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Defence Industry

Elbit Systems of Australia Concludes Successful Delivery of Thermal Weapon Sights to ADF

Elbit Systems of Australia Pty Ltd ("Elbit Systems of Australia " or "the Company") has closed out the successful delivery phase of the Land 125 Phase 3C contract supplying XACTth65 thermal weapon sights to the Australian Defence Force (ADF). Dan Webster, the Managing Director of Elbit Systems of Australia and Malcolm McKeith, the Director of Armaments Systems Program Office at The Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group (CASG), signed the final delivery document at Melbourne's historic Victoria Barracks on 22 March. The Maintenance phase of Land 125 continues until mid-2020.

Its compact size, light weight (only 450 grams) and high performance during day and night make XACTth65 a category leader. Since delivery commenced in September 2016, nearly 4,800 XACTth65 thermal sights have been supplied to the Australian Army with early indications suggesting good reliability of the systems delivered.

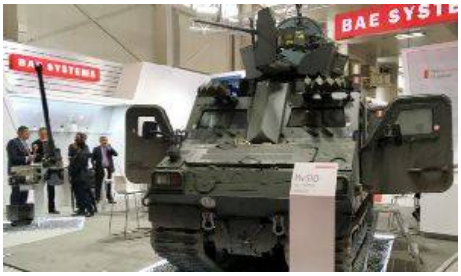
Noting the positive feedback from the end users of the XACTth65, Elbit Systems of Australia's Land 125 Project Manager, Cathie Webb commented, "Personnel who have been issued with the thermal sight have been giving us extremely positive feedback about the sight's effectiveness and ease of use."

CASG's Director of Armaments Systems Program Office, Malcolm McKeith, acknowledged the strength of the relationship that the contract has fostered between his office and Elbit Systems of Australia and expressed interest in other technologies being developed by the Company.

Dan Webster, Managing Director of Elbit Systems of Australia said, "The success of the contract was another important aspect of the Company's strategic partnership with the Army and the ADF more broadly. Technology is moving very quickly right across our very diverse offering, and weapon sights are no exception. The th65 thermal sight is just the beginning of the role technology will play in sighting systems, with the integration of sight data into the Battle Management System likely to be the next step."

Exhibitions

BAE Systems to participate in IDEB in Bratislava



BAE Systems will be participating in the IDEB international defense and security exhibition in Bratislava, Slovakia May 16-18, focusing on capabilities that will be offered to key European countries to replace their armored vehicle fleets.

On display at BAE Systems' stand will be a full size BvS10 vehicle, which arrives in Slovakia directly from troop trials with the Austrian Army. In 2016, BAE Systems Hдgglunds was awarded a contract to produce 32 BvS10 vehicles for Austria under a government-to-government arrangement with Sweden. Following that contract, in 2017, BAE Systems issued a contract to VOP CZ to produce components for the Austrian BvS10s.

The BvS10 is an armored, articulated, amphibious vehicle designed to provide total operational support where other vehicles cannot. The vehicle is based on battle-proven driveline and chassis technologies that underpin the all-terrain vehicles in service worldwide.

BAE Systems is also in industrial partnerships with several Czech companies to offer the Czech Army the CV90 MkIV Infantry Fighting Vehicle, unveiled earlier this year as the latest version of the respected CV90 in service with numerous European nations. The MkIV brings new advancements to the modern, combat-proven CV90, including the iFighting® solution for CV90 in the future complex battlefield.

Developed by BAE Systems, iFighting® fuses data from different systems within the vehicle together to improve system performance for the crew. The MkIV will also have the fourth generation of NGVA Compatible Electronic Architecture, allowing crews to manage larger amounts of live stream data.

Defence Industry

U.S. Army Purchases 20 MRZR® X Vehicles for Soldier Trials

MINNEAPOLIS and ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. -- Team Polaris® and its advanced MRZR® X multi-mode vehicle platform have been selected by the U.S. Army to be one of the robotic systems used by infantry brigade combat teams for the next year of trials as part of the Squad Multipurpose Equipment Transport (SMET) program.

"The optionally-manned MRZR X helps ease the transition from manned vehicles to unmanned because it

maintains the functionality, drivability and multi-mission capability of a traditional MRZR," said Patrick Zech, program manager, Polaris Government and Defense. "Providing the Army with the option for high speed operations or missions with a soldier driving behind a traditional steering wheel is an important part of our offering."

As military forces worldwide look to lighten the warfighter's load now and smartly network vehicles in the multi-domain battlefield in the coming years, the MRZR X provides an evolving, robotics capable, multi-mission platform. In addition, the MRZR X provides worldwide commonality with the MRZRs already in service in the U.S. and more than 30 allied nations.

"In addition to meeting or exceeding all of the current robotics requirements, we've designed a layered, modular, open architecture, integrating sensors and software that will make it easier for the Army to securely upgrade technology in the vehicles," Matthew Fordham, group lead and associate division manager for Unmanned Systems and Security Products, Applied Research Associates Inc (ARA).

The MRZR X provides warfighters with a modular, multi-mission support platform and that has multiple modes of operation that span a broad spectrum from traditional operator driving, to multiple levels of autonomy, including the capability for remote control, teleoperation, follow-me, leader-follower and full autonomy. This allows the MRZR X to enhance and evolve mobility in varying roles including service as a robotic equipment mule, autonomous resupply vehicle, warfighter-driven squad carrier, logistics support vehicle, rescue mission enabler and high-speed casualty evacuation capability. In the future, the connectivity of the MRZR X will provide the ability to act as a networked node in the multi-domain battlespace.

ARA has been producing Modular Robotic Applique Kits (M-RAKs) for more than 20 years, with a specialty in off-road robotics, further enhanced by the acquisition of Neya Systems. The advanced MRZR X fully integrates the autonomy systems and optimally places the sensors to safeguard the technology while keeping the physical and software architecture open so it can spiral in future technology. The vehicle drivetrain is powerful and reliable, allowing for longer missions, high speeds and silent drive when needed – all on the very familiar, sustainable and intuitive MRZR platform.

Polaris Industries Inc., Applied Research Associates Inc. (ARA) and Neya Systems LLC formally teamed in 2017. The Team Polaris MRZR® X evolves squad mobility with advanced unmanned systems technology from ARA and the pioneering and unsurpassed autonomous systems behavior of Neya Systems. Team Polaris has many pursuits – together and individually – with U.S. services, allied militaries and commercial programs.