

Media Release

PREMCR DRIVES GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT WITH NEXT-GENERATION POWERTRAIN FOR LAND-BASED DEFENCE VEHICLES

- ***Australian automotive manufacturer Premcar completes development of advanced powertrain for land-based defence vehicle***
- ***\$1.53 million program backed by co-investment from the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre spurs diversification of Premcar operations***
- ***Six new jobs, eleven upskilled staff and new export opportunities result from the two-year collaborative project***

For a quarter of a century, trusted Australian manufacturer Premcar has engineered, enhanced and electrified products for a number of iconic automotive marques. Today, the Victorian engineering powerhouse can add a global defence brand to its roll call of clients.

With assistance from the Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC), Premcar embarked on an ambitious \$1.53 million program to engineer and enhance the powertrain offering a globally relevant land-based military vehicle, bringing its drivetrain into the modern era and opening the potential for exports from Australia.

The expansive program tasked Premcar with designing, engineering, fitting and testing the significantly more advanced drivetrain for an existing vehicle, while ensuring it met or exceeded taxing quality, reliability, durability and performance metrics for local and global defence use.

Starting with a rolling chassis, the Premcar team developed new, intake and exhaust systems, engine charge air cooling systems, engine mounts, lubrication systems, electrical wiring (including integration into the existing vehicle communications (CAN-bus) systems), engine control, cooling systems, and fuel systems. Additionally, the team handled total packaging and transmission calibration for the drivetrain.

Upskilling and continuously learning throughout the program, the Premcar team and its industrial partner, Cummins, completed the program in under two years. The project culminated in a defence and OEM partner field trail at the Australian Automotive Research Centre (AARC) in Victoria – with Premcar’s work exceeding expectations.

Chief Executive Officer of Premcar, Bernard Quinn said, “Programs like the defence powertrain project are transformative for a manufacturing and engineering businesses like Premcar. It is one thing to be trusted with consumer products and another to work alongside the defence industry to deliver something as critical as a drivetrain,

“As a result of the AMGC project, we are now a diversified business operating in the defense sector, employing more staff and equipped to pursue opportunities in the rail and road infrastructure sectors, thanks to the skills and certifications gained along the way.”

During the two-year project, six new roles were created, and 11 existing staff members were upskilled at the manufacturer's headquarters. Furthermore, successful certification and testing of the Premcar drivetrain

now opens export opportunities for defence vehicles from Australia with other nations understood to be evaluating use of the vehicle.

Managing Director of AMGC, Jens Goennemann said, “Capability and diversity are the keys to manufacturing success in Australia and Premcar excels at both. By taking the knowledge they have built over a quarter century in the automotive industry and applying them to the defence industry, Australia ends up with a more resilient manufacturer and a better product for defence – it is a win-win.”

“Premcar shows that if you view manufacturing through a capability lens, then anything is possible, with knowledge, skills and expertise the bridge to greater sovereign capability, capacity, and prosperity.”

To learn more about Premcar’s project, visit: <https://www.amgc.org.au/project/land-based-military-vehicle-development/>

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About Premcar

Premcar Pty Ltd is a leading Australian vehicle engineering business that specialises in the automotive, defence and aerospace industries. For more than 25 years, global car-makers have made Premcar their go-to partner for the complete design, engineering and manufacture of niche-model new cars, full-scale new-vehicle development programs, and electric vehicle (EV) conversions and manufacturing.

Premcar’s body of work is extensive. It is the name behind more than 200,000 new cars and 55,000 new-vehicle engines. The company has delivered technical advancements and sales success for major car brands from Europe, the USA, Japan, China and Australia. Visit premcar.au.

About Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) is an industry-led, not-for-profit organisation established through the Australian Government’s Industry Growth Centres Initiative. AMGC’s vision is to transform Australian manufacturing to become an internationally competitive, dynamic and thriving industry with advanced capabilities and skills at its core.

Through the delivery of its world-leading research, Manufacturing Academy, workshops, and ground-breaking projects, AMGC aims to develop a highly skilled and resilient local manufacturing industry that delivers high-value products – via the integration of innovative technology – to domestic and international markets.

<http://www.amgc.org.au>

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