

MPW Signs Powder Partnership with Austal USA Targeting US Navy Additive Manufacturing Programs

- **MPW signs Powder Partnership Agreement with Austal USA LLC a subsidiary of Austal Limited (ASX: ASB), Australia's largest shipbuilder**
- **MPW to use its patented DirectPowder™ Process to develop custom metal powder specifications for Austal USA's additive manufacturing operations**
- **Partnership establishes a pathway to a commercial offtake agreement for ongoing powder supply**
- **Positions MPW within a strategic US Navy supply chain initiative amid growing Department of Defense investment in additive manufacturing**

Metal Powder Works Limited (ASX: MPW) ("the Company" or "MPW"), a leading producer of more than 25 specialty metal powders for additive manufacturing and advanced industrial applications, is pleased to announce it has signed a Powder Partnership Agreement with Austal USA LLC ("Austal USA") a subsidiary of Austal Limited (ASX: ASB), Australia's largest shipbuilder and a global defence prime. Austal USA is already an active purchaser of MPW powder, with the agreement formalizing its commercial relationship with MPW and establishing a framework for expanded collaboration and supply.

Under the agreement, MPW and Austal USA will co-develop additional metal powder specifications, curated for specialized use in Austal USA's additive manufacturing applications, including programs at the US Navy's Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence in Danville, Virginia.

MPW will leverage its patented DirectPowder™ Process – the only powder production technology that can be tuned to specific application requirements – to develop custom alloy powders tailored to Austal USA's exacting specifications. MPW will provide samples for testing, refining powder characteristics as needed to achieve optimal performance, with the materials of interest including MPW's CuNi alloys which have met stringent US Navy specifications. Because MPW employs a novel production technology, introducing its powders into the Navy supply chain expands available powder sources, reduces the risk of single-source failures, and enhances cost competitiveness.

Upon successful completion of the development program, MPW and Austal intend to negotiate a commercial offtake agreement establishing minimum annual volumes, pricing structures, and lead times for ongoing powder supply.

Metal Powder Works CEO, John E. Barnes, said: *"We are delighted to formalise our partnership with Austal USA, operator of the US Navy's Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence and a critical supplier to the US Navy. This partnership positions MPW's DirectPowder technology within a strategic naval supply chain initiative at a time when the US Department of Defense is making significant investments in additive manufacturing capabilities. With both companies manufacturing in the United States, we are well positioned to support the domestic defence industrial base and look forward to expanding our collaboration as Austal scales additive manufacturing across its naval programs."*



Austal USA Director of Advanced Technologies Dr Scott Kasen, said: "Austal USA is committed to advancing manufacturing technologies that strengthen our capabilities as a US defence prime contractor. Through our operation of the US Navy's Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence, we are at the forefront of deploying additive manufacturing solutions across the maritime industrial base. Our partnership with Metal Powder Works provides access to high-performance metal powders specifically optimised for these applications, and the DirectPowder Process offers unique flexibility to tailor powder characteristics to the exacting requirements of naval manufacturing."

US Navy Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence

Austal USA operates the US Navy's Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence ("AM CoE") in Danville, Virginia – the US Navy's flagship additive manufacturing facility supporting the construction and sustainment of naval vessels.

The AM CoE is a Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) initiative established to address critical supply chain challenges by developing additive manufacturing solutions for hard-to-source castings, forgings, and fittings. Leading a consortium of industry partners in collaboration with BlueForge Alliance, Austal USA is advancing the qualification and scaling of additively manufactured parts across submarine and surface fleet programs.

The partnership with MPW positions DirectPowder technology within this strategic US Navy supply chain initiative, at a time of significant investment in additive manufacturing capabilities across the defence industrial base. With MPW's manufacturing headquarters in Pittsburgh, the partnership strengthens domestic supply chain capability for critical defence manufacturing materials and aligns with NAVSEA's objectives to expand additive manufacturing capacity for naval shipbuilding and sustainment.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Directors.

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ABOUT METAL POWDER WORKS

Metal Powder Works Limited's (ASX:MPW) manufacturing base is in Pittsburgh, USA and specialises in the production of high-quality metal powders for additive manufacturing and other advanced applications. MPW has developed a patented, non-thermal powder production process known as *DirectPowder™*. The MPW process represents the first true innovation in powder manufacturing in over 50 years. This innovative method converts premium bar stock into quality powder for a variety of materials and applications, significantly improving yield and affordability. MPW currently has 20+ powders in production including high strength aluminum, copper and copper nickel alloys, and specialty alloys including CP-Ti and Zircaloy. In 2024, Metal Powder Works was named as Material Company of the Year by the 3D Printing Industry Awards.



ABOUT AUSTAL LIMITED

Austal Limited (ASX: ASB) is an Australian headquartered global shipbuilder and defence prime contractor specialising in the design, construction, and support of defence and commercial vessels. The company operates major shipbuilding facilities in Australia, the United States, and the Philippines, and employs over 5,000 people worldwide.

Austal USA, headquartered in Mobile, Alabama, is a major provider of vessels to the United States Navy and has delivered advanced naval platforms including the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) and Expeditionary Fast Transport (EPF).

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FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

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