ACDC Metals Accepted into U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium (DIBC)

Key Highlights:

- **ACDC Metals has been accepted as a member of the U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium (DIBC), a U.S. Department of War (Department of Defense) supported consortium focused on strengthening the defence industrial base and critical supply chains.**
- **Membership provides a direct channel to U.S. defence agencies, prime contractors and research organisations, and the ability to respond to DIBC solicitations for prototype, research and industrial capability projects under the Other Transaction Authority (OTA) framework.**
- **Positions the Goschen Central Project, a JORC-compliant rare earth element and heavy mineral sands resource in western Victoria, within the allied critical minerals supply chain at a time of increasing U.S.–Australia collaboration.**
- **Goschen Central has the potential to supply magnet rare earths (neodymium, praseodymium, terbium and dysprosium) together with zircon and titanium minerals, all of which appear on the U.S. critical minerals list.**
- **Complements ACDC Metals' existing U.S. footprint through the Mount Jackson Gold-Silver Project in Nevada.**

ACDC Metals Limited (ASX: ADC) (**ACDC Metals** or the **Company**) is pleased to announce that it has been accepted as a member of the U.S. Defense Industrial Base Consortium (**DIBC**). Membership provides the Company with access to a collaborative network of U.S. government agencies, defence prime contractors, research institutions and industry participants working to secure domestic and allied supply of materials critical to defence, advanced manufacturing and energy security.

Acceptance into the DIBC follows the grant of the 10-year Retention Licence over the Goschen Central Project in June 2026 and comes as the U.S. Government continues to broaden its engagement with Australian critical minerals projects to diversify supply away from single-source jurisdictions.

ACDC Metals CEO Tom Davidson commented:

> *"Acceptance into the Defense Industrial Base Consortium is an important strategic step for ACDC Metals. It gives us a direct avenue to engage with U.S. defence agencies and industry at a time when securing rare earth and critical mineral supply chains outside of China has become a clear priority for the United States and its allies.*
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> *Goschen Central is a large, resource-backed project in a stable jurisdiction, with the potential to produce magnet rare earths alongside zircon and titanium. With the Retention Licence now granted, we are well placed to use DIBC membership to explore collaboration, funding and offtake pathways that could accelerate the next stage of development.*
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> *While membership does not in itself provide funding, it opens the door to U.S. Government solicitations and teaming opportunities with other members, and we look forward to working with the consortium."*

About the Defense Industrial Base Consortium

The DIBC was established by the U.S. Department of War (formerly the Department of Defense) through its Warfighting, Investments, Resourcing and Execution (WIRE) office, and is managed by Advanced Technology International (ATI) as the Consortium Management Organisation. Its purpose is to coalesce and expand the defence industrial base in support of WIRE's critical subsectors.

The consortium operates under an Other Transaction Authority (OTA) agreement, which allows the U.S. Government to award research, prototype and industrial capability projects more quickly and with fewer barriers than traditional procurement, and is designed to lower barriers to entry for small and non-traditional defence suppliers. Members can respond to solicitations individually or as part of teams.

Critical materials are a key focus area for the DIBC, with recent project awards including domestic supply of gallium, scandium and germanium. Membership is open to industry, academia, start-ups and non-profit organisations, and includes a growing number of ASX-listed critical minerals companies.

Relevance to ACDC Metals

The Goschen Central Project hosts a JORC-compliant Mineral Resource and has completed bulk metallurgical testwork and a Scoping Study (refer ASX announcement dated 12 June 2025). The Project is designed around a phased strategy: a conventional heavy mineral sands operation producing zircon and titanium minerals, followed by production of a value-added rare earth element product enriched in the magnet rare earths neodymium, praseodymium, terbium and dysprosium.

Rare earth elements, titanium and zirconium are each included on the U.S. critical minerals list, and heavy rare earths such as terbium and dysprosium are essential inputs to high-performance permanent magnets used in defence and advanced technology applications.

Through DIBC membership, the Company intends to:

- Complete onboarding to the DIBC members-only portal and Collaboration Database, profiling Goschen Central's capabilities.
- Monitor and assess DIBC solicitations relevant to rare earth elements, heavy mineral sands and critical materials processing.
- Engage with other consortium members on potential teaming, offtake and downstream processing opportunities.
- Continue parallel engagement with Australian Government critical minerals initiatives and potential strategic partners.

There is no certainty that membership of the DIBC will result in the Company being awarded any funding, contract or other agreement.

-ENDS-

Announcement has been authorised for release by the Board.

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About ACDC Metals

ACDC Metals is a diversified exploration company combining resource-backed critical minerals assets with high-impact precious metals exploration. The Company has completed resource estimates and studies on its Heavy Mineral Sands and Rare Earth Element projects and is currently advancing gold and silver opportunities in Australia and the United States to drive growth, discovery and shareholder value.

We refer shareholders and interested parties to the website www.acdcmetals.com.au where they can access the most recent corporate presentation, video interviews and other information.

Previously Reported Information

This announcement refers to information previously reported in the ASX announcements dated 12 June 2025 (Outstanding Economic Potential with Goschen Central Study) and 30 June 2026 (Retention Licence Granted for Goschen Central Project). The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in those announcements.

Forward Looking Statements

This announcement contains forward looking statements, including statements about the Company's intended engagement with the DIBC and potential collaboration, funding and offtake opportunities. Forward looking statements are based on assumptions and estimates that involve known and unknown risks, many of which are outside the control of the Company. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied. The Company does not undertake to update forward looking statements except as required by law.