



## MEDIA RELEASE

25 July 2024

# THE WHISKEY PROJECT GROUP TO LOCALLY BUILD TWO NEW LANDING CRAFT FOR NAVY

**Sydney, 25 July Australia:** Australian specialist and tactical watercraft manufacturer, The Whiskey Project Group (TWPG), announced that the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) has selected a new Landing Craft Light (LCL) providing a faster and more capable craft for the Pacific Support Vessel ADV Reliant.

The two new all-aluminium LCL is larger than Navy's long-serving Landing Craft Vehicle at 15.4 metres in length and will be built in the TWPG's yard in Yamba on the north coast of New South Wales.

TWPG Founder and Managing Director Darren Schuback said: "we're excited to be building a faster and more capable landing craft for Navy supporting a local on-site workforce and supply chain."

"The LCL is from The Whiskey Project Group's proven 'Pioneer' family of multi-purpose utility craft with enhanced capacity to endure rough conditions at sea and is powered by triple 300hp diesel outboard motors and capable of 26 knots in a fully loaded configuration."

"The Whiskey Project Group's mission has been to redefine tactical watercraft and create a new generation of stronger, safer and fit for purpose platforms, based on our own naval special operations experience and we're excited to be delivering these new craft for Navy."

"The contracting of The Whiskey Project Group to build two Landing Craft Light for Navy in Yamba is a tangible example of the Australian Government's commitment to invest in Australian designed and made capabilities," Mr Schuback said.



The LCL can carry 4.5 tonnes of cargo, including a light vehicle, containerised stores or up to 30 personnel. A bi-fold bow ramp allows for the transfer of cargo and people across a variety of shoreline terrain and beach conditions.

Construction of the first LCL is scheduled to commence in August 2024 with the Royal Australian Navy receiving two all-aluminium LCL, with delivery planned for the first half of 2025.

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## Notes for editors:

### ABOUT THE WHISKEY PROJECT GROUP

*TWPG combines Australian maritime special operations experience and decades of New Zealand design excellence, with domestic and global supply chains of highly-specialised marine and military technology manufacturers.*

*TWPG watercraft are purpose-built to perform in the most challenging conditions, drawing on the veteran founders' special operations experience in contemporary maritime and littoral warfare.*

*Named after the military callsign for specialist water operators, The Whiskey Project Group was founded by former Australian Navy Clearance Divers (Frogmen) who set out to create the watercraft they wished they'd had.*

*TWPG comprises several proven trans-Tasman maritime technology and naval architecture companies delivering end-to-end design, engineering, manufacturing, maintenance and sustainment of high-performance military and emergency services watercraft.*

### AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW



#### **Darren Schuback**

Co-founder & CEO, The Whiskey Project Group

*Darren Schuback is an Australian entrepreneur and award-winning CEO who founded The Whiskey Project Group in 2019. Darren is a former military officer with over 24 years of operational and leadership experience in the Royal Australian Navy and ADF Special Operations. Darren's naval experience included operational oversight of a warfare operation command centre, a military training institution, naval warships and a special operations counter terrorism unit.*