated in service support.

-ENDS-

Further Information:

Austral Media Contact:
Contact: Gemma Whiting - Government Relations Manager
Mobile: +61 (0)408 982 727
Email: gemma.whiting@austal.com
Website: www.austal.com
About Austal

Austal is an Australian shipbuilder and global defence prime contractor which designs constructs and sustains some of the world’s most advanced commercial and defence vessels.

Austal successfully balances commercial and defence projects and celebrates 30 years of success in 2018. Austal has designed, constructed and delivered more than 300 commercial and defence vessels for more than 100 operators in 54 countries worldwide.

Austal is Australia’s largest defence exporter and the only ASX-listed shipbuilder. Austal has industry leading shipyards in Australia, the United States of America and Philippines and service centres worldwide.

Austal delivers iconic monohull, catamaran and trimaran commercial vessel platforms – including the world’s largest trimaran ferry and multiple defence programs such as the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF) for the United States Navy. Austal has grown to become the world’s largest aluminium shipbuilder.