



Team Complex Weapons Press Release



MBDA AND THALES EXTEND THEIR COOPERATION ON CAMM

5 April 2013 The core Team Complex Weapons (Team CW) air defence missile development programme – the Common Anti-air Modular Missile (Camm) for the Future Local Anti-Air Defence System (FLAADS) – has been the catalyst for the creation of a new business relationship between MBDA and Thales UK's Belfast site.

Over the last year, as part of on-going activity to develop the UK Complex Weapons (CW) supply chain and to realise the complementary skills of Thales, the two companies have been exploring opportunities to work together on Camm, drawing on the missile design and manufacture capabilities in Northern Ireland.

Work placed with Thales Belfast on this important development project now exceeds £1M and has also opened up opportunities for a further £8M of manufacturing work in the next phase of the project. Thales is involved in a number of aspects of the Camm Demonstration project with work now covering the assessment and modelling of the thermal management within the missile, structural analysis work, and the use of precision manufacturing capabilities to make a number of the missile components.

Steve Wadey, MBDA Executive Group Director Technical and Managing Director UK, commented that "This is a significant milestone between MBDA and Thales Belfast, demonstrating a new business relationship utilising CW capabilities across the UK in the most effective way for the benefit of our customers."

Alex Cresswell, Executive Vice President for Land and Air Systems at Thales, said, "The companies are now planning to build on this successful start in the next few months by putting in place a single overall enabling contract to facilitate the efficient placement of future work. This illustrates the commitment of both MBDA and Thales to work together to benefit our complex weapon customers."

The companies are now exploring a number of areas of likely cooperation across other projects and throughout the product lifecycle. In the area of In-Service Support (ISS), for example, the companies are working together to see what additional value can be delivered to the UK customer by exploiting the opportunity created by the British Army re-basing decision to bring all of its current air defence assets together at Thorney Island.

In addition, MBDA and Thales UK's Basingstoke site have also taken significant steps forward over the last six months using two pilot projects, focused on missile safety and arming units and intelligent fuzes, to transform the traditional transactional customer-supplier relationship into one where both parties are actively working together. In January 2012, MBDA selected Thales Basingstoke to supply the Camm laser proximity fuze under an £11m contract.



Notes to Editors

MBDA is developing a common missile that will meet the future anti-air target requirements of Navies, Armies and Air Forces. Given that the target set, ranging from fast jets and helicopters to cruise missiles and UAVs, is similar across the sea, land and air domains, a weapon solution maximising modularity and commonality has obvious cost and logistics benefits. MBDA's common missile is called CAMM (Common Anti-air Modular Missile) and is currently in MoD funded development as part of the Royal Navy's Sea Ceptor weapon system. CAMM will be designed for exportability and a CAMM based weapon system provided by MBDA can be tailored for an overseas customers' single service or cross service operations.

FLAADS is the far-reaching MoD programme aimed at delivering a new air defence system not only for the Royal Navy but also for the British Army to replace its Rapier deployable air defence system. At the heart of both systems (SEA CEPTOR for the Royal Navy and the future CEPTOR-based land system for the British Army) is MBDA's Common Anti-air Modular Missile (CAMM).

The proximity fuze contract followed almost 5 years of Thales research and development and collaborative working with MBDA on the FLAADS/CAMM Concept and Assessment phase. The proximity fuze solution improves performance whilst significantly reducing price, through the use of modularity, generic signal processing and COTS components.

About MBDA

With industrial facilities in five European countries and within the USA, in 2012 MBDA achieved a turnover of €3 billion with an order book of €9.8 billion. With more than 90 armed forces customers in the world, MBDA is a world leader in missiles and missile systems.

MBDA is the only group capable of designing and producing missiles and missile systems that correspond to the full range of current and future operational needs of the three armed forces (land, sea and air). In total, the group offers a range of 45 missile systems and countermeasures products already in operational service and more than 15 others currently in development.

MBDA is jointly held by BAE SYSTEMS (37.5%), EADS (37.5%) and FINMECCANICA (25%).

About Thales

Thales is a global technology leader for the Defence & Security and the Aerospace & Transport markets. In 2012, the company generated revenues of €14.2 billion (equivalent of £11.5 billion) with 67,000 employees in 56 countries. With its 25,000 engineers and researchers, Thales has a unique capability to design, develop and deploy equipment, systems and services that meet the most complex security requirements. Thales has an exceptional international footprint, with operations around the world working with customers and local partners. www.thalesgroup.com



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Thales UK employs 7,500 staff based at 35 locations. In 2012 Thales UK's revenues were around £1.3 billion. www.thalesgroup.com/uk

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