Press Release



19th October 2007

MBDA TAKES PART IN INFO-CENTRIC LAND COMBAT EXERCISES

MBDA has participated in a series of PHOENIX exercises held at the Mourmelon and Suippes military camps (in North-East France) from 13th to 19th October 2007. These exercises were carried out within a Network Enabled Battlefield (NEB) environment.

The PHOENIX evaluation, organised by Sagem Défense Sécurité (Safran Group) with the support of the DGA and the French Army, is of great interest and relevance to the SCORPION demonstrator within the BOA programme (Bulle Opérationnelle Aéroterrestre) It proves the remote operation control activity of the DGA's Technical-Operational Defence Laboratory (LTO).

MBDA was able to use the opportunity presented by the evaluation to demonstrate the operational benefits and capability improvements that could be achieved by linking up the new MILAN ADT-ER weapon system to an infantryman equipped with info-centric FELIN technologies.*

Tactical information from the MILAN operator (such as firing position/s, observation and engagement sectors, azimuth, threat data, situational observations, kill assessment, effects obtained etc.) can from now on be exchanged via the network with other weapon systems deployed by the group or the unit. The MILAN operator can also benefit from this networkshared information through which orders and instructions (geographical limit, engagement orders, target designations etc) can be received.

The expected benefits of NEB lie in the speeding up of decision-making processes and the achievement of co-operative combat engagement.

PHOENIX has been of great value in enabling the benefits of info-centering the MILAN ADT-ER weapon system to be measured.

Notes to editors

With an annual turnover exceeding €3 billion, a forward order book of over €13 billion and over 70 customers world wide, MBDA is a world leading, global missile systems company. MBDA currently has 45 missile system and countermeasure programmes in operational service and has proven its ability as prime contractor to head major multi-national projects.

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

* The FELIN Infantryman will benefit from Integrated Equipment and Communication Links. The FELIN programme is under the prime contractorship of Sagem Défense Sécurité and in the future is intended to equip all of the French Army's combat units.

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