



The Australian Society for Defence Engineering (ASDE) presents
“Issues Affecting Military Aviation Acquisition and Support”

Venue: Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, Barton
Time: 1730 for 1800-1900 Wednesday, 04 March 2009
Light snacks and refreshments available
Speaker: Air Vice-Marshal Colin Thorne AM, Head Aerospace Systems Division - DMO
RSVP **Barbara Lowe by Monday 02 March 2009 on (02) 6270 6519 or**
blowe@engineersaustralia.org.au



Air Vice-Marshal Colin Thorne was born 25 Dec 63 in Atherton, Queensland. After graduating from De La Salle College Scarborough, QLD he joined the RAAF in 1981 as an Engineer Cadet at Engineer Cadet Squadron, RAAF Frognall. AVM Thorne was commissioned as a Radio Engineering Officer (now Electronics Engineering Officer) on graduation in 1984. He was posted as a junior engineering officer to the No.114 Mobile Control and Reporting Unit, RAAF Amberley.

Since 1988 the majority of appointments held by AVM Thorne have been related to project and engineering management of capital acquisition projects, mainly airborne radar, electronic warfare and avionic systems. Major projects include Airborne Early Warning and Control – AEW&C (1988), Global Positioning System (1989), P-3C ESM (1992), P-3C Refurbishment (1993-1995) and AEW&C (1996-2001).

He has also held a number of other posts including Research and Development Flight Commander (1995-1996) at Electronic Warfare Squadron of the Aircraft Research and Development Unit (ARDU), responsible for EW studies and flight trials, technical support to EW projects, and scientific liaison. AVM Thorne held the position of Officer Commanding Maritime Patrol Systems Program Office as a Group Captain, and Director General Aerospace Maritime and Surveillance Systems as an Air Commodore.

AVM Thorne was promoted in Dec 08, and appointed Head Aerospace Systems in the DMO.

AVM Thorne holds a Bachelor Degree in Electronics Engineering (with Distinction) from the RMIT (1985), and a Masters Degree in Military Electronics Systems Engineering from Cranfield Institute of Technology and Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, UK (1992). He was appointed Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in June 2001.

He lives in Jerrabomberra, NSW with his wife, Helen, daughter Madeline (13) and son Alexander (10). His interests include music, Australian wine and rugby union.

ASDE program available at
www.engineersaustralia.org.au/canberra/