

New Chief for JOPC and Coastwatch



Rear Admiral James Goldrick is the new Commander Joint Offshore Protection Command and Director General Coastwatch.

He has 32 year's service in the Royal Australian Navy. He took over from Rear Admiral Russ Crane.

His previous role was Commandant of the Australian Defence Force Academy and before that Director General Military Strategy in the Department of Defence.

In earlier years, he served as the Commanding Officer of Fremantle-class patrol boat HMAS *Cessnock*. He twice commanded frigate HMAS *Sydney* and later served as the inaugural Commander Australian Surface Task Group.

During this posting, he commanded the Australian task group deployed to the Persian Gulf in early 2002 and also served as commander of the multinational naval forces conducting maritime interception operations to enforce UN sanctions on Iraq, including units from the RAN, the United States Navy, the Royal Navy and the Polish Armed Forces.

James has a strong interest in naval history and contemporary naval affairs and has lectured and written extensively on various topics.

"I am excited by the opportunity of working within Customs and taking forward the initiatives announced by government to develop Australia's maritime surveillance and response capabilities," he said.

Rear Admiral Russ Crane, after two years as Director General Coastwatch, became Deputy Chief of Navy, where he is responsible for managing the business aspects of the Navy.

He commented that his time working with Customs had been an exciting, challenging and rewarding opportunity. "I have enjoyed and learnt a great deal from the different perspectives and strengths of Customs in that time," he said.