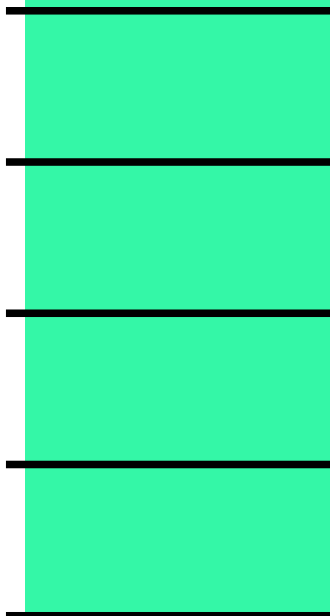


Army Guide monthly



4 (115) April 2014

- Rheinmetall to supply Norway with new fleet of military trucks
- Nexter Group awarded VBCI Support in Service contract (MSS)
- Sagem wins new international contract for SIGMA 30 pointing system on PzH 2000 artillery system
- MTL Group Exhibit at DSA 2014
- Saab Supplies Vehicle Electronics to Patria
- General Dynamics European Land Systems delivers the 500th EAGLE to the Bundeswehr



Contracts

Rheinmetall to supply Norway with new fleet of military trucks

Rheinmetall AG of Düsseldorf has just won another major order for military wheeled vehicles. The Norwegian armed forces will soon be taking delivery of a large number of logistical vehicles made by Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles (RMMV). RMMV is a joint venture with Rheinmetall AG holding 51% and MAN Truck&Bus AG holding 49%.

Signed at RMMV's Vienna plant, the framework contract for military logistical vehicles runs through 2025. It is linked to an additional agreement under which RMMV will provide the Norwegian armed forces with long-term service support.

Simultaneously, a first firm order was placed for new trucks. Worth over €100 million, this contract also includes integrated logistical support such as the supply of spare parts and maintenance services. Delivery of the first batch of vehicles – a mix of different models – is set to begin in mid 2015 and finish in mid 2017.

First and foremost, the new vehicles are intended to enhance the transport capacity of the Norwegian military's logistical arm as well as expanding its operational capabilities. The new high-tech vehicles, which include many different variants, will be meticulously configured to meet the exacting specifications of the Norwegian armed forces. Some of the trucks will feature an integrated armoured cab, providing vehicle crews with effective protection from ballistic threats and shrapnel.

Fostering added force protection and maximum operational effectiveness, the trucks will also feature state-of-the-art communications and command technology as well as a remotely operated weapon station mounted to the roof of the cab for an integral self-defence capability.

Contracts

Nexter Group awarded VBCI Support in Service contract (MSS)



Versailles -- The Nexter Group has today signed the Support in Service contract for the VBCI armored infantry combat vehicle, at a ceremony held in Satory.

The Central Director of the SIMMT (The French ministry of Defence maintenance in operational condition department), General Jean-Yves Dominguez,

and the CEO of Nexter Systems, Philippe Burtin, are thus continuing the substantial work already carried out between their teams and ensuring the continued availability of the fleet for the next 10 years.

On August 1, 2014, this market will take the place of an initial contract (Series Logistics), which has demonstrated its effectiveness by successfully supporting operations such as PAMIR in Afghanistan, DAMAN in Lebanon, SERVAL in Mali, as well as the maintenance of the training fleet in Champagne.

With an organization structured around purchase orders, it will enable the Army to regulate financial commitments to meet their needs based on the actual use of the fleet. Technical expertise services will concurrently ensure the continued existence of supply flows.

This contract, which comes in addition to the support contracts for LECLERC and CAESAR® fleets, confirms the position of Nexter as a major partner of the French Army.

Contracts

Sagem wins new international contract for SIGMA 30 pointing system on PzH 2000 artillery system



Sagem (Safran) has signed a contract with German manufacturer KMW (Krauss Maffei Wegmann) to integrate its SIGMA 30 navigation and pointing system on all PzH 2000 tracked artillery systems acquired by Qatar.

Sagem designed the SIGMA 30 pointing system to give long-range artillery quick, high-precision firing capability without GPS. Because of its performance capabilities, it allows deployments by distributed artillery pieces, boosting mobility and protection by support units. The SIGMA 30 operates independently within the artillery system, protecting it against jamming and other countermeasures.

Based on digital laser gyro technology with a long optical path, SIGMA 30 reflects Sagem's proven expertise in the production of navigation systems and inertial sensors. Its SIGMA 30 navigation/pointing systems are produced in France at the company's Montluçon plant.

With this latest contract, Sagem further consolidates its offering of navigation and pointing systems to armies worldwide. SIGMA 30 systems have been selected for some 40 artillery systems in 20 countries, including the Archer system (BAE), the Nexter Systems Caesar, for France and international markets, the Nora wheeled

system (SDPR), the M270 Mars 2 single-launch rocket system for NATO (Airbus Defense Systems), and the 2R2M mobile mortar (Thales).

The SIGMA 30 is combat proven. As part of the French army's Caesar gun, the Sigma 30 has contributed to French artillery units' effectiveness in some of the most demanding environments on Earth, including Afghanistan and, more recently, in Mali for Operation Serval.

Sagem understands and applies all inertial technologies (mechanical, laser, fiber optic, vibrating), with over 60 years of experience in making civil and military navigation systems for all operating environments, worldwide.

Exhibitions

MTL Group Exhibit at DSA 2014

Leading design and development armour specialists MTL Group will make its debut at DSA 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this April.

DSA (Defence Services Asia) is the continents leading and most established show for the defence and security market. Attracting more than 1000 exhibitors from more than 50 countries worldwide.

MTL Group, a high technology manufacturer of blast and ballistic components for the armoured vehicle market has come a long way over the past 15 years from supplying vehicle armour kits to working with customers to develop, upgrade and certificate the protection levels of their vehicle platform.

Following on from success in the African and Middle Eastern markets, MTL Group has moved its attention to the Asian market and will be showcasing its capabilities there for the first time at DSA 2014.

Owen Hall, BD Manager for Defence and Security said

"The Asian market is an area we have seen significant growth over the past few years at MTL Group. As well as offering add on armour upgrades to existing vehicles, our customers are looking for support from the concept design stage to reduce weight, cost, welding and improve protection"

MTL Group will be showcasing several key armour components at DSA which include SMARTbend for blast and ballistic applications.

"Due to the nature of SMARTbend, no heat is introduced into the material so the original mechanical properties of the steel are maintained unlike other processes that rely on heat and expensive, bespoke tooling to bend this type of material."

Another key product for the vehicle upgrade market is MTL Group's IMPAS armour.

"The success of IMPAS Armour (add-on protection up to STANAG 4569 Level IV) has given our customers a lower cost alternative to composite and ceramics which has been received well in Asia"

With all processing under one roof at its 30,000 sq. m. facility in the UK, MTL Group has already demonstrated

its capability in the design, development and manufacture of fully fabricated armoured structures to its global customer based. MTL Group is recognised as one of the leading manufacturers in the world to offer this complete service.

"It is an exciting and busy time for MTL Group at the moment with more customers bringing their challenges to the table which is now ranging from hull optimisation to testing and validating vehicles designs within 12 months."

MTL Group will exhibit its SMARTbend and IMPAS on Stand P1 – 18 at DSA 2014 in April.

Defence Industry

Saab Supplies Vehicle Electronics to Patria

The defence and security company Saab has received an order from the Finnish military vehicle manufacturer Patria Land Systems Oy. The order includes vehicle electronics for the information systems of Patria AMV 8x8 vehicles being delivered to South Africa.

The deliveries include a data network and operator displays plus a digital video system with cameras. These will be integrated in the Patria AMV 8x8 vehicles to be delivered by Patria to South Africa. The deliveries will take place in 2014-2016. The sub systems will be locally supported in South Africa.

"Saab is supplying Patria AMV vehicles with the latest technology, helping to improve local situational awareness for soldiers in the field. This order further establishes our position as a leading supplier of robust systems within vehicle electronics on the international market," says Niclas Ljunggren, Director and Head of Vehicle Systems at Saab's Business Area Support and Services.

Defence Industry

General Dynamics European Land Systems delivers the 500th EAGLE to the Bundeswehr



KAISERSLAUTERN -- the 500th EAGLE Command and Function Vehicle from General Dynamics European Land Systems was ceremonially delivered to the Bundeswehr.

On 4 April, approximately 100 invited representatives from the government and industry joined to celebrate the

delivery of the 500th EAGLE in Kaiserslautern. Dr. Christian Kauth, Managing Director of General Dynamics European Land Systems-Germany (GDELS-Germany), welcomed the audience with representatives from the Federal Ministry of Defense, Inspector of the Army, and BAAlNBw, and members of the Bundestag, as well as from the City of Kaiserslautern.

In their speeches, Vice Admiral J.G. Röhle, department head of the AIN, Federal Ministry of Defense, Lieutenant General B. Kasdorf, Inspector of the Army, First Director BAAlNBw Mr.

Minning, praised the EAGLE vehicle for its superior protection, high mobility and reliability. They also noted that General Dynamics European Land Systems has always delivered the EAGLE vehicles on schedule, at cost, and to the expected quality. It was even possible to procure the EAGLE V and still remain below the planned budget.

At the event, Dr. Kauth announced that General Dynamics European Land Systems-Germany delivered the first EAGLE V vehicles to the Bundeswehr only 291 calendar days after placement of the order. "General Dynamics European Land Systems is proud to have achieved this milestone and would like to thank the German Bundeswehr for the trust and confidence they place in our company and our products," said Dr. Kauth.

"To achieve optimum solutions regarding procurement and life cycle costs, we focus on a high degree of commonality with respect to the predecessor model EAGLE IV, i.e. in the area of assembly commonality as well as operation and maintenance. We also strive for better manufacturability of the EAGLE V. We wanted to prove that it is possible to achieve higher performance at lower cost."

The EAGLE baseline vehicles are manufactured in Kreuzlingen (Switzerland), fully assembled in Kaiserslautern and Sembach (Germany), and delivered to the Bundeswehr from there. The EAGLE fleet is serviced by technicians from General Dynamics European Land Systems - Germany, both for pre-deployment training and directly on the field in Afghanistan and Mali.

From 2008, the Bundeswehr has procured 495 highly protected EAGLE IV Command and Function Vehicles in several batches in order to increase the protection of German soldiers on their missions abroad, such as in the Hindu Kush where the EAGLE was successfully used from 2009 on. In June 2013 and in February 2014, the Bundeswehr acquired further 176 vehicles of the successor model EAGLE V.

The EAGLE V 4x4 sets the standard for protected wheeled vehicles in the weight class of up to 10 t. The Cummins turbocharged diesel engine, in connection with an Allison 5-speed automatic transmission, the remarkable De Dion axle system with the patented roll stabilizer, the tire-pressure control system and the permanent all-wheel drive give the EAGLE V superior on-road and off-road mobility. Thanks to the modular protection system, the EAGLE V offers a very high level of protection against ballistic threats, mines, and IEDs. In

order to maximize mission readiness and protection of the soldiers, all vehicles are equipped with air conditioning and NBC overpressure systems.

