



## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Defence Head Information Warfare attends FifthDomain led Cyber Skills training for Defence**

**Canberra – Monday 24 August 2020:** FifthDomain, a Canberra scale-up specialist cyber skills development and management technology company, welcomed Major General Marcus Thompson, Head Information Warfare for Australian Defence Force (ADF), to its headquarters for the final day of the successful commercial pilot of Australia's first fully online, collective cyber training program.

Delivered in partnership with fellow Australian companies, Penten, Cydarm, Elttam and Retrospect Labs, the training program aims to rapidly accelerate the development of cyber security skills across the Defence organisation, and more broadly, address the significant cyber security skills gap in Australia and the region.

Information Warfare Division is responsible for overcoming threats to Australia's national interests in the information environment and building cyber skills is a major contributor to that. Major General Thompson visited FifthDomain's headquarters, located at UNSW's Launch facility in Canberra, on the final day of the course to connect with the 50+ trainees and to meet with leaders of the Australian companies that came together to build the pioneering program.

Developing home-grown expertise is a key objective of the Australian Government as it focuses on building sovereign cyber capability to generate jobs, defend Australia and export these solutions to the Asia Pacific region and around the world.

**FifthDomain CEO, Matt Wilcox** commented: *"We are proud to be leading sovereign capability to deliver this unique solution for Defence and especially delighted to welcome Major General Thompson to FifthDomain for a first-hand view of the training."*

*"FifthDomain's cyber ranges benefit by being able to integrate niche technologies from our partners to provide Defence the best of breed Australian cyber innovation. When Defence approached us with this challenge, I immediately saw the opportunity to bring these technologies together to deliver a world-class solution, which is now ready to be deployed across Defence and government more broadly."*

Delivery of this program closely aligns with Australia's Cyber Security Strategy 2020, released in early August, which commits A\$1.67b investment over ten years, and outlines a range of initiatives to create a more secure online world for Australians, highlighting the growth of the country's cyber skills pipeline as one of its key recommendations. Working in partnership with fellow Australian cyber technology companies has enabled FifthDomain to assemble a remotely accessible, sovereign cyber skills development capability.

Held over three weeks, the fully online training program was conducted from FifthDomain's headquarters and delivered remotely to Navy, Army and AirForce personnel across the country. The exercises put trainees into virtual teams to remediate vulnerabilities and respond to simulated and real threat actors in a highly realistic virtual environment.

-ends-

**About Fifth Domain:**

FifthDomain is a leading Australian specialist cyber operations workforce development and management technology company, transforming the cyber training segment with its' cyber operations individual and collective training and assessment platform. FifthDomain partners with government and industry to harness expertise in cyber security education, skills and workforce development to deliver secure, on-demand solutions to customers nationally and internationally from any internet connected computer. A key part of Australia's sovereign capability in solving the global cyber security crisis, FifthDomain has been instrumental in evolving the vocational education sector's cyber security curriculum and is working with the Australian Defence Force to further develop critical cyber skill sets and address the growing skills gap. [www.fifthdomain.com.au](http://www.fifthdomain.com.au)

**ENDS**

For media enquiries:

Victoria Till  
Fifth Domain  
0402 694 214 | [victoria.till@fifthdomain.com.au](mailto:victoria.till@fifthdomain.com.au)