



1st May 2014

MBDA's advanced air defence system for the British Army enters assessment phase

A £36M contract from the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) has been placed with MBDA for the Land variant of the Future Local Area Air Defence System (FLAADS Land). This will fund an Assessment Phase that will demonstrate the adaptation and evolution of core weapon system subsystems (e.g. command & control) for the land environment, and prepare for the transition from Rapier Field Standard C (FSC) in British Army service. The FLAADS Land system will provide the British Army with a world leading Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) system that will be one of the most advanced and capable in its class, providing operational, logistical and cost benefits.

At the heart of the FLAADS Land system is MBDA's Common Anti-air Modular Missile (Camm) and its weapon command and control system, contracted for installation onto the Royal Navy's (RN) Type 23 Frigates as Sea Ceptor. This approach leverages the existing investment to deliver the UK MOD with an affordable but highly capable air defence system for both the Army and Royal Navy, with a shared support and future upgrade path across both services.

The opportunity to exploit a Camm-based air defence system on land and sea also provides potential international customers with the opportunity to share in the benefits that the UK is reaping from the multi-service adoption of the missile.

MBDA is delivering the FLAADS Land programme under the Portfolio Management Agreement (PMA). The PMA provides the UK Armed Forces with Freedom of Action and Operational Advantage thereby allowing them to maintain an edge over adversaries now and in the future. The PMA also ensures the skills and technologies critical for this are maintained in the UK.

Antoine Bouvier, Chief Executive Officer of MBDA, welcomed the news saying, "This new contract further demonstrates the value of the partnership strategy that MBDA is advancing with its domestic customers. By extending the FLAADS programme to land applications, the British MOD is showing that MBDA continues to be its Complex Weapons company of choice and recognises its ingenuity in maximizing cost benefits through modularity and the re-use of existing technologies. Made possible through the PMA framework established with the British MOD, Camm-based missile systems offer advantages in terms of capability and through-life costs which I'm sure will interest many armies and navies around the world".

Note to editor

The Sea Ceptor air defence system's demonstration phase for the Royal Navy was announced on the 31st January 2012 and on the 9th September 2013, MBDA received a £250M production contract from the UK MOD. Sea Ceptor will initially equip the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigates from



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2016 onwards replacing Seawolf and then be integrated into the Type 26 frigates as the primary air defence system.

Also in September 2013, MBDA with support from Lockheed Martin, undertook the first launch of a CAMM missile from Lockheed Martin's MK 41 Vertical Launching System (VLS), using the host variant of the Extensible Launching System (ExLS), at a site near Bedford, UK. This trial, using MBDA's soft vertical launch technology to eject CAMM from its canister and position the missile for main motor ignition, was the first in a series to demonstrate that CAMM can be installed using ExLS in vessels that use the MK 41 launcher or the 3-cell stand-alone ExLS CAMM launcher.

With a significant presence in five European countries and within the USA, in 2013 MBDA achieved a turnover of 2.8 billion euros with an order book of 10.8 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 AIRBUS Group (37.5%), BAE SYSTEMS (37.5%), and FINMECCANICA (25%).

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