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9 (72) September 2010

- U.S. Army Awards BAE Systems $123 Million for Thermal Weapon Sights
- BAE Systems Receives $629 Million Contract to Upgrade Caiman MRAP
- Elbit Systems Signs Agreement to Acquire Mikal's Holdings in Soltam, Saymar and ITL
- Bushmaster Shortlisted for Army TAPV Program
- Patria`s Nemo Mortar System Selected for Canadian LAV II Vehicles
- InferX Shows How Next-Generation Predictive Analytics Products and Solutions Help Address Critical National Security Issues Related to IEDs
- MTL Group Unveils Latest Armour Protection
- Metal Storm signs PNG contract
- Navistar Defense Receives $66 Million in Vehicle Delivery Orders
- Navistar Defense to Produce Additional U.K. Tactical Support Vehicles
- Raytheon`s SLAMRAAM Completes First FMTV Launcher Test Firing
- TenCate receives vehicle armoring contracts in United States of America
- ArvinMeritor`s ProTec High Mobility Independent Suspensions to be Equipped on BAE Systems` Caiman Multi-Terrain Vehicle
- Oshkosh Defense to Deliver More Than 2,000 Additional FMTV Trucks and Trailers to the U.S. Army
- BAE Systems To Dedut New South African-Designed And Developed Remote-Controlled Self Defence Vehicle Turret
- Textron Marine & Land Systems and MDT Armor Team on Tiger Light Armored Vehicle
- General Dynamics Awarded $68 Million for Abrams Tank System Technical Support

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Defence Industry

U.S. Army Awards BAE Systems $123 Million for Thermal Weapon Sights

LEXINGTON, Massachusetts -- The U.S. Army has awarded BAE Systems a $123 million contract for continued production of thermal weapon sights that improve situational awareness and survivability for men and women in combat.

The order - the most recent under a five-year, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity contract - increases BAE Systems' total thermal weapon sight contract value to more than $1 billion since 2004.

The electronics technology is used on rifles, machine guns, and mounted weapon systems.

"The Army continues to show its confidence in our performance to provide a quality product for the men and women of our armed services," said Bruce Zukauskas, director of soldier solutions for BAE Systems in Lexington, Massachusetts. "This means soldiers will continue to receive our much-needed thermal weapon sights, which are lighter, smaller, and less expensive than first-generation sights, and thus help them to perform better in their missions."

BAE Systems also recently received a $14 million multi-year contract to provide these sights to the Canadian Army. The widely used thermal weapon sights allow operators of individual and crew-served weapons to see deep into the battlefield in darkness and through smoke, fog, and other obscurants, helping them detect and identify targets at longer ranges. The sights complement current and future infantry armaments, enabling users to overmatch the enemy in all conditions, day and night.

The company produces light, medium, and heavy thermal weapon sights using the company's MicroIR uncooled infrared sensor technology to generate superior IR imagery without the need for bulky, power-consuming cryogenic cooling equipment.

The company has completed rigorous field testing of its thermal sites, demonstrating their ability to withstand harsh battlefield environments, and to date has delivered more than 80,000 sights to meet urgent Army fielding requirements in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Contracts

BAE Systems Receives $629 Million Contract to Upgrade Caiman MRAP

HOUSTON, Texas -- BAE Systems has been awarded a $629 million contract from the U.S. Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Joint Program Office (JPO) to upgrade 1,700 Caiman MRAP vehicles.

This award demonstrates how BAE Systems' Readiness and Sustainment capabilities are supporting the customer's current and future requirements by rapidly improving product performance to protect troops during combat missions.

The upgraded vehicle, called the Caiman Multi-Terrain Vehicle (MTV), integrates a refurbished and improved armored capsule from an existing Caiman with a new high-power automotive power train, chassis and independent suspension. These enhancements will provide greater levels of mobility and survivability necessary for challenging and varied environments and enemy threats.

"The Caiman MTV meets the urgent and enduring needs of our troops for greater mobility and survivability," said Dennis Morris, president, BAE Systems Global Tactical Systems. "The Caiman MTV is a very adaptable configuration that can be customized to meet a variety of missions, and we look forward to getting these to the field."

BAE Systems introduced the Caiman MTV earlier this year following a rapid design and development program to respond to user needs. Caiman MTV provides an effective combination of interior capacity, tactical mobility, operator comfort and survivability.

Caiman MTV achieves greater survivability through an enhanced monolithic floor, a strengthened chassis frame and highly effective blast absorbing seats. The vehicle's improved mobility is achieved with a greater vehicle track width, a strong independent suspension and an upgraded powertrain. Caiman MTV provides optimum stability, agility, payload and power-to-weight for a tactical vehicle of its size, delivering to the user a high level of performance in multiple environments and terrain. The upgraded interior includes an upgraded HVAC temperature control system to protect soldiers and critical computer equipment from hot and cold extremes.

Under the contract, the driveable rolling chassis will be produced in Sealy, TX and delivered to the JPO starting in November 2010 with final integration being completed jointly by BAE Systems' and U.S. Government personnel. BAE Systems is actively supporting the sustainment of MRAP vehicles in theater with field service representatives serving directly alongside our service members.

Defence Industry

Elbit Systems Signs Agreement to Acquire Mikal's Holdings in Soltam, Saymar and ITL

Haifa, Israel -- Elbit Systems Ltd. ("Elbit Systems") announced today, further to its announcements of June 15, 2009 and September 14, 2009, that it signed an agreement to acquire all the shares of Soltam Systems Ltd. ("Soltam"), Saymar Ltd. ("Saymar") and ITL Optronics Ltd. ("ITL"), that are currently held by Mikal Ltd. ("Mikal") and its subsidiaries.

The signed agreement provides for the acquisition of Mikal's interests in the above mentioned Mikal subsidiaries, which are synergetic to Elbit Systems, rather than the acquistion of Mikal itself, as was contemplated in Elbit Systems' prior announcements.

Upon completion of the acquisition, Elbit Systems will hold, a 100% interest in Soltam and Saymar, and a 87.85% interest in ITL. The balance of ITL's shares, which are traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, is held by the public. Simultaneously, Elbit Systems willl sell its existing holdings in Mikal (approximately 19%) to the other Mikal shareholders.

The consideration to be paid by Elbit Systems for the acquisition will be approximately $87 million. The consideration to be paid to Elbit Systems for its 19% holding in of Mikal's shares will be $18 million. In addition, the agreement contains a provision for possible future payments to Mikal subject to the acquired subsidiaries achieving certain business goals.

The closing of the transaction is subject to certain approvals that the parties expect to obtain in the near future.

Joseph Ackerman, Elbit Systems' President and CEO stated: "We look forward to the addition of Soltam, Saymar and ITL and their employees to the Elbit Systems family. These companies are synergetic to Elbit Systems, and their acquistion will be an important step in executing our long-term growth strategy. The combination of Elbit Systems' existing capabilities with the technologies of Soltam, Saymar and ITL in platforms, propulsion and electro-optics, will enable us to further enhance our portfolio of solutions to both the Israeli and the global defense market".

Defence Industry

Bushmaster Shortlisted for Army TAPV Program

Thales Canada has welcomed the Canadian government's announcement that the Bushmaster has been qualified for the next stage in selection process for the Tactical Armoured Patrol Vehicle (TAPV) Program.

"We are very pleased to have the opportunity to present the Bushmaster for Army testing next year as part of the Request for Proposal," said Paul Kahn, Thales Canada President and CEO. "The Bushmaster is a highly mobile vehicle with outstanding ballistic, mine and improvised explosive device (IED) blast resistant characteristics that has been proven repeatedly in combat to save lives."

With Bushmaster vehicles in-service in Iraq and Afghanistan with the forces of Australia, the Netherlands and other NATO Allies, Thales has a fully developed, independently tested and combat proven vehicle that is ideal for the Canadian TAPV program.

Thales Canada, in addition to its exclusive teaming agreement with DEW Engineering and Development ULC on the assembly of the Bushmaster, will be looking at further maximizing its Canadian Content Value and will be meeting with potential suppliers across Canada over the next several months. Thales' first official supplier sourcing session will be during DEFSEC Atlantic 2010, in Halifax, September 9 - 10, 2010.

"The combination of Thales, DEW, and a variety of Canadian suppliers will not only give the government a "made in Canada" solution but will create and maintain jobs for Canadians for the next 25 years," added Dave Spagnolo, Vice President of Thales Canada's defence and security business.

The Bushmaster family of protected mobility vehicles includes patrol, command, ambulance, surveillance & target acquisition, direct fire support weapons and mortar vehicle variants and provides solutions for a wide variety of mission roles and applications including logistical support.

The base vehicle will be offered with various weapon systems, such as a remote weapons station, sighting and vision systems as well integrated electronic architectures and C4I options to enhance the vehicle mission performance.

Defence Industry

Patria`s Nemo Mortar System Selected for Canadian LAV II Vehicles

Patria Nemo 120 mm mortar system has been selected as weaponry for LAV II vehicles delivered by General Dynamics Land Systems - Canada as an

FMS project by the US Government.

Patria and Mecar S.A. from Belgium have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for an undisclosed number of Patria Nemo systems.

Patria is the global market leader in turreted mortar systems. Patria Nemo is a 120 mm remote controlled mortar turret, offering excellent signature management and ballistic protection as well as providing both direct and indirect fire support. Patria Nemo system has been earlier selected by the Slovenian Armed Forces and the United Arab Emirates Navy.

Future Technologies

InferX Shows How Next-Generation Predictive Analytics Products and Solutions Help Address Critical National Security Issues Related to IEDs

STERLING, Va. -- InferX Corporation, announced today that it has been awarded a contract to analyze improvised explosive device (IED) data using InferX predictive analytics software.

InferX Shows How Next-Generation Predictive Analytics Products and Solutions Help Address Critical National Security Issues Related to IEDs

This initial contract is to analyze the IED data represented in a semi-relational form and other types of reports, often with a high percentage of free text.

"Through the application of InferX's Predictive Analytics technology, we have the ability to conduct analysis without limits on the size of the database or whether the data is structured or unstructured, thus giving us the ability to conduct enhanced research that we have not been able to do in the past," said the Department of Defense (DOD) client.

The main focus of the project is to provide additional insights gained by analyzing political, military, economic, social, informational, and infrastructural (PMESII) information from multiple sources linked to raw IED data. This analysis can potentially lead to the discovery of new preventive measures that could be used to develop new processes, procedures, and training enhancements (i.e., answering a question on what might plausibly happen again, under what circumstances, and what causal relationships could be identified to prevent a recurrence). InferX technology provides the ability to rapidly conduct predictive data analysis within a framework of disparate data sources without bringing all the data into one central data warehouse.

Vijay Suri, President & CEO of InferX Corp, said "We are honored to be engaged in this mission critical project supporting IED analyses for our client in the DOD and coming up with a possible solution to address one of the key challenges to the operational safety of our servicemen and women."

Defence Industry

MTL Group Unveils Latest Armour Protection

Armour plate processor MTL Group, will be showcasing their services in India and South Africa this month which will include the unveiling of their latest perforated armour plate protection IMPAS, an exclusive at INDESEC and AAD 2010.

IMPAS which stands for Interchangeable Modular Perforated Armour System is a cost effective alternative light weight solution to composite and add on armour with greater flexibility.

Sales Director Karl Stewart said 'IMPAS is an innovative state of the art product which is suitable for both RHA and aluminium hulls. One of the benefits is that the level of protection can be quickly changed while in service to meet various threat levels by replacing panel configurations'.

To highlight its continued growth within the Defence sector, MTL Group will be exhibiting at INDESEC 2010 in New Delhi, India from 6th to 8th September and at AAD 2010 in Cape Town, South Africa from the 20th – 25th September.

Karl Stewart said 'We have identified India and South Africa as key markets in which MTL can provide a high quality level of service while still being competitive.

MTL has invested heavily in some unique equipment including the world's largest robotic press, allowing MTL to produce large "V" shaped blast floors in one piece.

MTL Group is a global supplier of parts manufactured from armour in both steel and aluminium offering a full turnkey process ranging from cut and pressed armour kits up to fully fabricated vehicle hulls/cabs.

MTL will be exhibiting on Stand 13.13 at INDESEC 2010 and Stand 2N6 at AAD 2010.

Contracts

Metal Storm signs PNG contract

Metal Storm has been awarded a major production contract to supply 500 MAUL weapons and 50,000 rounds of non-lethal ammunition.

The contract, valued at US$3,365,000, has been placed by the Correctional Service of Papua New Guinea and was signed by the Minister of Correctional Service, the Honourable Tony Aimo MP and the Acting Correctional

Service Commissioner Henry Wavik.

MAUL weapons will be deployed to Correctional Service Officers in charge of security at prison facilities throughout the country, providing non-lethal response capabilities that can be lifted to immediate lethal response if necessary.

Tony Aimo said that PNG Correctional Service saw the capacity of MAUL to deliver a rapid and escalating response as exactly what was necessary for security in PNG prisons.

"PNG is delighted to be able to source weapons at the leading edge of shotgun technology and we hope in due course to have about 1,500 of these weapons in service," the Minister said.

He expects ratification of the urgent purchase through the usual government protocols shortly, and the first 50 weapons to be delivered by February 2011.

Metal Storm CEO Dr Lee Finniear said the production contract was a watershed for the company after many years of research, development and testing.

Contracts

Navistar Defense Receives $66 Million in Vehicle Delivery Orders

WARRENVILLE, Ill. -- Navistar Defense, LLC today announced that it has received $66 million in delivery orders from the U.S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command.

All 492 vehicles will go to support security and rebuilding efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"In less than seven years, we have received nearly 30,000 vehicle orders with a majority of those being military commercial off the shelf vehicles," said Archie Massicotte, president, Navistar Defense. "This diversified portfolio provides a strong base for our business and it will continue to do so as we sustain these vehicles throughout their 15-20 year lifecycles."

Under the delivery orders, Navistar will provide several variants that share vehicle commonality. Vehicles based on the International® 7000-MV, or WorkStar®, platform, include general troop transport vehicles, fuel tankers, water trucks and wreckers. The company will also provide buses. The units are additional orders placed under four existing Navistar contracts. Deliveries will begin in December 2010.

Bus production will occur at the company's Tulsa, Okla., assembly plant. The remaining vehicles will be produced at Navistar's Garland, Texas, and West Point, Miss., facilities.

Contracts

Navistar Defense to Produce Additional U.K. Tactical Support Vehicles

WARRENVILLE, Ill. -- Navistar Defense, LLC today announced that it received a second delivery order valued at $56 million from the U.K. Ministry of Defence for an additional 89 International® MXT™ Husky vehicles.

The award follows the company's April 2009 contract for 262 MXT Husky units for the U.K. Tactical Support Vehicle (TSV) program. All units will be utility variants.

"MXT Husky units are currently supporting missions in Afghanistan and the Ministry of Defence has placed priority on getting these additional vehicles into theater," said Archie Massicotte, president, Navistar Defense. "Improvised explosive devices continue to threaten coalition forces and the MXT provides the protection and the mobility warfighters need to complete missions safely."

The Husky is the medium variant for the TSV program and accommodates a four-person crew. The vehicle is equipped with a MaxxForce® D 6.0 L V8 engine, Allison five-speed automatic transmission and also incorporates Plasan Sasa's armoring solution.

Deliveries are scheduled to begin at the end of October 2010 and will be completed in early 2011.

Defence Industry

Raytheon`s SLAMRAAM Completes First FMTV Launcher Test Firing

TEWKSBURY, Mass. -- Raytheon Company`s SLAMRAAM (Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile) system successfully participated in a ballistic test vehicle (BTV) firing at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

The test included the firing of multiple AMRAAM missiles from the new Family of Medium Tactical Vehicle (FMTV) platform.

The FMTV was chosen as the new platform for the SLAMRAAM system to increase survivability. The new platform provides additional armored capability and is more ruggedized to support the SLAMRAAM mission.

"We continue to partner with the U.S. Army to develop a SLAMRAAM system that is affordable, adaptable and responsive to today's evolving threats," said Karen Kalil-Brown, vice president, National & Theater Security Programs for Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems. "The firing of an AMRAAM missile from the new FMTV platform culminates the successful efforts of our government-industry team to transition this critical air and missile defense capability to a more survivable platform for our warfighters."

The primary objective of the BTV firing was to characterize missile dynamic launch effects on the new platform. Raytheon Missile Systems, developer and producer of the AMRAAM missile, successfully collected initial launch condition data, which will reduce risk on future potential FMTV missile integration efforts, such as the AIM-9X. Additional BTV missile firings are planned later this month to support Army safety assessments required for manning by soldiers.

SLAMRAAM is a tailorable, state-of-the-art air defense system that can defeat current and emerging cruise missile threats and a wide range of air breathing threats. This affordable adaptation of the AMRAAM to meet emerging needs provides the warfighter with a system of highly mobile battlefield elements networked and geographically distributed to provide integrated fire control capability against airborne threats.

Raytheon Company, with 2009 sales of $25 billion, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, homeland security and other government markets throughout the world. With a history of innovation spanning 88 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration and other capabilities in the areas of sensing; effects; and command, control, communications and intelligence systems, as well as a broad range of mission support services. With headquarters in Waltham, Mass., Raytheon employs 75,000 people worldwide.

Contracts

TenCate receives vehicle armoring contracts in United States of America

TenCate Advanced Armor USA in Newark (Ohio, US) is continuing its strong presence in the USA military vehicle market as it has received additional vehicle armoring contracts valued at $ 18.5 million, that will be delivered to two major military vehicle producers and the United States Army during the balance of 2010.

The armoring kits for the United States Army utilize state of the art composite armor technology of TenCate to provide the lightest, most efficient armour possible for these demanding applications. According to Scott Unger, Group President at TenCate Advanced Armor USA: ‘TenCate is proud to be chosen to provide these critical armor systems for the American troops in theatre, as these systems assure they have the best and most advanced armor protection for the job at hand’.

TenCate Advanced Armor USA is part of the global Aerospace and Armor group of TenCate, which also has operations in The Netherlands, France, Denmark, United Kingdom and India. Scott Unger adds: “TenCate is worldwide an armor technology leader that can support its customers on a global basis. TenCate specializes in the production of lightweight, highly protective composite and ceramic-composite armor systems for use in vehicle, aircraft, watercraft / ship and personal protection applications”.

Due to the sensitivity of the information, no further details will be provided.

Defence Industry

ArvinMeritor`s ProTec High Mobility Independent Suspensions to be Equipped on BAE Systems` Caiman Multi-Terrain Vehicle

ArvinMeritor, Inc. announced today that its Meritor ProTec High Mobility Independent Suspensions (HMIS) will be standard on BAE Systems` Caiman Multi-Terrain Vehicle (MTV), providing advanced force protection, mobility and ride quality. Initial production deliveries to BAE Systems will begin in November 2010.

BAE Systems has received an award from the U.S. Government to upgrade 1,700 Caiman Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) multi-terrain vehicles (MTV). The Caiman MTV will include a chassis and powertrain improvement which includes the Meritor ProTec Series 50 heavy-duty independent suspensions.

"With this Caiman MTV award, we look forward to continuing our long-term relationship with BAE Systems," said Tim Burns, general manager of ArvinMeritor's Defense business unit. "We value the opportunity to supply our advanced independent suspension technology in support of our nation's military."

"We selected ArvinMeritor as our suspensions provider based on their proven performance and dedication to provide the most reliable and durable products for the warfighter," said Chris Chambers, vice

president and general manager of BAE Systems in Sealy, Texas.

The Caiman MTV is specially designed to meet and function in the extreme environments of today's and tomorrows military operations. The Meritor ProTec Series 50 is part of Meritor's recently announced ProTec family of high mobility independent suspension systems, all of which are engineered to deliver unparalleled protection, payload and performance.

Contracts

Oshkosh Defense to Deliver More Than 2,000 Additional FMTV Trucks and Trailers to the U.S. Army

OSHKOSH, Wis. -- Oshkosh Defense, a division of Oshkosh Corporation, will supply more than 2,000 Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) trucks and trailers to the U.S. Army under a new order from the Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC).

The vehicles will be used to enhance Army unit mobility, transport soldiers and haul equipment weighing up to 5 tons in support of a wide range of tactical operations.

“Military testing of the Oshkosh-produced FMTVs is going well and provides confidence in our product quality,” said Mike Ivy, vice president and general manager of Army Programs for Oshkosh Defense. “Our successful work for the FMTV program is a testament to our unyielding commitment to supplying reliable, world-class systems without sacrificing the timely delivery our customer has come to expect from us.”

The FMTV is a series of 17 models ranging from 2.5-ton to 10-ton payloads. Vehicles feature a parts commonality of more than 80 percent, resulting in streamlined maintenance, training, sustainment and overall cost efficiency for the U.S. Army. FMTV trucks and trailers are vital to U.S. military operations both domestically and internationally, supporting combat operations, relief efforts, unit resupply and other functions.

The award, valued at more than $259 million, extends truck and trailer production deliveries until June 2012. The order includes more than 1,300 trucks, including eight different variants, and nearly 700 trailers. The five-year FMTV contract awarded to Oshkosh Defense is for the production of up to 23,000 trucks and trailers, as well as support services and training through fiscal 2014.

Defence Industry

BAE Systems To Dedut New South African-Designed And Developed Remote-Controlled Self Defence Vehicle Turret

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa -- BAE Systems has designed and developed a new light-weight Self Defence Remotely Operated Weapon (SD-ROW) turret, which enables forces to engage hostile targets without exposing operators to harm. The design and development work has been conducted by BAE Systems engineers in South Africa.

The SD-ROW turret will be launched at the forthcoming Africa Aerospace and Defence 2010 (AAD) exhibition which will be held in Cape Town, 21-25 September 2010.

This unique weapon system, which is equipped with a small calibre arm, was designed for simple installation and removal on a variety of soft-skinned, light armoured and mine protected vehicles with specific emphasis on logistical carriers. It can be operated by one crew member from under or behind cover and the weapon can easily be removed for personal use.

"The SD-ROW turret is a cost effective solution for first-order defence for many types of operational vehicles, such as logistics transport carriers, lighter attack and other mine-protected vehicles and allows under-armour protected target engagement without exposing the gunner," explains Johan Steyn, Managing Director for Land Systems South Africa.

Depending on the selected weapon configuration, the SD-ROW turret is effective against enemy targets over a 600 metre range. It has "on-the-move" engagement capability and the gunner or driver can operate the weapon without changing their position.

SD-ROW Turret basic information

- Height: 610mm
- Width: 470mm
- Weight: 65kg (including the weapon and 200 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition)
- Turret elevation angle: -20 to +80
- Turret travers angle: -135 to +135

Visit BAE Systems at AAD 2010 on Stand 6C26.

About BAE Systems

BAE Systems is a global defence, security and aerospace company with approximately 107,000 employees worldwide. The Company delivers a full range of products and services for air, land and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, security, information technology solutions and customer support services. In 2009 BAE Systems reported sales of J22.4 billion (US$ 36.2 billion).

Defence Industry

Textron Marine & Land Systems and MDT Armor Team on Tiger Light Armored Vehicle

NEW ORLEANS & AUBURN, Ala. -- Textron Marine & Land Systems, an operating unit of Textron Systems, a Textron Inc.) company, and MDT Armor Corporation, a division of Arotech Corporation, today announced a teaming agreement to market, design and manufacture the Tiger light protected vehicle.

Based on a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) Dodge® RAM® 5500 platform, the Tiger is a cost effective, light protected class all terrain vehicle with proven, highly reliable armor for a crew of six to nine. The Tiger is ballistic and mine blast protected, with various add-on armor options, and is designed with a spacious, versatile cabin and large payload capacity allows the Tiger to be tailored to many missions.

With a powerful Cummins® 350 HP diesel engine, large wheels, and a 127-inch wheel base, Tiger offers exceptional all terrain capabilities. The advanced suspension system ensures a comfortable ride for the crew. The 8.8 ton GVWR, with a standard armor package, allows for a 1.5 ton payload. A roof mounted remote controlled weapon station, or man-operated turret are optional.

"The Tiger is a high quality, off-road vehicle in the light armor segment that meets the needs of a wide variety of potential customers. With our lean manufacturing expertise and the low lifecycle cost of the Tiger we feel like this is an excellent teaming opportunity," said Textron Marine & Land Systems General Manager Tom Walmsley.

The Tiger is designed to be cost effective. The COTS Dodge platform ensures widespread support and cost effective maintenance. The unique encapsulated cabin allows easy access to all components. The cabin can easily be removed and remounted, allowing its installation on a new platform, increasing its life and ensuring low life cycle cost.

"Textron Marine & Land Systems has a proven track record in successfully taking prototype products to full-rate production at optimum cost and reliability with on-time delivery," said MDT Armor Corporation Executive Vice President Jonathan Whartman. "The Tiger is a versatile light protected armored vehicle and we're looking forward to working together with Textron Marine & Land Systems to bring it to market."

Contracts

General Dynamics Awarded $68 Million for Abrams Tank System Technical Support

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. – General Dynamics Land Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics, has been awarded $68 million for Abrams Tank Systems Technical Support (STS) by the U.S. Army TACOM Lifecycle Management Command of Warren, Mich.

The award will fund engineering studies on Abrams main battle tanks to identify improvements and replace obsolete parts to maintain the tanks at high operational readiness rates. The work will be performed by existing General Dynamics Land Systems personnel in Sterling Heights, Mich. It is expected to be completed by Dec. 19, 2011.

Contracts

Rheinmetall books follow-up orders for Fuchs/Fox vehicles and Heron aviation systems for the Bundeswehr

By upgrading the Bundeswehr`s fleet of armoured vehicles and making unmanned aircraft available, Rheinmetall continues to make an important contribution to safeguarding German soldiers during deployed operations.

Multi-million modernization of 65 Fuchs/Fox armoured vehicles

By 2012, Rheinmetall will have modernized 65 of the Bundeswehr's Fuchs/Fox armoured transport vehicles, significantly improving their level of protection. The net value of this order comes to roughly Ъ33 million.

The Fuchs/Fox 1A8, more than thirty of which are already deployed in Afghanistan, is currently the best-protected wheeled vehicle in the Bundeswehr inventory. Thanks to its high reliability and excellent off-road performance, the Fuchs/Fox has long been one of the world's most successful and versatile military vehicles.

Compared with its predecessors, the 1A8 version offers substantially improved protection against mines and roadside bombs, both of which constitute widespread threats in Afghanistan.

The upgrade just ordered by the Bundeswehr will significantly expand the operational spectrum of all these Fuchs/Fox vehicles, which come in many variants and have proved indispensable in multiple military missions.

Specifically, 43 Fuchs/Fox armoured vehicles, including APC, command and medevac variants, will be upgraded to 1A8 standard, with the emphasis on improved protection from mines and IEDs. A further 22 vehicles will be reconfigured for new roles such as fire fighting, bomb disposal and mine clearing.

The Bundeswehr currently has a total requirement of 134 Fuchs/Fox 1A8 armoured transport vehicles. Of these, 21 vehicles were already ordered in 2008 in response to an immediate operational requirement (contract value: Ƀ13.3 million), while a contract worth Ƀ36.6 million was issued in 2009 for retrofitting forty more vehicles. Furthermore, eight Fuchs/Fox armoured NBC reconnaissance vehicles are to be upgraded at a later date.

Contracts

Caterpillar Wins Major Contract From US DoD

Peoria, Ill. -- Caterpillar Inc. announced it has been awarded a long-term contract to manufacture 621G wheeled tractor scrapers for the U.S. Department of Defense worth up to $641.2 million.

The wheeled tractor scrapers will be manufactured at Caterpillar's facility in Decatur, Ill. The machines will support the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Army and will be used, along with other key pieces of Cat equipment, in construction engineering operations around the world, such as to construct roads and airfields and in other jobs requiring large amounts of dirt to be moved quickly.

These machines will have specifications called for by the U.S. Marine Corps and U.S. Army, including lift and tiedown provisions to allow for military transportation and keyless engine start.

The five-year contract has the option of being extended for up to an additional five years. If the contract is extended for the full 10 years, the U.S. Department of Defense can potentially order up to 909 wheeled tractor scrapers.

"This contract marks the largest single award Caterpillar has won from the U.S. Department of Defense. This is an important win for Caterpillar, our Decatur facility and U.S. Marines and Army soldiers," said Bill Springer, Caterpillar vice president with responsibility for Diversified Products.

This contract was solicited under full and open competition, and the U.S. Marine Corps Systems Command of Quantico, Va., will serve as the contracting activity throughout its duration.

Contracts

BAE Receives Contract for Modifications to VEE Window

Minneapolis, Minnesota -- BAE Systems received a contract modification for up to $70 million to supply Vehicle Emergency Escape (VEE) Windows for new production M1151 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV).

"The safety of our men and women in uniform is one of our top priorities and the installation of the VEE Window kit on the vehicles they operate is another way that we strive to keep them safe," said Robert Houston, vice president and general manager of Readiness & Sustainment at BAE Systems. "The VEE Window is a life-saving safety enhancement system that provides soldiers with an alternate means of emergency escape in the event of an accident, rollover or other ballistic or blast event."

This contract raises the total number of orders for VEE Windows to more than 39,000 with more than 16,000 kits already shipped for the up-armored M1114 and M1151 HMMWVs. In addition, BAE Systems is adapting the VEE Window technology to other tactical up-armored combat vehicles. The VEE Window is part of the Army's Fragmentation Kit Seven, which is a set of survivability upgrades to already fielded M1151 HMMWVs.

Work on the VEE Window will begin immediately at BAE Systems and industrial partner facilities in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Butler, Pennsylvania. The work is anticipated to be complete in March 2011.

BAE Systems was originally awarded this contract from AM General in August 2009. The company has partnered with Ibis Tek for the design and manufacturing of VEE Windows since 2006. BAE Systems offers survivability system, design, development and integration expertise. Ibis Tek brings experience in manufacturing and designing transparent armor products.

The patent pending VEE Window kit is part of BAE Systems' robust Readiness and Sustainment capabilities

and features a simple, intuitive design that enables soldiers to quickly exit the vehicle in case of an emergency. The front ballistic windshield can be easily released and pushed out, allowing soldiers to exit the vehicle in only seconds. With few moving parts, the VEE Window requires minimum maintenance, a very low life-cycle cost and can be installed in the field by trained Army and Marine maintenance crews.

Defence Industry

Czech Army Purchases Iveco Ambulances without Tender

PRAGUE -- Adding to the list of allegations of shady deals made by the Czech Defense Ministry under the previous government, Prague purchased three armored ambulances from Italian manufacturer Iveco without a tender. The vehicles were bought indirectly from Iveco through Czech company Praga-Export.

Praga-Export was also involved in a CZK3.6 billion ($190 million) contract for 90 Iveco 4x4 armored Light Multirole Vehicles (LMVs) awarded earlier this year. Those vehicles, like the three ambulances, were purchased with the intent of sending them to Czech Army units serving in Afghanistan as soon as possible. However, the Czech Iveco LMV purchase was again made without a tender, resulting in Prague paying far more per unit than European neighbor Austria, which purchased 150 Iveco LMVs for $138 million.

The Czech Republic intended to make the Iveco purchase in tandem with Slovakia, but Bratislava backed out of the contract and now Czech police are questioning whether, in making the purchase, the law was violated. Praga-Export officials point out that the Czech government had already placed previous orders for Iveco LMVs under urgent operational requirements (UORs) in 2007 and 2008, and that it was natural that the Army and Czech Defense Ministry would want commonality when seeking a larger armored vehicle.

Exhibitions

Navistar Defense Displays Military Vehicles for Future South African Truck Requirement

CAPE TOWN, South Africa -- Navistar Defense, LLC today showcased its International® MXT™ and Navistar-Tatra ATX6 vehicles at the Africa Aerospace and Defence exhibition. The company plans to submit variations of these vehicles to compete for the future South African military logistic truck requirement.

"We continue to diversify our product portfolio to meet the needs of allied armed forces all over the world," said Archie Massicotte, president, Navistar Defense. "Our MXT vehicle and the Navistar-Tatra ATX6 provide flexible platforms that can meet the future military needs of South Africa while also allowing for additional enhancements as mission needs evolve. In addition, the ATX family of vehicles provides solutions in 4x4, 6x6 and 8x8 configurations. "

Today, the MXT vehicle is in operation in Afghanistan supporting the British Army. The vehicle has demonstrated exceptional survivability and off road performance in all environmental conditions. The vehicle utilizes Navistar's manufacturing and engineering expertise along with survivability solutions developed by Israel's Plasan Sasa.

The jointly-produced ATX6 is part of a family of vehicles offered by Navistar and Tatra, a.s. The ATX6 combines Navistar engine technology and other vehicle components with Tatra's proven backbone-tube chassis design and independent suspension system. Tatra's chassis concept uses swinging half-axles for world class tactical vehicle mobility and added resistance against chassis wear and tear.

Navistar International Corporation is a holding company whose subsidiaries and affiliates produce International® brand commercial and military trucks, MaxxForce® brand diesel engines, IC Bus™ brand school and commercial buses, Monaco® RV brands of recreational vehicles, and Workhorse® brand chassis for motor homes and step vans. It also is a private-label designer and manufacturer of diesel engines for the pickup truck, van and SUV markets. The company also provides truck and diesel engine service parts. Another affiliate offers financing services

Defence Industry

Force Protection Europe is preferred bidder for LPPV

Ocelot - selected as pereferred bidder for UK MoD LPPV programmeDesigned, developed and built in the UK by Force Protection Europe and Ricardo plc, together with Team Ocelot partners Thales, QinetiQ, Formaplex, DSG and Sula, Ocelot is weight for weight, the best protected and most agile

vehicle of its kind – capabilities that have been proved by more than 12 months of blast and mobility testing.

A clean sheet design, Ocelot has met the MoD's targets for protection, manoeuvrability, payload, size and gross vehicle weight. It is also extremely flexible, featuring a demountable crew pod that allows multiple configurations for different roles, such as patrol, fire support and protected logistics.

While protecting crew within the vehicle has always been the first priority, Ocelot has also been designed from the outset to be easily repaired and maintained in the austere environment of a forward operating base. Its armoured V-shaped hull runs the length of the vehicle and houses the main fuel tank, drive line, batteries and generator as well as the powerpack; this means these vital components are all protected from potential blasts. Not only will this design reduce repair times and costs, because the Ocelot does not include sacrificial elements as part of its protection package, but crucially it also enhances the availability of vehicles for operations in-theatre. The MoD's emerging open standards for Generic Vehicle Architecture have been taken into account throughout the vehicle's development; Ocelot is fully compliant with these and has also been developed to support future integration projects with ease.

David Hind, Managing Director, Force Protection Europe, said, 'This is excellent news for UK servicemen and women, and for the UK defence industry. Ocelot has been designed and developed in the UK from first principles, with our Team Ocelot partners, to save lives, protect against injury and to optimise maintenance and reparability. We are very proud that, subject to the outcome of satisfactory contract negotiations, the MoD has recognised the innovation, skill and commitment that has been put into Ocelot's development and the trust they have placed in Force Protection Europe. Ocelot meets a global demand for a radically new light protected patrol vehicle. This initial vote of confidence by the UK MoD will send a significant signal to other potential customers.'

Dave Shemmans, CEO of Ricardo plc said, 'We are delighted that Force Protection Europe and Team Ocelot have been selected as the preferred bidder for this vitally important UK defence programme. We are also very proud of the key role Ricardo's automotive design expertise has played in creating this truly exceptional vehicle.'

Defence Industry

Portable Field Data Terminal Tactical Printer Combat Workstation

AT Electronic and Communication International Ltd., announces the availability of the (PDT)Portable Data Terminal, (PTP) Portable Tactical Printer and the Combat Workstation Computer.

The Portable Data Terminal (PDT) is a messaging terminal that provides error free transmission of text based messages using HF/VHF/UHF radios or by or via field cable or phone network. The PDT is suited to tactical applications where secure text messaging is required in an easy to use point to point format. The PDT has a fully integrated software and radio modem and does not require a PC or modem with complex wiring and software. The PDT can be upgraded with a GPS receiver to send and receive GPS position. The PDT is enclosed in a rugged, waterproof cast aluminium case designed to withstand harsh environments. The PDT can be complemented with a (PTP) Portable Tactical Printer for delivery of hard copy messages.

The (CWC) Combat Workstation Computer is more than just a rugged computer. It includes Computer, Messaging Software, Mapping Application, Internal Modem to provide a comprehensive solution to situational awareness and messaging using tactical radios. The equipment is rugged, lightweight and is intuitive to use because of the Microsoft Windows operating system. The inbuilt cryptographic capability of the CWC allows any audio transmission facility to act as a secure path for data communication. The transmission path DOES NOT need to be equipped with a cryptographic system. The CWC is fully compatible with the PDT Portable Data Terminal and if enabled with GPS provides graphical representation of location of PDT's.

Defence Industry

New Patrol Vehicle Further on the Road to Production

Plans to provide troops in Afghanistan with a new generation of Light Protected Patrol Vehicle (LPPV) have passed an important milestone with Force Protection Europe announced as the preferred bidder by the Ministry of Defence.

The selection of Force Protection Europe as the preferred bidder means contract negotiations will now begin to provide an initial order of LPPVs through the Urgent Operational Requirements process.

The first vehicles are expected to be available to troops for training in 2011. The total number will be subject to negotiation and announced in due course.

The LPPV has been designed to provide unprecedented levels of blast protection for a vehicle of its size, and will be able to carry a crew of up to six people. It will add to the wide array of protected vehicles already being used on operations in Afghanistan, including Mastiff and Ridgback.

Minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology, Peter Luff, said:

"Small, agile but highly protected, the LPPV is at the forefront of technology. It will offer troops unprecedented levels of blast protection for such a light vehicle, enabling them to carry out a wide range of tasks, whilst moving with ease through narrow alleyways or crossing bridges.

"It will be a valuable addition to the vehicles already available to commanders in Afghanistan, and demonstrates the Government's commitment to providing our troops with the very best equipment on the front line.

"I'm delighted to announce that negotiations can now begin to get these vehicles out to theatre as soon as possible."

Chief of Defence Materiel, General Sir Kevin O'Donoghue, said:

"A great deal of work has been done to get the programme to this stage. When it comes to vehicle technology, it is clear from this competition that British engineering is leading the way. Both proposed solutions reflect the significant progress made in the development of a new generation of small yet highly protected vehicles.

"The LPPV will offer huge benefit to troops in Afghanistan, as well as being a valuable asset to the Armed Forces in the future."

Force Protection Europe has confirmed that, subject to the satisfactory completion of contractual negotiations with MOD, all of the vehicles will be built and supported in the UK. It is estimated that around 750 jobs will be created or sustained in the UK as a result of this programme.

Contracts

ATK Receives More Than $50 Million for Continued Production of 20mm PGU Ammunition

MINNEAPOLIS -- Alliant Techsystems (NYSE: ATK) has received an order valued at more than $50 million from the U.S. Army Contracting Command, Rock Island Contracting Center (RICC), Rock Island, Ill., to produce multiple variants of 20mm PGU ammunition.

This is the second order under a contract originally signed in September 2008. If all options are exercised, ATK's contract is expected to exceed $170 million by 2013.

ATK will produce PGU-27A/B Target Practice (TP), PGU-30A/B Target Practice-Tracer (TP-T), PGU-28A/B Semi-Armor Piercing High Explosive Incendiary (SAPHEI) ammunition, a PGU-28A/B SAPHEI and PGU-30A/B TP-T linked configuration, and a PGU-27A/B TP and PGU-30A/B TP-T linked configuration. These cartridges are used on the U.S. Air Force's F-15 and F-16, the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps F-18, and the U.S. Marine Corps Cobra AH-1 helicopter.

ATK's Integrated Weapon Systems Division in Mesa, Ariz. was awarded the contract and will produce the ammunition in Independence, Mo.

ATK is a premier aerospace and defense company with more than 18,000 employees in 24 states, Puerto Rico and internationally, and revenues of approximately $4.8 billion.

Certain information discussed in this press release constitutes forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Although ATK believes that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that its expectations will be achieved. Forward-looking information is subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. Among those factors are: assumptions related to total contract orders for 20mm ammunition; changes in governmental spending, budgetary policies and product sourcing strategies; the company's competitive environment; the terms and timing of awards and contracts; and economic conditions. ATK undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements. For further information on factors that could impact ATK, and statements contained herein, please refer to ATK's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Future Technologies

TenCate acquires right of first refusal on majority shares in Active Blast Defence System

TenCate Advanced Armour Denmark has signed a cooperation agreement relating to the development of the Active Blast Defence System (ABDS™) patent and the right of first refusal to acquire the majority of ABDS Aps.

Troops in theatre need the best and most advanced armour protection for the job in hand. ABDS Aps. holds the patent for an innovative defence solution, called Active Blast Defence System, which can offer life-saving protection against a number of improvised explosive devices (IED's) currently seen in action, particularly in the Afghanistan operation.

Active armour

The patent holders together with TenCate Advanced Armour will further develop the system from scale models to a full-scale demonstrator. Since there is an urgent need for this innovation, the partners will actively work together to offer the market a technical solution in a relatively short period of time. This they will do in close

cooperation with selected OEM's (Original Equipment Manufacturers) in Europe and North America.

Parts of the system are likely to be implemented as upgrade kits for existing vehicles from these OEM's and are expected to generate sales as early as the fiscal year 2011. The participation of TenCate in 'active armour' is complementary to its present armour solutions in the vehicle protection business.

The ABDS™ patent is classified. Due to the sensitivity of the information, no further details will be provided.

Defence Industry

Oshkosh Defense Announces Leadership for Dedicated Marine Corps Programs Unit; John Bryant and Bruce Sellers Join Oshkosh Defense Team

OSHKOSH, Wis. -- Oshkosh Defense, a division of Oshkosh Corporation, announced today that John Bryant has joined the organization to serve as vice president and general manager of Marine Corps Programs.

Bryant is leading the Marine Corps development, production and sustainment programs, which include the Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement (MTVR) and Logistics Vehicle System Replacement (LVSR), for Oshkosh. He will be attending Modern Day Marine 2010 in Quantico, Va., to meet with Marine Corps leadership and further enhance Oshkosh's worldwide support of the service.

"John brings a wealth of military experience and knowledge to his leadership role at Oshkosh," said Andy Hove, Oshkosh Corporation executive vice president and president, Defense. "With nearly three decades of service in the Marine Corps, he is focused on developing and delivering world-class products and services to support Marine Corp missions."

Bryant served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 28 years. He held staff and command roles as a tank officer and later led several acquisition programs as a program manager, including Tank Systems, Light Armored Vehicles and Expeditionary Fighting Vehicles. Prior to joining Oshkosh, he was a professor of program management at the Defense Acquisition University. Bryant has a bachelor's degree in political science from Marquette University. He is also Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) Level III certified in program management.

Oshkosh Defense is also pleased to announce that Bruce Sellers has joined the organization to serve as the director of business development for Marine Corps Programs. He is working closely with the Marine Corps to ensure Oshkosh's vehicles, technologies and sustainment offerings continue to meet the Marines' evolving needs. Sellers brings more than 26 years of program-management and business-development experience to this role. He also will be attending Modern Day Marine 2010.

Sellers' previous experience includes service with the Marine Corps Systems Command, the Marine Corps Research, Development and Acquisition Command and the Navy International Programs Office. Prior to joining Oshkosh, he served as the director of business development for the U.S. Land & Joint Division at Thales Communications, Inc. Sellers has a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of South Carolina as well as DAWIA Level III program management certification.

In their new roles for Oshkosh Defense, both Bryant and Sellers are working out of the Washington D.C. office.

Oshkosh has produced more than 10,000 durable, highly mobile MTVRs for the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy Seabees. The company was awarded the LVSR contract in 2006 and began delivering the advanced, heavy-payload vehicles in 2009. Oshkosh also supports the Marine Corps with the complete spectrum of life-cycle sustainment services, including in-theater support.

Defence Industry

Supacat to continue SPV400 vehicle development

Supacat is continuing development of its all-new, all British Supacat SPV400 light protected patrol vehicle to meet international demand for this new class of vehicle in military and non-military markets.

The SPV400 is one of only two vehicles from an original field of 30 vehicle designs, which succeeded in being taken forward to the invitation to tender stage to meet the UK Ministry of Defence's demanding requirements for its new Light Protected Patrol Vehicle (LPPV), despite not being selected as preferred bidder.

"We are very disappointed by the decision. The SPV400 is a world class vehicle. Its development in such a short period of time is a huge achievement for the team", said Nick Ames, Managing Director, Supacat.

In addition to the interest from other armed forces, we perceive that NGOs and other civilian organisations operating in dangerous areas would benefit from the high levels of armour protection and off road mobility offered by the SPV400. Therefore we will be continuing to pursue international commercial opportunities for this world-leading vehicle technology", Supacat is an innovative design house and world leader in high

mobility vehicles serving customers in the military and civil sectors. It designed the acclaimed Jackal and Coyote vehicles currently in service with British Forces in Afghanistan and other armed forces and a civil variant has been chosen as the support vehicle by Bloodhound SCC in its bid for the World Land Speed Record. Supacat is also developing a unique lifeboat launch and recovery vehicle for RNLI and providing specialist protected transit vehicles for the Oil and Gas sector.

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Robots

Raytheon unveils lighter, faster, stronger second generation exoskeleton robotic suit

TEWSKBURY, Mass. -- Raytheon Company) unveiled its second generation Exoskeleton (XOS 2) at its research facility in Salt Lake City, Utah, during a demonstration with Paramount Home Entertainment.

The new robotic suit is lighter, faster and stronger than its predecessor, yet it uses 50 percent less power. Its enhanced design also means that it is more resistant to the environment.

"XOS 1 was essentially a proof of concept," said Dr. Fraser M. Smith, vice president of operations for Raytheon Sarcos. "With XOS 2, we targeted power consumption and looked for ways to use the hydraulic energy more efficiently. That's resulted in us being able to add capabilities while significantly reducing power consumption."

Raytheon is developing the robotic suit to help with the many logistics challenges faced by the military both in and out of theater. Repetitive heavy lifting can lead to injuries, orthopedic injuries in particular. The XOS 2 does the lifting for its operator, reducing both strain and exertion. It also does the work faster. One operator in an exoskeleton suit can do the work of two to three soldiers. Deploying exoskeletons would allow military personnel to be reassigned to more strategic tasks.

The suit is built from a combination of structures, sensors, actuators and controllers, and it is powered by high pressure hydraulics. It enables its wearer to easily lift 200 pounds several hundred times without tiring and repeatedly punch through three inches of wood. Yet, the suit, which was developed for the U.S. Army, is also agile and graceful enough to let its wearer kick a soccer ball, punch a speed bag or climb stairs and ramps with ease.

"Getting exoskeletons deployed is inevitable in my view," said Smith. "They are desperately needed, and I believe the military looks at them as viable solutions to a number of current issues they are trying to address. With a sustained commitment, they could be in place within five years."

Raytheon's Exoskeleton has been called the real "Iron Man" suit because of its ability to enhance the wearer's strength and endurance in a way that is reminiscent of Tony Stark's high-tech suit in the films. The XOS 2 was unveiled to coincide with September 28th release of Iron Man 2 on Blu-ray and DVD from Paramount Home Entertainment.

Raytheon Company, with 2009 sales of $25 billion, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, homeland security and other government markets throughout the world. With a history of innovation spanning 88 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration and other capabilities in the areas of sensing; effects; and command, control, communications and intelligence systems, as well as a broad range of mission support services. With headquarters in Waltham, Mass., Raytheon employs 75,000 people worldwide.

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Defence Industry

Navistar Defense Launches High-Mobility Medium Tactical Vehicle Based on Proven Truck Platform

QUANTICO, Virginia -- Navistar Defense, LLC today unveiled its new high-mobility medium tactical vehicle (MTV) at the Modern Day Marine Exposition in Quantico, Virginia.

Based on the proven International® 7000-MV platform, the vehicle incorporates the DXM™ independent suspension and can also accommodate a variety of survivability and armoring solutions derived from the International® MaxxPro® Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle.

"Since receiving our first contract in 2005 to support security and rebuilding efforts in Afghanistan, we have provided more than 21,000 medium tactical vehicles based on the 7000-MV platform in 13 different variants," said Archie Massicotte, president, Navistar Defense. "Now, we've enhanced this family of vehicles by incorporating survivability and independent suspension technologies that are in the field on our MaxxPro MRAP vehicles."

The company recently completed building 1,130 MaxxPro Dash vehicles with its DXM independent suspension for fielding in Afghanistan. An additional 1,222 Dash units already in operation will also soon be retrofitted with the DXM suspension solution.

Capable of climbing a 60 percent gradient and maneuvering 40 percent side slopes, Navistar's high-mobility MTV also incorporates automatic traction control, anti-lock brakes, self-diagnostics and advanced

electronics systems. Additional options include MaxxForce® D 9.3L and 13L powertrain offerings as well as a central tire inflation system (CTIS).

Navistar medium tactical vehicles are currently in operation in countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Canada, Israel, Jordan and Taiwan.

Defence Industry

Lockheed Martin Common Vehicle Next Generation Deliveries Complete, Ready For Deployment

DALLAS, TX and SPARTANBURG, SC -- The Lockheed Martin Common Vehicle Next Generation (CVNG), an armed lightweight military vehicle, is ready for its initial in-theater deployment.

The CVNG is an upgraded configuration of the High Mobility Transport vehicle in use by U.S. and allied armed forces. Deliveries of the upgraded vehicles were completed in June 2010, just four months after the contract award in February 2010.

The upgraded vehicles received enhanced blast and ballistic armor protection. Lockheed Martin is the prime contractor on the program, with the armor and other occupant survivability systems supplied by Jankel Tactical Systems LLC.

The CVNG's innovative and modular design delivers high levels of reliability and ease of maintenance. The vehicle easily supports five occupants plus a main gunner. Its open cab offers a 360-degree fighting platform, but armored panels enclose the cab for better protection. CVNG features a 4x4 or 6x6 configuration, with a removable third axel, and also offers a reconfigured modular cargo deck optimized for larger items. The lightweight vehicle is internally transportable on C-130, C-5, CH-53 and CH-47.

"Our customers recognize the new level of mission flexibility this vehicle brings to the battlefield," said MaryLynne Lubinger, program manager for CVNG at Lockheed Martin. "Our CVNG upgrades increase situational awareness, mobility, agility and top speed, and it's ready for use by our Soldiers in the world's most extreme environments."

"We are pleased at having been selected by Lockheed Martin for this important program for our Warfighters. We are looking forward to delivering similar success stories on other programs for the U.S. Government," said Alec Mackenzie, president of Jankel Tactical Systems LLC.

Key survivability components of the upgrade include Jankel's modular blast and ballistic armor system and the company's Blast Limiting and Attenuation Seat Technology (BLASTech) mine/Improvised Explosive Device (IED) acceleration attenuating seating and pulse attenuation devices. Together, these systems significantly enhance the survivability of the vehicle crew during a mine/IED attack by reducing the incidence and severity of injury. Designed to overmatch the threat from anti-tank mines and improvised explosive devices, BLASTech has been tested extensively under international protocols and standards. Fully compatible with U.S. FMVSS crash test standards, BLASTech seating is in service with the U.S. Military and its allies, and has been proven repeatedly in combat to save lives and reduce the incidence and severity of injury.