

Army Guide monthly



12 (171) December 2018

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Defence Industry

BAE Systems awarded development contract for Mobile Protected Firepower

The U.S. Army has awarded BAE Systems a contract worth up to \$376 million for the Engineering, Manufacturing, and Development (EMD) phase of the Mobile Protected Firepower (MPF) program and rapid prototyping effort with low-rate initial production options.

BAE Systems' solution combines new technology with proven capability to provide the Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) with a highly agile, armor-protected platform that delivers overwhelming and precise firepower for use across the spectrum of terrains and operations.

"Our offering integrates innovative technology that reduces the burden on the crew into a compact design deployable in areas that are hard to reach," said Deepak Bazaz, director of combat vehicles programs at BAE Systems. "We're confident our design meets the requirements and the unique capabilities the IBCT needs."

Under the contract, one of two awarded ahead of the Government's down-select to a final contractor, BAE Systems will produce 12 prototype vehicles during the EMD phase.

The BAE Systems MPF is the result of more than 30 years of research and development for an optimized, rapidly deployable, light combat vehicle designed specifically to support light infantry. The vehicle leverages investments the Army made in the M8 Armored Gun System, including its low-profile design, and proven technologies like the M35 105mm cannon, and an auto-loading ammunition system that allows the gun to fire at a rate of 12 rounds per minute. The innovative roll-out powerpack design allows for easy access to the engine and transmission without the aid of heavy equipment.

It also integrates scalable armor and innovative survivability subsystems to protect the vehicle and crew from threats on the future battlefield. The vehicle employs situational awareness systems adding to the highest levels of survivability and crew protection. The compact design allows for multiple vehicle deployment on a C-17 and exceeds the Army's transport requirement and it is sustainable within the IBCT.

Work on the EMD vehicles will take place at BAE Systems' facilities in Aiken, South Carolina; San Jose, California; Sterling Heights, Michigan; and York, Pennsylvania.

Defence Industry

U.S. Army awards General Dynamics contract for Mobile Protected Firepower

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. -- The U.S. Army has awarded a \$335 million Section 804 Middle Tier Acquisition (MTA) Rapid Prototyping contract to General Dynamics Land Systems to deliver 12 prototype vehicles for the Mobile Protected Firepower program.

The medium-weight, large-caliber MPF combat vehicle will support infantry brigades. The vehicles are required to be highly lethal, survivable and mobile.

"We are excited about this opportunity to provide the U.S. Army a large-caliber, highly mobile combat vehicle to support the infantry brigade combat teams," says Don Kotchman, Vice President and General Manager of General Dynamics Land Systems U.S. Market. "We are especially proud of this new opportunity to serve in the Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) formation."

The contract has Low Rate Initial Production (LRIP) options for a total of up to \$968 million.

Work on this contract will be performed at Land Systems locations in Sterling Heights, Mich.; Scranton, Pa., and Tallahassee, Fla., and at the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, Ohio -- the only operational tank plant in the country.

General Dynamics Land Systems is a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD). General Dynamics Land Systems provides innovative design, engineering, technology, production and full life-cycle support for land combat vehicles around the globe.

Contracts

Krauss-Maffei Wegmann supports the modernization of the Hungarian Army

Munich -- NATO and EU member state Hungary is modernizing its land forces and seeking a European alliance for its equipment.

As part of this modernization process, Hungary signed a contract for the procurement of 44 new Leopard 2A7+ main battle tanks and 24 new PzH 2000 howitzers with German defense technology company Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW) on December 19th, 2018.

In addition, Hungary is procuring 12 used Leopard 2 A4 main battle tanks from KMW's inventories for training purposes. The project represents a further step

toward greater interoperability between European armed forces. Hungarian Defense Minister Tibor Benkő emphasized that the contract would strengthen the smooth and extensive cooperation between the German and the Hungarian Armies.

