Gregor Ferguson PhD, BA(Hons), MRAeS

Gregor Ferguson is a long-time student of Innovation. An Industrial designer by training, he has studied Innovation and watched Innovators closely for more than three decades. His Ph.D was bestowed in 2013 by the University of Adelaide for his doctoral thesis: Product Innovation Success in the Australian Defence Industry – an Exploratory Study. He is now a defence and innovation analyst, consultant and teacher as well as a defence innovation communicator and writer.

He is also the part-time Executive Manager Innovation and Industry Engagement at the AMDA Foundation Limited. This not-for-profit Foundation organises the Australian International Air Show and Aerospace & Defence Exposition at Avalon, the Pacific International Maritime Exposition in Sydney, the Land Forces Exposition and the CIVSEC civil security Congress. The purpose of these events is to showcase and promote the development of Australia’s manufacturing and ICT industry capabilities in the aviation, aerospace, maritime and defence domains.

Gregor was also a founding member in 2011 of the not-for-profit SADIG (Sydney Aerospace and Defence Interest Group) industry association which is hosted by RDA Sydney.

Before joining AMDA in December 2011, Gregor spent 14 years as Editor and then Editor-at-Large of Australian Defence Magazine (ADM), Australia’s leading defence industry journal, published by Yaffa Media in Sydney.

Born and educated in Scotland, Gregor trained originally as an Industrial Designer at the former Lanchester Polytechnic, now the University of Coventry, in England. He worked for a short while in the British motor industry before entering journalism in 1980 where he became a specialist in defence, transportation, aviation and high technology. In the late-1980s he spent three years working for British Aerospace PLC in Kingston-upon-Thames where he was a PR officer for the Harrier ‘jump jet’ and Hawk advanced jet trainer, then emigrated to Australia in 1991.

He has been a defence and aerospace specialist since then, writing for ADM, for the US newspapers Defense News and Commercial Aviation News, for The Australian, and carrying out specialist writing, communications and desktop publishing tasks for governments and private sector clients.

In 2016 he was elected a Member of the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) in London. He has an Honours degree in Industrial Design (Transportation) as well as a Ph.D.

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