

Army Guide monthly



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Army

Netherlands, after the country's Ministry of Defence ordered new vehicles from Thales in Australia.

J150M cannon contract signed for UK armoured fighting vehicles

The Defence Secretary has announced that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) has awarded a J150 million contract to supply a new cannon capability for the UK Armed Forces.

The Cased Telescope (CT) cannon will be fitted to the Scout SV, the Army's first fully digitised armoured fighting vehicle, and the in-service Warrior infantry fighting vehicle. The 40mm cannon will be able to use a variety of ammunition to defend the vehicles and destroy a range of battlefield targets.

The CT cannon takes up less space than a conventionally configured 40mm cannon without any loss of firepower and because the ammunition is more compact than conventional rounds, more can be accommodated in the turret.

The production contract was signed by the MoD and CTA International (CTAI), a joint venture between the UK's BAES and French company Nexter. The contract will supply 515 CT Cannons for fitting to the Scout SV and Warrior platforms. It will also supply initial spares, special tools, test equipment and some early training equipment.

Speaking at the RUSI Land Warfare Conference, Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said: "Today I can announce we have signed a J150 million contract to fit the Scout with a new Cased Telescope cannon providing it with unrivalled firepower and a new "airburst ammunition" capability."

"Scout is a vehicle not only fit for our fleet but fit for our future force."

The UK and France have worked together on the CT Cannon and Ammunition project under a Memorandum of Understanding and Technical Arrangement first signed on 10 Sep 2009, sharing equally the costs of the work to qualify the CT Cannon and ammunition.

MOD Chief of Materiel, (Land), Lieutenant General Sir Chris Deverell, said: "Signing the CT Cannon production contract is a major milestone for the UK's Armed Forces. It provides unrivalled firepower, a significantly reduced logistic burden and a new airburst ammunition capability."

Contracts

Netherlands order 12 new Bushmasters



A dozen life-saving Bushmasters are going into production in Bendigo for export to the

The vehicles will complement the 86 Bushmasters previously purchased by the Dutch customer between 2006 and 2009, and will be delivered by the middle of 2016.

Chris Jenkins, CEO Thales in Australia said: "The Bushmaster has proven itself on operations with the Dutch military in Afghanistan, and is a vital component of their Light Brigade. This export order shows the Army's continuing confidence in the Bushmaster and its ability to protect troops in theatre. The Bushmaster vehicle has repeatedly proven to safeguard personnel against mines and improvised explosive devices".

The troop carrier variants will be fitted with additional composite armour, Remote Weapon Stations, and Thales's market-leading SOTAS intercom system.

This contract, whose value remains confidential, follows other Bushmaster exports to Japan and Jamaica over the past 18 months, as well as other SOTAS exports to various countries worldwide.

Defence Industry

Rheinmetall to Supply Kuwait With Advanced Armoured NBC Reconnaissance Vehicles



The Emirate of Kuwait has contracted with Rheinmetall to supply it with twelve state-of-the-art armoured NBC reconnaissance vehicles, the 2 NBC-RS "Spurfuchs". Now binding, the order also includes comprehensive support in the form of training, service and spare parts. Delivery of the vehicle commences in 2017. An accompanying technical support agreement contract covers a period of five years, beginning as soon as the first Fuchs/Fox 2 NBC-RS vehicle enters service. The parties to the contract have agreed not to disclose the cost of the order.

The contractor is Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles GmbH (RMMV). Rheinmetall holds a 51% share in the company, which was founded in 2010 and is located in Munich. The remaining 49% is held by MAN Truck & Bus. RMMV is a globally renowned supplier of military wheeled vehicles, with special expertise in the field of NBC reconnaissance technology.

As Pietro Borgo, Managing Director of RMMV and Member of the Executive Board of Rheinmetall Defence,

explains, “This important order is a major vote of confidence by an Arab country in Rheinmetall, Europe’s leading supplier of army technology. We greatly appreciate this. By placing this order, Kuwait will soon possess NBC reconnaissance capabilities that are second to none. We are very pleased to be making a decisive contribution here.”

The Fuchs/Fox 2 NBC-RS features a comprehensive, fully integrated suite of devices for identifying NBC warfare agents and other hazardous materials, built into a well-protected, high-mobility 6x6 armoured transport vehicle capable of operating in extreme terrain.

The outcome of a systematic development effort, the vehicles earmarked for Kuwait are the first to feature an additional biological detection capability. This constitutes another major technological advance, made possible thanks to Rheinmetall’s comprehensive, longstanding expertise in this field, in turn underpinning RMMV’s leading position in this segment of the market. When it comes to detecting biological threats, RMMV can supply users not only with the advanced Fuchs/Fox 2 NBC-RS, but – depending on their operational requirements – with a separate biological detection laboratory as well, mounted on the carrier platform of their choice.

Tried and tested in the armed forces of numerous nations: NBC detection expertise from Rheinmetall

Robust and resilient, the Fuchs/Fox wheeled armoured transport vehicle has proven highly effective in crisis regions around the world, with over 1,200 built. Of these, nearly 300 have been configured for NBC reconnaissance operations, performing a vital role in the German Bundeswehr, the US Army and the armed forces of the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Norway and Saudi Arabia.

In addition, the NBC defence forces of Germany, Switzerland and Sweden all have Rheinmetall-made mobile NBC field laboratories in their inventories, which can be transported to the area of operations by road, rail, sea or air. Around the world, these field laboratories have done an excellent job of identifying radiological, biological and chemical hazards.

In the civil defence realm, Rheinmetall has supplied German fire brigades with 397 NBC detection vehicles. These systems help to make sure that German cities are as well prepared as possible to contend with such threats.

Widening its array of mobile NBC reconnaissance systems, in summer 2014 RMMV unveiled the new “CBRN Survivor R”, a 4x4 vehicle jointly developed with Austrian vehicle-maker Achleitner, which features a built-in NBC recce kit.

Oshkosh Defense, LLC, an Oshkosh Corporation company, will produce 698 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) trucks for the U.S. Army. Deliveries will begin in 2016.



“The Oshkosh FMTV delivers unprecedented durability and reliability while meeting the demands of the mission and our soldiers on today’s battlefields,” said John Bryant, senior vice president of defense programs at Oshkosh Defense. “The FMTV program is a prime example of how Oshkosh has worked with the U.S. Army to deliver a very successful vehicle program that achieves all of the quality, performance, schedule and cost objectives – and ultimately puts a great truck in the hands of our soldiers, who deserve nothing less.”

Oshkosh began producing FMTVs for the U.S. Army in 2010. Since then, Oshkosh has delivered more than 22,000 trucks and 11,000 trailers including a recent order in December 2014 for 256 FMTVs. The Oshkosh FMTV continues to provide record-setting quality and significant cost savings to the U.S. Army, and was recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense with the 2013 Value Engineering Achievement Award.

The U.S. Army and National Guard rely on the FMTV at home and abroad in tactical and combat operations, relief efforts and unit resupply missions. The Oshkosh FMTV equips soldiers with crew-protecting armor and advanced technologies to provide the versatility, mobility and protection as they perform their missions.

The Oshkosh FMTV is a series of 17 models and 23 configurations ranging from 2.5-ton to 10-ton payloads. Commonality of parts of over 80 percent across chassis variants optimizes logistics efficiency and reduces operational costs. The Long-Term Armor Strategy-compliant cab and other advanced technologies give military personnel the enhanced protection they need to confidently complete their missions.

Defence Industry

CODAN Envoy™ Firmware V1.09

AT Communication International is pleased to announce new Firmware Release in Codan Envoy™ Transceivers. Now all Codan Envoy™ Transceivers supplied with Envoy™ Firmware V1.09.

New features added in Envoy™ Firmware Release V1.09:

- ISB Support for 2G HF Data Modem. ISB mode should only be used if the Envoy™ has an internal 2G data modem. Data Modem in conjunction with RC50-C software allowed to provide higher data

Defence Industry

Oshkosh Defense to Build 698 Additional FMTVs for US Army

Following a \$184 million order from the U.S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC),

rate up to 19200 bit/s on HF channel. For using internal 2G data modem with ISB option need to ordered Fan option and 2.7kHz filter option for optimum data performance.



- A maximum of four control points (CP) can now be assigned for the one Envoy™ RF Unit. Each control point can be registered with the RF Unit and assigned a unique self ID-address. For each Control Point assigning self addresses and registering multiple control points.
- Envoy™ Firmware V1.09 now has French Language for all Control Points. If French language is required this can be ordered using part number 15-10601.
- If required the Control Point operator now has the ability to restart the RF Unit from the General / Restart RFU menu. This feature is especially useful in remote control systems where a restart of the RF Unit is required due to some profile changes made. Default Power Down Function is now available for both desk console and handset control points. The introduction of the handset Power Down Function has been made available for use with future products e.g. Envoy™ Smartlink.
- Default Power Down Function now is available. The Default Power Down Function allows You to select between “Power Down Control Point and RFU” or Power Down the “Control Point only”. This setting can be found in the Settings/Control Point menu of the control point and TPS. This function is useful when controlling an Envoy™ over Ethernet or you have multiple control points.

For more information, please visit our pages:

http://hf-ssb-transceiver.at-communication.com/en/codan/hf_ssb_transceiver_codan_envoy_sdr_software-define-d-radio.html

<http://hf-ssb-transceiver.at-communication.com/en/codan/envoy-smartlink.html>

Defence Industry

BAE Systems and Saab Australia join forces in a bid to create new Australian jobs

BAE Systems today signed a memorandum of understanding with Saab Australia to maximise Australian industry involvement in its bid for a major combat vehicle program.

BAE Systems is the prime contractor pursuing Defence program Land 400 Phase 2 Mounted Combat Reconnaissance Capability with Patria of Finland. Saab products are inherent in the vehicle design. Joining forces with Saab Australia will allow the BAE Systems-Patria team to substantially exceed the 200 Australian advanced manufacturing jobs and \$100m in supply chain value already identified by the team for the manufacturing phase of the program. The vehicles will then be sustained in Australia for the next 30 years.



Graeme Bent, BAE Systems Australia's Director – Land & Integrated Systems, said: “With Land 400, BAE Systems seeks to strengthen Australia's advanced manufacturing capability and maximise Australian industry involvement within its supply chain. Our offer will replicate overseas success for manufacturing and sustaining the Patria Armoured Modular Vehicle (AMV), in Australia. The vehicle has been successfully manufactured in countries outside of Finland and has a strong track record for technology transfer to user nations”.

Under the proposed solution, BAE Systems and Patria will fully satisfy the Army's requirements by bringing together combined strengths in the global armoured combat vehicle market. The two companies will transfer intellectual property and design artefacts for manufacture, sustainment and upgrades throughout the vehicle's life of type. Saab will provide key sub-systems and in-service support and will further develop Australian capability in the combat vehicle market.

Dean Rosenfield, Saab Australia's Managing Director, added: “Saab is delighted to draw on its global expertise and experience to provide key sub-systems into the BAE Systems-Patria solution for Land 400. Saab already has a significant presence in Australia and this collaboration will enable us to further grow our business in the Land domain. Land 400 provides additional opportunities for local manufacture, assembly, integration and in-service support that will not only assist us to achieve these aspirations but will be vital in growing local industry capability to effectively deliver and support combat vehicles for the ADF”.

The team will finalise its proposal for bid submission before providing additional information about the contribution of Australian industry.

Contracts

\$110 Million Received for M88 Recovery System Upgrades

The U.S. Army has awarded BAE Systems a contract worth \$110.4 million to convert 36 M88A1 recovery vehicles to the M88A2 Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lift Evacuation Systems (HERCULES) configuration.



“The HERCULES is an integral part of the U.S. Army’s Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) and essential to its recovery missions as the fleet becomes heavier,” said John Tile, director of Recovery Programs at BAE Systems. “This award continues the Army’s stated objective to pure-fleet its M88s to the more capable HERCULES configuration.”

The fleet of ABCT vehicles is getting heavier, making it increasingly important that the recovery fleet is upgraded to support it. The HERCULES, which provides recovery support to soldiers in the field, is the only vehicle able to recover the M1 Abrams tank and the heaviest mine-resistant ambush protected (MRAP) variants in a combat environment.

The M88 plays a critical role in the company’s efforts to maintain the Combat Vehicle Industrial Base by supporting a team of highly skilled professionals and protecting the affordability of the Army’s combat vehicles. The support of Congress and the Army to protect these vital capabilities through M88 upgrades helps sustain the workforce at BAE Systems’ facilities and ensures that they will be available for future programs.

Work on the contract is expected to begin immediately by the existing workforce and will take place primarily at the company’s York, Pennsylvania, and Aiken, South Carolina, facilities. Deliveries will begin in January 2017 and continue through October 2017.



Defence Industry

AT Communication new partner Exelis and PacStar

Exelis C-OTM Mobile Command Center Communication

AT Communication International is pleased to announce that it has been named a reseller and support partner for Exelis Inc. (Herndon, VA) and PacStar (Portland, Oregon) products and systems.

AT Communications will supply and support a number of Exelis products and capabilities including the

software-configurable Communications On The Move (C-OTM) package, a standalone command center for multi-agency operations.



Exelis Communications On The Move (C-OTM) package a rapidly deployable mobile command center. C-OTM provides users with a secure, interoperable bridge to multiple local and remote tactical radio nets allowing headquarters to monitor remote tactical communications via the Satellite or IP WAN.

In addition, AT Communications now offers the PacStar 400-series of products, including the PacStar 400-series Quick Reaction Kit (QRK) – EXEC, the PacStar Mobile Network Communication Kit (MNCK), and the PacStar Mini-Transit Case systems.

The PacStar 400-series of secure communications packages serve the needs of government and military small team deployments to large-scale command posts as well as private business needs.

The PacStar 400-series Quick Reaction Kit (QRK) - EXEC is a secure communications package for executive communicators, quick reaction forces and intelligence missions. Rugged and functional by design, the QRK-EXEC provides VoSIP, cellular, wireless and video services.

For teams with requirements to transport PacStar 400-series solutions in scalable, dense, quick setup form factors, with high resistance to environmental damage, AT Communications offers a wide array of compact case systems including briefcase and transit case- style solutions.

Designed to support US Forces and Coalition Partners on CENTRIXS, BICES and US BICES networks, the PacStar Mobile Network Communication Kit (MNCK) is a modular flyaway kit that is easily installed for both ship and land environments.

For more information, please visit our page: <http://at-communication.com/en/solutions/>



Defence Industry

Delivery of 300. BOXER vehicle

End June 2015 the 300 BOXER vehicles has been delivered to the customers according to contract.

The vehicle was an Ambulance BOXER for the Royal Netherlands Army. In total the Army of Germany and the Royal Netherlands Army have ordered 472 vehicles in a first batch.



Defence Industry

Tata Motors awarded contract for 1,239 vehicles of its high-mobility multi-axle vehicles by the Indian Army



Tata Motors has bagged an order to supply around 1,200 vehicles of its high-mobility 6X6 multi-axle trucks, from the Indian Army – the single largest order awarded to an Indian private original equipment manufacturers (OEM) in land systems under the DPP by the Indian army. The order for 6X6 vehicles is for 'material handling cranes' for the loading-unloading and transportation of ammunition pallets, spares and other operational equipment.

Developed indigenously, the Tata 6X6 high mobility all-terrain all-wheel drive vehicle has completed a total trial duration of 25 months, demonstrating maximum performance in the most demanding conditions. Designed to cope with extreme on or off-road loads, these vehicle have gone through trials like water-fording, on cross country terrains and plains and at Vehicle Research & Development Establishment's (VRDE) torture track.

The Tata 6X6 is designed for easy operability. The vehicle is easy to maintain, due to accessibility to its aggregates. The vehicle is fitted with central tire inflation system (CTIS) for mobility in soft sand desert conditions. The CTIS allows the driver to adjust the tyre pressure from his seat. The system provides the vehicle with better traction on different types of surfaces, especially when carrying vital and heavy loads. The self-recovery winch assists in extraction of the vehicle (including other vehicles in the convoy) during operations. The vehicles cabin is modular with HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) and is fully-ready for up-armouring. High ground clearance enables better negotiation of gradients, sand dunes, off-road terrains, trenches with higher water and mud fording capabilities, whilst carrying designated military payloads. The vehicle is also capable of achieving sustained speeds of 40 kmph, on severe cross country terrains.

Vernon Noronha, vice president, Defence and Government Business, Tata Motors said, "We at Tata Motors are extremely proud to have bagged the single largest order, among Indian OEM's from the Indian army, for the most technologically advanced high mobility load carrier system ever built here in India. The order is a validation of our strategy and growth potential, for our durable and extensive range of defence vehicles, designed and developed with our evolving customers, including that of security forces across the world. As

leading suppliers of mobility solutions to the country's security forces, we will shortly commence delivery of these high-mobility vehicles".

The Tata Motors 6X6 high-mobility multi-axle vehicles can be customised for a wide range of applications such as:

- CGT (Common Gun Tower)
- MBRL (Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher)
- MFU (Missile Firing Unit)
- MSV (Missile Service Vehicle)
- FSV (Field Service Vehicle)
- SRSAM (Short Range Surface to Air Missile)
- QRSAM (Quick Reaction Surface to Air Missile) vehicle
- LLQRM (Low Level Quick Reaction Missile) vehicle
- MRV (Medium Recovery Vehicle)

Tata Motors offers its defence customers with a wide range of vehicles, in the light, medium and heavy category, having created a focused division to design and develop defence technologies and products, at its manufacturing facilities in Jamshedpur and Pune. Tata Motors also has a dedicated service team and network for defence products, across the length and breadth of the country. Through Horizonext, Tata Motors four-pronged customer-focused strategy, we have adopted a customer centric approach in the design and development of our mobile defence land solutions, that are reliable, offer optimum usability, and are easily serviceable, with technology at the forefront.

Tata motors in the combat vehicle space

For self-reliance in the area of combat vehicles and engineering, Tata Motors has laid emphasis on the development of combat vehicle technologies and systems, with the aim of empowering our defence forces, with breakthrough technologies. The idea is to ensure high mobility, fire power and protection to troops during military operations, with world-class armoured fighting vehicles. Hence Tata Motors is strategically moving from a logistics support provider, to a combat vehicle player.

In combat vehicles, Tata Motors has designed and developed indigenously, the wheeled armoured platform (WHAP), an Indian armoured personnel carrier, designed for optimized survivability, all terrain performance and increased lethality. Tata Motors has also developed a light armoured multi-role vehicle (LAMV), a reconnaissance vehicle, combining vital operational pre requisites of mobility, protection and firepower. Equipped with modern observation, surveillance and communication equipment, the vehicle will provide our armed forces with a technological edge necessary to achieve superiority on the battlefield.



Contracts

Curtiss-Wright Receives Award From Lockheed Martin for U.K. Ground Combat Vehicle Weapon Stabilization Program

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -- Curtiss-Wright Corporation announced that its Defense Solutions division has

received a production award from Lockheed Martin to provide the Turret Drive Servo System (TDSS) for use in the British Army's new SCOUT Specialist Vehicle (SV). Curtiss-Wright's TDSS will provide weapon stabilization for the SCOUT Reconnaissance vehicle, which is expected to replace the older Scimitar vehicle.



This new production award, valued at approximately \$49 million, follows Curtiss-Wright's successful completion of the program's demonstration phase, which commenced in 2010 and was valued at \$13 million. Under the terms of this new award, shipments are expected to begin in 2015 and continue through 2021.

"Curtiss-Wright is proud to have been selected by Lockheed Martin to provide our electromechanical aiming and stabilization system for use on the SCOUT Reconnaissance vehicle," said David C. Adams, Chairman and CEO of Curtiss-Wright Corporation. "As a leader in the design and development of rugged turret drive systems for military vehicles, we are pleased to participate in this important program for the U.K's. Ministry of Defence."

The TDSS was designed, developed, and will be manufactured at Curtiss-Wright's Drive Technology business in Neuhausen, Switzerland. The products covered by the contract will be delivered to Lockheed Martin where they will be integrated onto the turrets at their manufacturing facility in Ampthill, U.K.

About Curtiss-Wright Corporation

Curtiss-Wright Corporation is a global innovative company that delivers highly engineered, critical function products and services to the commercial, industrial, defense and energy markets. Building on the heritage of Glenn Curtiss and the Wright brothers, Curtiss-Wright has a long tradition of providing reliable solutions through trusted customer relationships.



General Dynamics UK has been awarded a J390 million contract by the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) to provide in-service support for the SCOUT Specialist Vehicle (SV) fleet until 2024. In addition, the company is opening a new Armoured Fighting Vehicle (AFV) Assembly, Integration and Testing (AIT) facility in South Wales.

The contract is an extension of the in-service support that General Dynamics UK was contracted to provide for the SCOUT SV fleet until 2020, and it includes the provision of spares and repairs for all 589 platforms. The extended in-service support contract offers a cost-effective support solution that builds upon the SCOUT SV manufacturing phase, taking advantage of the production pricing of parts.

With this facility investment, General Dynamics UK will undertake the assembly, integration and testing of 489 SCOUT Specialist Vehicle (SV) platforms. A further 100 platforms will undergo assembly, integration and testing at General Dynamics European Land Systems' facility in Seville, Spain. The vehicles are on schedule to be delivered to the British Army from 2017 through 2024.

The new UK industrial capability, alongside the SCOUT SV extended in-service support contract, will support the creation of 250 new jobs in South Wales. The SCOUT SV programme directly supports approximately 2,650 jobs across the UK.

The investment by General Dynamics UK in this new AIT industrial capability is reaffirmation of the UK's proud history of developing and manufacturing AFVs.

Prime Minister David Cameron said: "Today's decision by General Dynamics to bring the assembly of these world class armoured vehicles to South Wales is to the credit of the skills and expertise in the local area. The 250 additional new skilled jobs at General Dynamics UK will build on those already safeguarded by the decision to purchase 589 Scout vehicles for our Armed Forces, ensuring our servicemen and women have the very best equipment to keep us safe."

Defence Minister Philip Dunne said: "Increasing British jobs both at General Dynamics UK and through the supply chain, the Scout SV will make a real contribution to the UK economy over its 30 year lifespan. The decision from General Dynamics UK to create a facility in Wales to assemble and maintain this cutting-edge capability for the British Army will result in greater efficiency in maintaining vehicles, lower costs and create highly-skilled jobs in the process."

Kevin Connell, vice president of General Dynamics Land Systems - UK, said: "The UK MoD is a critical partner for General Dynamics, and today's announcement demonstrates our commitment to delivering world-leading AFV platforms to the British Army from the UK. This new industrial capability will support the delivery of extended in-service support for SCOUT SV, whilst creating 250 new jobs on this important UK programme, and will open up exciting new possibilities for General Dynamics in the UK in the years ahead."

SCOUT SV was developed at General Dynamics UK's AFV design and engineering centre in Oakdale, South

Defence Industry

GD UK Awarded GBP390 M Scout SV Support Contract and Invests in New UK Industrial Capability



Wales. The company's employees include highly-skilled engineers who are delivering the family of best-in-class platforms. Today's announcement creates a UK-based team of more than 550 with expertise in the design, development and AIT of AFV.

ammunition capability".

Contracts

Thales wins J125M Vehicle Sighting Systems contract for UK MoD Scout SV programme

Thales is announcing today the award of a J125M contract for the supply of Sighting Systems and Ancillary Equipment to General Dynamics UK for the Production Phase of the UK MoD's Specialist Vehicle (SV) programme.

Key points:

- Armoured Vehicle Sighting systems for the SV Scout vehicle which will provide the UK MoD with a step change in its vehicle reconnaissance and surveillance capability
- The ORION Primary Sight provides a full 360° day and night surveillance capability
- The LSA system, together with the Primary Sight, makes the battlefield a safer place for our troops through unrivalled situational awareness

Under the terms of the contract, Thales will supply 245 vehicle sets, each consisting of a Primary Sight, Local Situational Awareness (LSA) camera system and Smoke Dispenser, over a 5 year programme between 2016 and 2021, specifically for the Scout variant of the vehicle.

Thales will also supply a further 344 sets of their LSA systems for other versions of the vehicle in the same time period.

Both Thales and General Dynamics UK are committed to maximising the long-term operational availability and effectiveness of the Scout SV sighting system for the UK MoD. In harmony with the in-service support contract for the Scout SV fleet recently secured by General Dynamics UK, an initial spares provisioning package is also included within the Thales scope of supply.

All equipment will be built at Thales' optronics facility in Glasgow, sustaining 40 highly skilled engineering and manufacturing jobs. The skill sets involved in delivering the systems and equipment to General Dynamics UK range from senior specialist engineers to young apprentices, thereby ensuring Thales' rich heritage in engineering extends for many years into the future.

"This is welcome news for Glasgow and the rest of Scotland. This contract underlines how our engineers continue to excel in providing skills, expertise and support for the Armed Forces activities across the globe.

The UK's defence industry is worth billions of pounds and generates economic benefits for communities across Scotland, through jobs, supporting services and – as today's announcement shows - contracts through the supply chain," David Mundell, Secretary of State for Scotland.

"Our sighting systems for the Scout SV vehicle will provide the UK MoD with a step change in its vehicle reconnaissance and surveillance capability and will greatly enhance the prospect of mission success and

Army

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MOD Chief of Materiel, (Land), Lieutenant General Sir Chris Deverell, said: "Signing the CT Cannon production contract is a major milestone for the UK's Armed Forces. It provides unrivalled firepower, a significantly reduced logistic burden and a new airburst

survivability on the battlefield. The contract underlines our position as the UK MoD's sighting system supplier of choice and is a tribute to the innovation and skill of our employees in Glasgow," Victor Chavez, CEO of Thales in the UK.

