

2023 Tax Transparency Report

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BAE SYSTEMS

Meeting our obligations

BAE Systems has a heritage that stretches over 70 years of operations in Australia. We are the nation's biggest and most diverse defence company, leading the development of next-generation capability across land, sea, air and cyber domains.

BAE Systems Australia and its subsidiary ASC Shipbuilding are committed to delivering value to our customers, and capability into the hands of the Australian Defence Force.

Our growth is underpinned by delivering our major programs, including six Hunter class frigates, the delivery of AUKUS as sovereign partner to the Commonwealth, upgrades to the Jindalee Operational Radar Network (JORN), Hawk Lead-In Fighter sustainment and upgrades, and Hobart class warfare destroyer (DDG) maintenance and capability enhancements.

Our long-term strategy is underpinned by continued investment in innovation, and product development. Our ongoing investments in research and technology will enable us to continue to find new ways to deliver leading technologies and counter measures to support the broader national security agenda.

Across Australia we have a highly skilled workforce of more than 7000 personnel that are at the forefront of the nation's future defence capability.

We are an Australian company that is committed to meeting our taxation responsibilities. This includes meeting all statutory obligations, lodgement deadlines and disclosure requirements.

This Tax Transparency Report is prepared for the BAE Systems Australia tax consolidated group. This does not include ASC Shipbuilding as it is a separate entity for tax reporting purposes. However, ASC Shipbuilding is included in BAE Systems Australia's statutory reporting group for accounting purposes.

The following pages set out further information about BAE Systems Australia's tax contribution to the Commonwealth and State Governments, including information about tax strategy and governance. This information is released on a voluntary basis following the Board of Taxation's Voluntary Tax Transparency Code.

Andy Cornfield
Chief Financial Officer
BAE Systems Australia Holdings Limited



Part A

Effective Company Income Tax Rate

The corporate income tax rate in Australia is 30%. The effective tax rate for a company is calculated by dividing the total income tax expense by the total accounting profit before tax. BAE Systems Australia's effective tax rate was 25.97% for the year ended December 2023 (28.38% for 2022). The effective tax rate was calculated as follows:

Total Income Tax Expense (ITE) ÷ Total Profit Before Tax (PBT) = \$27,872,000 ÷ \$107,308,000

The effective tax rate falls slightly below 30% due to our investment in research and development and the tax incentives that are available for these costs. This research and development expenditure is targeted at enhancing the capability of the Australian Defence Force.

Reconciliation of Accounting Profit to Income Tax Expense and Income Tax Payable/Paid

The BAE Systems Australia accounting consolidated group consists of BAE Systems Australia and its subsidiaries, which includes ASC Shipbuilding. The BAE Systems Australia tax consolidated group does not include ASC Shipbuilding as the Commonwealth of Australia retains a sovereign share in this company and therefore the requirements for the consolidation of ASC Shipbuilding under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 are not met.

The difference in the composition of the accounting and tax consolidated groups means that accounting profit cannot be reconciled to tax paid without first removing the accounting profit of ASC Shipbuilding. The information below sets out the financial information for the BAE Systems Australia accounting consolidated group and for ASC Shipbuilding. The subtraction of the financial information of ASC Shipbuilding from the BAE Systems Australia accounting consolidated group then allows for the reconciliation to the financial information of the BAE Systems Australia tax consolidated group.

We have set out below the financial information contained within the tax notes to the audited statutory accounts lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) for the BAE Systems Australia accounting consolidated group and the stand-alone ASC Shipbuilding entity. The income tax expense is calculated by multiplying accounting profit, adjusted for non-temporary differences, by the corporate tax rate of 30%.

We have subtracted the amounts reported for ASC Shipbuilding from the amounts reported for BAE Systems Australia so that we can reconcile the reported accounting profit for the BAE Systems Australia tax consolidated group to income tax expense and income tax payable/paid.



Numerical Reconciliation between pre-tax profit and tax expense

	Year Ended December 2023			Year Ended December 2022
	Consolidated BAE Systems Australia	ASC Shipbuilding	BAE Systems Australia	Consolidated BAE Systems Australia
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Profit before tax	142,310	35,002	107,308	124,449
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30%	42,693	10,501	32,192	37,335
Increase in income tax expense due to:				
Non-deductible expenses (includes R&D incentive)	10,686	70	10,616	5,887
Non-deductible employee share payments	1,509	406	1,103	928
R&D tax credits utilised	(12,791)		(12,791)	(6,746)
Recognition of DTA	(110)	-	(110)	(146)
Lower tax rate in the UK for permanent establishment	(5)	(5)	-	(8)
Adjustments relating to prior years	(3,135)	3	(3,138)	(1,281)
Income tax expense on continuing operations	38,847	10,975	27,872	35,969
Deferred tax benefit/(expense)	5,319	2,429	2,890	1,635
Prior year tax adjustments	3,135	(3)	3,138	1,181
Current year tax payable	47,301	13,401	33,900	38,785
Current year tax payable next year	(535)	(2,247)	1,712	(2,303)
Prior year tax paid in current year	(832)	4,951	(5,783)	1,239
Tax paid during year as per statement of cash flow	45,934	16,105	29,829	37,721

Part B

Tax Policy, Tax Strategy and Governance

BAE Systems Australia's approach to tax strategy and tax governance is set out in our global group's Tax Principles and BAE Systems Australia's Tax Policy. The Tax Principles have been established under our internal governance framework and has been approved globally by BAE Systems Australia's Board. BAE Systems Australia's Tax Policy has similarly been established in Australia and approved by BAE Systems Australia's Board. These documents set out BAE Systems Australia's approach to managing our tax affairs. Our strategy is to act with responsibility in relation to tax compliance.

BAE Systems Australia has established a tax governance framework that seeks to deliver:

- Clear lines of accountability and responsibility for compliance through the Group's Operational Framework.
- Compliance with all applicable tax laws and regulations in line with our stakeholders' expectations.
- Management of the Group's tax expense and tax risk in a way that is consistent with our values and protects value for the Group.
- Transparent working relationships with tax authorities.

Our approach to compliance is one where we:

- Seek to ensure compliance with all applicable tax laws and regulations.
- Aim to pay the right amount of tax in the right territory.
- Interpret tax laws in a reasonable way using our best judgement.
- Do not engage in any artificial tax structuring that is contrary to the intentions of the relevant legislation and guidance.
- Do not tolerate activities designed to facilitate tax evasion offences.
- Apply arm's length principles to pricing of all intra-group transactions for goods or services in accordance with domestic legislative requirements and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development guidelines.
- Seek to ensure that everything we do aligns to our commercial operations and has appropriate economic substance.
- Utilise tax relief or incentives made available by governments where appropriate.

Where significant tax risks are identified, they will be reported to the BAE Systems Australia Board. Operational processes to manage tax risks have been developed and may include seeking external advice and initiating discussions with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Engagement with Revenue Authorities

BAE Systems Australia promotes collaborative professional working with all tax authorities in order to build open, transparent and trusted relationships. Where available in the relevant territory, BAE Systems Australia engages in cooperative working arrangements with tax authorities on the basis that those tax authorities will also work in accordance with, and in the spirit of, such frameworks.

BAE Systems Australia seeks to engage in open and early dialogue with tax authorities to discuss tax compliance and risk and disclose any significant uncertainties in relation to tax matters. BAE Systems Australia seeks to resolve issues in real time and before returns are filed where possible.

BAE Systems Australia has continued to maintain a strong relationship with revenue authorities in Australia over many years. We voluntarily entered into an Annual Compliance Arrangement with the ATO from 2012 until 2016 where the ATO reviewed our income tax returns prior to lodgement. Following this we completed the ATO's Streamlined Assurance Review process and have entered the ATO's Top 1000 Program. We continue to have regular contact with the ATO to assist us in addressing issues as they arise.

Trust framework is the TOP 1000 Program. We have completed the ATO's Streamlined Assurance Review process and have entered the ATO's Top 1000 Program. We continue to have regular contact with the ATO to assist us in addressing issues as they arise. We see this as a foundational relationship that we will maintain into the future.



BAE Systems Australia's contribution to the Australian tax base

BAE Systems Australia paid or collected more than \$276 million in Commonwealth and State taxes for the year ended 31 December 2023, as follows:

Taxes we collect on behalf of ATO		Taxes we pay to ATO	
Tax Type	Amount	Tax Type	Amount
Goods and Services Tax (GST)	\$70,900,282	Corporate Income Tax	\$27,566,483
PAYG Withholding (from salaries and wages)	\$145,672,432	Payroll Tax	\$30,753,051
Total	\$216,572,714	Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT)	\$1,010,145
		Total	\$59,329,679

Note: The above taxes paid and collected do not include ASC Shipbuilding

International related party dealings

BAE Systems Australia is predominantly a defence company, supplying products and services of critical national importance to governments. Those governments often place restrictions on the operational activities of the company for national security reasons. The consequence of this is that the cross-border flows of products and services are relatively small in comparison with many other multinational businesses.

BAE Systems Australia has some business interactions and transactions with our international related businesses primarily in the United Kingdom and the United States of America. These are disclosed to the ATO as part of our tax return process and the country by country reporting process. Our related party dealings were reviewed by the ATO under our Annual Compliance Agreement. As part of the Top 1000 program these will continue to be provided to the ATO as needed.

The main activities with related parties overseas are summarised below:

1. Management and administration services
2. Interest charged / received on intercompany loans
3. Use of technology and personnel globally
4. Sales of materials, goods and services

Globally, BAE Systems Australia applies arm's-length principles in the pricing of all cross-border intra-group transactions in accordance with domestic legislative requirements and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development guidelines.

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