

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2010****SUCCESSFUL FIRST FIRING OF MBDA'S SCALP NAVAL MISSILE**

The first test firing of the SCALP Naval missile was carried out successfully by the French DGA (Direction Générale de l'Armement) at its Biscarrosse test range on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2010. SCALP Naval is a development for the French Navy's naval cruise missile MdCN (Missile de Croisière Naval) programme.

The firing was carried out using a FREMM frigate configuration from a production series Sylver ® A70 launcher.

As a result of this successful test, the maturity of the weapon system's definition as well as the technology options selected by MBDA have been validated. Indeed, all phases of the missile's flight proceeded perfectly to plan, from the vertical launch, the separation of the ejectable booster right through to the conclusion of its cruise flight. This first test firing, being representative of a typical mission, has, amongst other benefits, allowed the full flight envelope to be by and large carried out. It has also validated SCALP Naval's interface with the operational Sylver ® launcher.

The SCALP Naval munition is a development covering two configurations responding to the French Navy's mission needs, comprising a vertical launch variant destined for surface vessels such as the FREMM frigate and a sub-surface / air transition version to arm the nuclear-powered Barracuda attack submarine.

"MdCN is a major programme for MBDA. The total success of this first SCALP Naval firing demonstrates our ability to maintain the highest level of technology as well as a strong industrial base in France, both coming together in response to the country's strategic needs", said Antoine Bouvier, CEO of MBDA.

**Notes to editors**

With industrial facilities in four European countries and within the USA, MBDA has an annual turnover of €2.6 billion and an order book of €12 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 %).

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