



MBDA's Sea Venom-ANL missile marks further trials milestone

MBDA's Sea Venom-ANL anti-ship missile has successfully conducted a further firing trial, passing a significant new milestone for the Anglo-French co-operation programme.

Conducted on 14 November from a Direction Générale de l'Armement (DGA) Dauphin test helicopter at the DGA Missile testing range of Ile du Levant, the trial was the final development firing for the missile prior to the start of qualification trials in 2019.

This latest trial highlighted Sea Venom-ANL's lock on before launch (LOBL) capabilities, with images from the missile's infrared seeker being used by the operator to designate the target prior to launch.

Frank Bastart, MBDA's head of the Sea Venom-ANL programme, said: "This latest successful trial is a great milestone for the programme, which will provide a major increase in the naval strike capabilities of our armed forces. Throughout the trials campaign we have continued to push the system and its operating modes to its limits. The success of these tests is testament to the unrivalled performance of the Sea Venom-ANL missile."

Sea Venom-ANL is capable of being launched from a wide range of platforms, and will be used on the UK Royal Navy's AW159 Wildcat and French Navy future HIL (Hélicoptère Interarmées Léger) helicopters. This 120 kg sea-skimming missile is designed to enable navies to deal with a range of threats including fast moving patrol boats, corvettes and coastal targets. The missile is capable of being fired in both lock on before launch (LOBL) and lock on after launch (LOAL) modes, with a two way datalink and imaging seeker giving the operator the ability to monitor the engagement, perform aim point refinement, select a new target, or abort the mission if necessary.

The missile is being developed under a unique joint programme launched at the 2010 Lancaster House Summit, that is the first to take full advantage of consolidated centres of excellence created within the Anglo-French missile industry under the 'One Complex Weapons' initiative.

Notes to editors:

MBDA is the only European 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).

With a significant presence in five European countries and within the USA, in 2017 MBDA achieved revenue of 3.1 billion euros with an order book of 16.8 billion euros. With more than 90 armed forces customers in the world, MBDA is a world leader in missiles and missile systems. 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 owned by Airbus (37.5%), BAE Systems (37.5%), and Leonardo (25%).

Press contacts:

Jean Dupont

Tel : +33 (0)1 71 54 11 73

Mobile: +33 (0)6 33 37 64 66

jean.dupont@mbda-systems.com

Karen Pachot

Tel : +33 (0)1 71 54 18 17

Mobile: +33(0)6 74 10 57 62

karen.pachot@mbda.fr -