



Next Gen Tech Investment

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The Australian government's Cyber Security strategy emphasised the need for a national investment in cyber innovation. This resonated with a Defence White Paper emphasis on cyber capabilities, including investment in cyber as one of nine next generation technologies. The Defence Science and Technology Group is leading this investment and is partnering with the CSIRO's Data61 to shape and leverage academic and industry capabilities in cyber S&T. A core focus of the cyber NGT program is to assure military operations in a contested cyber environment. This operational outcome can only be achieved through establishing a proven level of trust in Defence's technologies and systems. Cyber threats must be understood, and vulnerabilities in Defence systems need to be identified, both in advance and run-time. A risk profile needs to be developed and systems need to be dynamically managed to reflect these factors and any indicators of anomalous behaviour. Importantly, these are not only technological considerations, but must also factor in the human element. And with increases in complexity and timeliness requirements, and with human resources that are asymmetrically small, the need for automated and autonomous technologies is growing. Finally, Defence's offensive cyber capabilities require technologies for command and control, integration with other effects, and to assess operational impact.