



Australia: Market Snapshot Advanced Manufacturing

MANUFACTURING SNAPSHOT

A\$100 billion

Annual **contribution to Australian GDP** by the industry.

~1.3 million

Number of **jobs supported by the industry**, both in workforce and purchased inputs.

Australia has a proud record in advanced manufacturing - it is the country that gave birth to the ultrasound scanner, the black box flight recorder and the bionic ear.

Today, advanced manufacturing accounts for around half of Australia's A\$100 billion (~CHF61bn) annual manufacturing output and is one of the fastest growing export sectors.

Australian manufacturing has been **changing focus from heavy industry to high tech products** based on sustainable, advanced manufacturing processes. The **key science + technology areas**, related to the immense strategic growth opportunities for Australia's manufacturing sector, include:

- Sensors and data analytics
- Advanced materials
- Smart robotics and automation
- Additive manufacturing (3d printing)
- Augmented and virtual reality

Example Opportunities for Swiss Exporters

- In February 2020, [Advanced Manufacturing Growth Fund Grant Recipients](#) were announced. Recipients may be open to sourcing/looking at Swiss technology and solutions for projects related to liquid processing plant upgrades, the building of a world first commercial scale Boron Nitride Nanotube plant, automated rim layup projects and projects to develop next generation composite materials.
- [The Space Infrastructure Fund](#) has confirmed A\$20 million (~CHF12m) in manufacturing projects. As an emerging industry in Australia, Swiss exporters who can partner with Australian companies would be well received.
- The Australian Department of Defence is investing in 3D printing. Two tenders published in February 2020 for [Industrial Polymer 3D Printing & Metal Additive Manufacturing](#) are examples of the current demand for additive manufacturing in Australia. They are also looking to source an [Automated Die Pick-and-Place System](#).

CURRENT INITIATIVES, PROJECT EXAMPLES + PREDICTIONS

- In late 2019, Federal Government unveiled a **A\$50 million (~CHF30m) Manufacturing Modernisation Fund**, offering grants of up to \$1m (~CHF600,000) for technology-based projects.
- The Tasmanian Government has recently announced an **A\$50 million (~CHF30m) investment package** toward its 'Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan' over the next 10 years.
- As part of its **A\$5 million (~CHF3m) Space Strategy**, launched in February 2020, the New South Wales (NSW) government has committed to developing a space manufacturing and testing facility at the [Western Sydney Aerotropolis](#).
- The manufacturing sector is gearing up to [boost ventilator production](#) with Resmed, increasing production capacity and Holden Special Vehicles that used to make high-performance Holdens offering to help make medical equipment by utilising and adapting their extensive 3D printing facilities usually used for prototyping to manufacture ventilators.
- [Thomas Food International](#) is building a world-class abattoir at Murray Bridge after its previous meatworks was destroyed by fire in 2018. The new facility is set to include robotic precision cutting equipment, dual energy x-ray and an industry leading 3D scanner. The Managing Director was [quoted](#) as follows: *"We've got to constantly innovate and use technology: Artificial Intelligence, machine learning and machine vision are going to play a huge role in the business and we're just on the cusp in the meat processing sector of a huge productivity step,"* Thomas said.
- It is [predicted](#) that SMEs may be the next group to adopt the use of **cobots**, particularly user-friendly ones that can be installed and managed inside the business. It is also suggested that automation could play a vital role in [rebuilding areas](#) damaged by bushfires with applications ranging from packaging and palletising, assembly, welding, product handling and many more, UR cobots can tackle those tedious tasks that require superhuman abilities to repeat the same movement over and over again for many hours with exactly the same precision

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) is facilitating more than 40 projects across Australia, with over **A\$27 million (~CHF16.8m)** of committed funding, including:

- A\$10.1 million in Queensland (QLD);
- A\$8.9 million in Victoria (VIC); and
- A\$4.4 million in New South Wales (NSW).



Swiss companies with expertise in advanced manufacturing technologies and services are encouraged to:

- Review the major initiatives and individual funding projects identified above to locate any specific areas of opportunity;
- Explore any potential opportunities to collaborate on R&D initiatives with Australian universities and research institutions such as the CSIRO and the **Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)**;
- Consider engaging with the **Australian Advanced Manufacturing Council (AAMC)**, a private sector initiative aimed at showcasing leading Australian technologies and attracting international companies to Australia.

Key industry event:

- The [National Manufacturing Week](#) - Australia's largest manufacturing event (11-14 May, 2021).

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