

**3 September 2007**

## **MBDA COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF BAYERN-CHEMIE/PROTAC**

**Following its approval by the national and international regulatory bodies, the agreement concluded between MBDA, EADS and Thales regarding the purchase of Bayern-Chemie/Protac came into effect on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2007. With the associated legal transfer of its shares, Bayern-Chemie/Protac is now a fully owned (100%) subsidiary of LFK GmbH / MBDA Deutschland.**

Bayern-Chemie/Protac has an annual turnover of approximately €50 million and a workforce of about 180 employees at Bayern-Chemie in Germany (Aschau am Inn) and about 90 employees at Protac in France (La Ferté Saint-Aubin). The company's business activities cover the development and manufacture of a large number of missile propulsion systems. Of special note is the ramjet engine developed by Bayern-Chemie/Protac for the METEOR beyond visual range (BVR) air launched guided missile system. METEOR, capable of accelerating to above Mach 3 and assuring pilot air superiority in all scenarios, is being developed for the air forces of six European nations. Bayern-Chemie/Protac's main customers are MBDA and the German Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement (BWB).

Giuseppe Snider, Director of Strategy and Planning at MBDA, said: "The acquisition of Bayern-Chemie/Protac is a further decisive step towards consolidating the European guided missile industry under the leadership of MBDA. MBDA has now positioned itself as a global leader in the field of solid fuel ramjet engines while at the same time gaining a significant competitive advantage in the strongly contested international market for guided missile systems".

Werner Kaltenecker, Managing Director of MBDA Deutschland, added: "With the purchase of Bayern-Chemie by LFK GmbH it has been possible to keep industrial core competencies in the field of high-performance rocket propulsion in Germany and also continue to meet the future requirements of the German customer in this area. Furthermore, the purchase also paves the way for a successful continuation of the METEOR programme by contributing Bayern-Chemie's unique ramjet engine technology".

### **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%).

For legal reasons MBDA Deutschland continues to trade as LFK GmbH in Germany. With its workforce of approximately 1,100 employees and an annual turnover of about

€450 million, MBDA Deutschland is the largest German producer of guided missile systems. Among its most important programmes are the transatlantic air defence system MEADS, the standoff guided missile system Taurus KEPD 350, PARS 3 LR the main armament of the Tiger helicopter and MILAN ADT-ER, a member of the new generation anti-tank guided missile family which has been successfully developed in collaboration with MBDA France.

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