

## ASX Announcement

### **MOU with Ares Armaments Australia expands sovereign defence manufacturing**

- **MOU secured with Ares Armaments, a leading Australian sovereign defence manufacturer specialising in precision small-arms and armaments**
- **Collaboration will focus on R&D and prototyping of small, high-performance components for use in defence applications**
- **Agreement expected to advance production of lighter, stronger, more consistent and cost-effective components that improve performance while adhering to strict regulatory standards**
- **Partnership to combine A3D's expertise in additive manufacturing and advanced metal processing with Ares' operational capabilities in precision-engineered weapon systems**
- **First prototyping and testing anticipated in Q1 CY26 prior to broad engagement with Ares' extensive customer base across law enforcement and defence**

Aurora Labs Limited ("A3D" or "the Company") is pleased to advise it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with Ares Armaments Australia Pty Ltd ("Ares") to advance R&D initiatives across design and rapid production techniques using exotic metals in small-arms ammunition and armaments.

Ares Armaments is an Australian sovereign defence manufacturer specialising in made to order, industrialised hand-loaded precision ammunition with a specific focus on ballistically matched natures for defence and law enforcement agencies. The group has an established presence and customer network across Australia and operates advanced R&D and testing facilities in South Australia, with ISO 9001 accreditation.

Under the non-binding terms, A3D and Ares will collaborate to accelerate R&D into the use of exotic metals in small-arms ammunition and armaments. Initial focus will be on how alloys and A3D's advanced metal processing capabilities can be used to produce lighter, stronger, more consistent and cost-effective components that improve performance while adhering to strict safety and regulatory standards required by potential customers.

While initial projects will focus on select small components, both parties recognise the potential for significant scalability. Small-arms programs typically require large production volumes, providing A3D with an opportunity to potentially deploy its technology in a high-throughput manufacturing setting with substantial future commercial potential.

Initial exploratory work has commenced with information sharing between the two parties, while prototyping, first production and testing is anticipated in Q1 CY26. Testing will then be undertaken at Ares' South Australian facilities prior to engagement with the group's customer network across the defence industry.

Beyond technical collaboration, the partnership will also seek to engage with government and defence stakeholders to build industry awareness and support, showcasing Australia's growing capability in advanced manufacturing and defence technology.

The agreement marks A3D's expansion in the sovereign defence sector and reiterates the applicability of the



Company's high-performance metal additive manufacturing (AM) technology in the development of smaller, complex and high-volume components, building from A3D's previous research printing work with the Department of Defence for advanced 3D-printed metal components of exotic materials.

**Aurora Labs Chief Executive Officer, Rebeka Letheby said:** *"This collaboration represents an existing expansion for the Company and will allow us to apply our extensive manufacturing expertise to a high-volume, strategically important sector to further demonstrate the versatility of our technology in real-world applications."*

*"Working alongside an established and respected counterparty such as Ares positives Aurora Labs to capitalise on a new commercial pathway that aligns with the national focus on onshore capability and advanced manufacturing. This partnership underscores the growing relevance of our technology across the defence industry and reinforces the Company's role in delivering innovative, high-performance manufacturing solutions in Australia which have grown from accepted research and development into product streams ."*

**-ENDS-**

***This announcement has been approved for release by the Company's Board of Directors***

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## ABOUT AURORA LABS

Aurora Labs Limited ("the Company"), an industrial technology and innovation company that specialises provision of 3D metal printed parts for Defence, Oil and Gas and Resources applications, the development of 3D metal printers, powders, and associated intellectual property. The Company is developing advanced propulsions systems for Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) for the Defence sector.

Aurora Labs is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: A3D)

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## FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This announcement contains forward-looking statements which incorporate an element of uncertainty or risk, such as 'intends', 'may', 'could', 'believes', 'estimates', 'targets' or 'expects'. These statements are based on an evaluation of current economic and operating conditions, as well as assumptions regarding future events.

These events are, as at the date of this announcement, expected to take place, but there cannot be any guarantee that such events will occur as anticipated or at all given that many of the events are outside Aurora's control.

Accordingly, Aurora and the directors cannot and do not give any assurance that the results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements contained in this announcement will actually occur. For further information, please contact: [enquiries@auroralabs3d.com](mailto:enquiries@auroralabs3d.com)

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