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Contracts

Switzerland awards contract to General Dynamics European Land Systems-Mowag to deliver 100 EAGLE 6x6 reconnaissance vehicles

General Dynamics European Land Systems-Mowag announced today that it signed a contract with armasuisse on November 18th, 2019, for the delivery of 100 protected EAGLE 6x6 reconnaissance vehicles for the Swiss Army. The EAGLE 6x6 was selected after an international competition conducted by armasuisse, the Swiss federal office for defence procurement. This first order of the EAGLE 6x6 is a milestone for the latest development of the EAGLE vehicle family.

The 100 EAGLE 6x6 vehicles will be the vehicle platform of the tactical reconnaissance system "TASYS." TASYS will be used to gather intelligence for the Swiss Armed Forces including support of civil authorities. It consists of an EAGLE V 6x6 carrier vehicle, a multi-sensor system mounted on a telescopic mast, and a data processing system. For self-protection, the highly-mobile EAGLE V 6x6 TASYS is armoured and equipped with a remotely controlled weapon station. The vehicle offers sufficient payload reserves to allow for future improvements, such as the integration of additional sensors. The EAGLE V 6x6 TASYS starts production in 2020 and will be fielded between 2023 and 2025.

Besides the Swiss Army the EAGLE V 4x4 is also extensively used by both Denmark and Germany, where it is very popular with the troops. The further development of the EAGLE V 4x4 into the EAGLE V 6x6 was inspired by operational experience and the need for a vehicle with increased useful volume, more payload, very compact exterior dimensions, as well as constant high mobility and maximized protection. "We are very proud that the Swiss Army is the first customer to introduce the EAGLE V 6x6," says Oliver Dьrr, Vice President Wheeled Vehicles and Managing Director of General Dynamics European Land Systems-Mowag.

Facts about the EAGLE V

The EAGLE V is available in 4x4 and 6x6 versions and is one of the most modern protected wheeled vehicles in its class. The EAGLE has already proven its efficiency and reliability in various military missions. Due to its power reserves, the EAGLE offers an ideal platform to meet both current and future requirements. In addition to its excellent protection against mines and improvised explosive devices, the EAGLE V 6x6 offers a high payload and a large transport volume, within very compact dimensions. With its unique axle and drive system, the EAGLE V delivers off-road mobility and on-road driving safety.

Defence Industry

Military-Industrial Company LLC completed preliminary tests of the Boomerang armored vehicle

In accordance with the schedule of work on the Boomerang R&D program, the Military-Industrial Company LLC (Russia), together with the Main Armored Directorate of the Russian Federation and research organizations of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, completed preliminary tests of prototypes. Based on the results of the tests, the commission signed the Act of preliminary tests.

During the preliminary tests, prototypes based on the Boomerang Unified Interspecific Wheeled Platform confirmed the characteristics stated in the statement of work. At the production facilities of MIC LLC, the assembly of new prototypes within the framework of the Boomerang development center for conducting state tests has begun. In the production of these vehicles, changes will be made to their design based on the results of the analysis of the results of preliminary tests.

Due to changes in the design of the armored hull of the Boomerang platform, a decision was made to carry out ballistic tests and mine tests on a full-size prototype of a vehicle with an updated hull.

In parallel, taking into account the results of preliminary tests of the Boomerang prototypes at JSC Hull Factory, which is part of the management perimeter of MIC LLC, preparations were made for the production of armored hulls of a modified design. The factory has fully prepared the necessary equipment for the production of new armored vehicles. In total, almost 800 units of technological equipment of various complexity were designed and manufactured, including stowing stands, a tilter, a bathroom for checking the tightness of the case, and much more. This will allow, already in 2022, after completion of state tests, to begin mass production of the Boomerang Unified Interspecific Wheeled Platform.

Robots

FLIR Wins U.S. Army Heavyweight Robot Contract Worth Up to $109M

ARLINGTON -- FLIR Systems, Inc. announced that its Kobra™ robot has been chosen for the United States (U.S.) Army's Common Robotic System-Heavy (CRS-H) program. The five-year production contract to build upwards of 350 unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs) is worth up to $109 million.

The CRS-H program will give the Army a 'program of record' to build and sustain a fleet of large UGVs for years to come. The CRS-H platform calls for a robot weighing up to 700 pounds. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) units will use the system to perform a range of missions, such as disarming vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs), unexploded ordnance, or related heavy-duty tasks. A variety of sensors and payloads also can be added to the UGV to support other missions.

"We are pleased to be selected for the U.S. Army's CRS-H program and deliver lifesaving robotic technology to our soldiers," said Jim Cannon, president and CEO at FLIR. "This award exemplifies why we acquired Endeavor Robotics earlier this year — to capture strategic programs of record that enable us to integrate advanced solutions for the warfighter, give us the fuel to grow our business, and strengthen our position as a leader in unmanned systems."

Over several months and two rounds of testing, the Army compared the FLIR Kobra with other vendor systems. Entrants were evaluated on robot reliability, maneuverability, and usability, among other factors before Kobra was selected as the winner. Previously, in 2017 the Army chose FLIR's legacy business, Endeavor Robotics, as its medium-sized UGV provider through the Man Transportable Robotic System Increment II (MTRS Inc II) contract. FLIR is delivering its Centaur™ UGV under this on-going program.

"Our CRS-H platform will give soldiers a powerful, extremely mobile, yet highly transportable UGV, ready to deploy at a moment's notice to keep them out of harm's way," said David Ray, president of the Government and Defense Business Unit at FLIR. "This win is a testament to our employees who've designed such an advanced, multi-mission UGV. We look forward to working with the Army to get this robot into the field and deployed with our warfighters."

FLIR Kobra delivers unmatched strength, power, and payload support in an easy-to-operate robot package. Kobra has a lift capacity of 330 lbs. (150 kg.) and can stretch up to eleven-and-a-half feet to access hard-to-reach places. Ready for indoor and outdoor use, Kobra maintains mobility on tough terrain and can overcome obstacles such as jersey barriers.

The award covers a five-year production period with shipments beginning in the second quarter of 2020.

Contracts

CONTRACT TO DELIVER REMOTE WEAPONS STATIONS TO DENMARK WORTH 270 MNOK

Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace AS (KONGSBERG) has signed a contract with the Danish Ministry of Defence Acquisition and Logistics Organisation (DALO) for delivery of the KONGSBERG PROTECTOR Remote Weapon Station (RWS) to the Danish Army worth 270 MNOK.

The system will be integrated on Denmark's new fleet of Piranha V 8x8 vehicles. The contract was won in an international competitive bidding process.

The PROTECTOR RWS is the world's most fielded RWS with close to 20,000 units delivered to customers around the globe. Denmark is the 23rd country to select a KONGBERG PROTECTOR RWS.

"KONGSBERG is very proud to have won the RWS competition in Denmark. We look forward to a close cooperation with the Danish Army as part of the PROTECTOR user nation family for many years to come. This contract underlines our leading technology within RWS and consolidates our strong position in Europe", says Pel E. Bratlie, Executive Vice President Protech Systems, Kongsberg Defence & Aerospace AS.

Robots

Kungas Unmanned Ground Vehicle Tested in Russia

The Russian Ground Forces completed the state tests of the Kungas Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV). This was in an interview with the newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda the Army General Oleg Salyukov, Commander-in-Chief of the Ground Forces. According to him, in 2020, the Russian military will begin experimental-military operation of the complex.

Today, the military of many countries of the world is paying more and more attention to the development and

adoption of various robotic systems, which could be used not only for EOD, but also for solving many other tasks. In particular, it is planned to use new robots for the protection of important objects, reconnaissance and combat.

It is believed that the widespread use of combat robots will significantly reduce losses among personnel. According to Krasnaya Zvezda, the Kungas complex includes four robots of different classes and a control center. What kind of robots are included in the complex, the newspaper does not specify.

Earlier, the Zvezda TV channel said that this complex consists of five UGVs: a portable weight of 12 kilograms, a light weight of 200 kilograms, a transportable weight of 2 tons, a Nerekhta combat UGV and a robotic version of the BTR-MDM Rakushka armored personnel carrier. All these UGVs are controlled from one center.