

June 6th 2011

MBDA QUALIFIES THE NEW NAVAL VERSION OF THE MARTE MK2 MISSILE

A naval configured Marte missile was launched at the Poligono Interforze di Salto di Quirra on 26 May. The purpose of the launch was to qualify the new munition by checking canister behaviour during missile launch and ensuring that the missile and canister separated correctly.

The firing exercise progressed as planned with the missile executing a trajectory which included a number of different way points to check its dynamic capabilities.

Analysis of the missile's flight parameters, which were sent in real time to the ground station, are still ongoing and will provide an accurate final assessment of the launch.

The launch demonstrated that the Marte missile operates equally as effectively in its naval configuration as in its air-launched configuration..

Antonio Perfetti, Managing Director of MBDA Italia and Executive Group Director Sales & Business Development MBDA Group, stated: "With this launch, the Marte missile has now become a full MBDA legacy product in the maritime superiority domain. The system is growing to include all possible applications as is our confidence in its further export potential".

Background information

With industrial facilities in four European countries and within the USA, in 2010 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 BAE SYSTEMS (37.5%), EADS (37.5%) and FINMECCANICA (25%).

Press office contacts

Jean Dupont
Group Media Relations Manager
Tel.: + 33 (0) 1 71 54 11 73
jean.dupont@mbda-systems.com
Cell: + 33 (0) 6 33 37 64 66

Italy
Michele Lastella
Tel: +39 0641973138
Michele.lastella@mbda-systems.com
Cell: +39 335 326045