



Press Release French Ministry of Defence - 8th April 2014

Latest success for MdCN, MBDA's Naval Cruise Missile

On 8th April 2014, the French DGA (Direction Générale de l'Armement) successfully carried out the second qualification firing of the naval cruise missile (MdCN or Missile de Croisière Naval) currently under development by MBDA. The firing, which took place at the DGA's Biscarrosse missile test centre (situated in the department of Landes in South West France) , was representative of a firing from a frigate and demonstrated the missile's flight capabilities at high altitude.

This success, which once more confirms the advanced technical nature of the missile, is the result of intense activity and the coordinated efforts of a number of state bodies (notably, the DGA's Quality Control Department and its Test and Evaluation Centres as well as the French Navy) and industry (MBDA France).

Towards the end of 2014, MdCN will equip the French Navy's multi-mission frigates (FREMM) and, in around the 2018 timeframe, its Barracuda submarines.

Featuring a range of several hundred kilometers, MdCN is intended for strikes against targets deep within enemy territory. It complements the SCALP air-launched cruise missile from which it is derived. Carried on combat vessels positioned for lengthy periods at a safe distance in international waters, either overtly (on frigates) or discretely (on submarines), MdCN is designed to carry out missions calling for the destruction of high value strategic targets.

The MdCN contract was notified to MBDA by the DGA at the end of 2006.

Source : DICOd

Note to editors

With significant facilities in five European countries and within the USA, in 2013 MBDA achieved a turnover of €2.8 billion with an order book of €10.8 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 AIRBUS Group (37.5%), BAE SYSTEMS (37.5%) and FINMECCANICA (25%).