



17th June 2013

MBDA'S BRIMSTONE SIMULTANEOUSLY DESTROYS MULTIPLE ATTACK CRAFT IN SALVO FIRING

MBDA's combat proven, UK developed, Brimstone missile carried out the world's first surface to surface salvo engagement of multiple Fast In-shore Attack Craft (FIAC) threats with a single button push. The success of the trial has shown Brimstone's unrivalled ability to swiftly strike numerous individual vessels without the need to laboriously designate each target, thereby demonstrating its prowess as a fire and forget maritime surface attack weapon.

On the 29th May 2013, three millimetric wave operational Brimstone missiles were launched in a rapid salvo of less than a second against a simulated attack formation of five representative FIACs. The three missiles independently acquired and engaged their respective targets at a distance between 4km and 5km (constrained by range safety); direct hits resulted in extensive structural damage to the three leading vessels, including one travelling at around 20 knots. The missiles were launched from a surface trials platform using a Brimstone triple rail launcher in conditions of sea state 3.

This exceptional achievement follows on from a previously undisclosed, successful surface launch trial against a single static FIAC on the 6th April 2013. Instead of a warhead the missile carried a telemetry unit to transmit trials data. The missile acquired and identified the target with a subsequent direct hit on the vessel's control cabin, with the missile passing through the hull at the rear of the craft causing the target to sink.

The Brimstone programme is run by MBDA UK's team in Stevenage, Hertfordshire while both of these trials were carried out off the west coast of Scotland with range support provided by QinetiQ.

Brimstone is being proposed by MBDA UK as a surface attack missile for deployment within the Sea Spear system against FIACs and other small surface threats in all weather environments. As an effective maritime Force Protection capability, it rapidly provides significant utility beyond the range of medium calibre naval gun systems. With a range of deck-mounted launcher options, from single to six-pack configurations, the system's very small footprint gives it a high level of deck positioning flexibility making it suitable for small vessels such as Fast Attack Craft as well as much larger vessels such as auxiliary ships.

Note to editors

These two separate trials are the continuation of the June 2012 anti-FIAC trial conducted from a RAF Tornado GR4 using a Dual Mode Brimstone (featuring a dual millimetric wave/SAL seeker) that resulted in the sinking of the target. Dual Mode Brimstone has already demonstrated its capabilities as the weapon of choice for precision strikes in a congested environment against a range of fixed and moving ground targets during RAF combat operations in Afghanistan and



Press Release

Libya. Millimetric wave Brimstone was used operationally during RAF Combat Operations in Libya when it was fired successfully from Tornado GR4 aircraft.

With a significant presence in five European countries and the USA, in 2012 MBDA achieved a turnover of 3 billion euros with an order book of 9.8 billion euros. 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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