



2023 ANI McNeil Prize

Brad Flemming Raytheon Australia

At the Australian Naval Institute's Annual Dinner on 20 June, the Deputy Chief of Navy, Rear Admiral Jonathan Earley announced the winner of the Australian Naval Institute's McNeil Prize for 2023. The recipient is Mr Brad Flemming from Raytheon Australia. He is the Program Manager responsible for Combat System Integration of the Hobart Class destroyers.

The McNeil Prize is awarded to "an individual from Australian industry and academia who has made an outstanding contribution to the capabilities of the Royal Australian Navy". The Prize is sponsored by Serco Asia-Pacific.

The McNeil Prize is named in honour of Rear Admiral Percival McNeil CB RAN (1883-1951). He was one of the great champions of Australian shipbuilding. McNeil played a pivotal role in the design and construction of the famed Bathurst class corvettes as well as helping to maintain a local warship construction capability in the post-war period.

This year's recipient, Brad Flemming, has dedicated almost four decades of his career to Australia's Defence industry with the last 23 years with Raytheon Australia. Since 2006 Brad has worked on the combat system of the Hobart class guided missile destroyers. Notably, after initial difficulties, he led the team that delivered the Hobart Class Command Team Trainer on time and meeting all contract requirements. Brad's remarkable success resulted in him being assigned further responsibility for other project teams, including the Through Life Support Facility and the Australian Tactical Interface subsystem.

Since December 2018, Brad has served as the Combat System Integration Program Manager at Garden Island, Sydney. In this role Brad leads a team of around 50 people to sustain and enhance the destroyers' combat system. Brad's emphasis on fostering relationships and trust among enterprise partners has resulted in exceptional collaboration, leading to significant capability gains for Navy's destroyers. The improvement in both the combat system integration team and overall DDG Enterprise in recent years is a testament to Brad's collaborative leadership style. Brad played an important role in the safety upgrades to the destroyers' main broadcast and alarm system which was recognised by the award of the 2022 Chief of Navy Safety and Environment Award.

"Brad Flemming's exceptional leadership, outstanding professional expertise and drive have tangibly improved the availability and lethality of the Hobart class destroyers. He is a most worthy recipient of the 2023 McNeil Prize" said Vice Admiral Peter Jones, President of the ANI.

For further information, contact Sue Hart, ANI Business Manager on 0419 995 724.

20 June 2023