

Quickstep moves into automotive production

Sydney, 23 June 2016 – Quickstep Holdings (ASX:QHL), the manufacturer of advanced carbon fibre composites, today provided an update on activity at the Automotive division's Wauran Ponds facilities.

Prime Minister visits Wauran Ponds

The Prime Minister of Australia, Malcolm Turnbull, today visited Quickstep's Wauran Ponds facility in Victoria, to view the company's new advanced composites manufacturing operations and to announce the Coalition Government's commitment to a \$20 million Jobs and Investment Package for the Geelong region.

David Marino, CEO and Managing Director of Quickstep said: "We are delighted to welcome the Prime Minister to our Wauran Ponds facility which is now in production supporting automotive contracts for Ford, Thales and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology. We have also begun collaborative projects with several multinational companies using our patented Qure and resin spray transfer (RST) technologies. Our global R&D centre is making great progress as we invest to raise Qure's volume production rate."

Hawkei Light Protected Vehicle

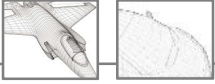
Quickstep has completed the first set of composite parts for Thales Australia's Hawkei light protected vehicle using RST. Quickstep is the exclusive supplier of Hawkei bonnet, side skirts and mud guards. The company will deliver ten sets of parts - comprising more than 150 individual components - for testing by end-September 2016. Thales Australia will supply 1,100 Hawkei military vehicles and 1,000 trailers for the Australian government.

Ford Falcon XR6 Sprint

Quickstep has now manufactured 325 carbon fibre air intake ducts for the Ford Falcon XR6 Sprint sportscar, and production is ongoing. The Falcon XR6 is the first mass-produced Ford passenger vehicle globally to have a carbon-fibre air intake duct factory-fitted.

Development Projects

Quickstep is engaged in development projects with several tier-1 industry suppliers including two leading vehicle manufacturers, a global aircraft manufacturer, and a French naval shipbuilding company (DCNS). These projects are co-funded by Quickstep and its collaboration partners and expected to lead to niche production contracts.



Waurn Ponds Activity

Quickstep's automotive division has been supported by a grant of \$1.76 million through the Geelong Region Innovation and Investment Fund (GRIIF), an initiative funded by the Federal and Victorian governments and Ford Australia. Relocation of Quickstep's R&D Centre from Munich to Deakin University's Waurn Ponds Campus in Geelong was supported by the state government of Victoria's investment promotion arm, Invest Victoria. Quickstep's relationship with Deakin University spans many years and is supported by a long-term Strategic R&D and Education Agreement.

Quickstep's R&D Centre supports industrialisation of the Qure process, which offers significant economic advantages to manufacturers compared to autoclave and oven curing. The process is being improved to facilitate development of Rapid Qure, which will offer a fully automated, high volume manufacturing system for the automotive industry.

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Background on Quickstep Holdings Limited

Quickstep Holdings Limited (ASX: QHL) is an Australian publicly listed company, at the forefront of advanced composites manufacturing and technology development. Quickstep is the largest independent aerospace-grade advanced composite manufacturer in Australia, partnering with some of the world's largest Aerospace/Defence organisations including: Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, BAE Systems and Airbus.

Quickstep operates from state-of-the-art aerospace manufacturing facilities at Bankstown Airport in Sydney, NSW; a newly established production site for automotive parts manufacturing and R&D/ process development centre in Waurn Ponds, Victoria; and a development and customer support operation in Munich, Germany.

Quickstep is an approved supplier for the international F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) program - the largest military aerospace program in the world, valued in excess of US\$300 billion worldwide. The company has also been selected by Lockheed Martin as the sole supplier of composite wing flaps for the C-130J "Super Hercules" military transport aircraft.

Quickstep has developed significant capabilities and expertise in the production of aerospace grade, advanced composite components, using both conventional autoclave-based manufacturing and leading out-of-autoclave production technologies (developed in-house and patented).

Automotive activities include contracts with Ford Australia for a carbon fibre air intake duct and the development and supply of a range of composite parts and assemblies for the Thales Hawkei military vehicle.

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