

Army Guide monthly



2 (197) February 2021

- Adds to Existing \$57.9M IDIQ Contract for Sustainment Activity across All FLIR Unmanned Ground Systems
- QinetiQ and Pratt Miller Deliver First Robotic Combat Vehicle - Light to U.S. Army



Robots

Adds to Existing \$57.9M IDIQ Contract for Sustainment Activity across All FLIR Unmanned Ground Systems



ARLINGTON, Va. -- FLIR Systems, Inc. announced it has received an additional \$30.1 million contract from the United States (U.S.) Army for sustainment efforts tied in part to the service's Man Transportable Robotic System Increment II (MTRS Inc. II) and Common Robotic System-Heavy (CRS-H) ground robot programs. The award raises the maximum value on the company's existing Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract to \$88 million, covering maintenance, parts and overall sustainment support for the entire FLIR unmanned ground systems family of small, medium and large robots used by the US Army.

"We're proud to be supporting the U.S. Army on two vital programs of record designed to confront a new generation of threats on the battlefield," said Tom Frost, VP for Unmanned Ground Systems in the Unmanned and Integrated Solutions business at FLIR. "From the Kobra™ and Centaur® platforms to our smaller PackBot® and FirstLook® robots, we are well positioned to provide high-quality, cost-effective sustainment efforts over these systems' lifespan and deliver lifesaving robotic technology to America's warfighters."

In 2019, the Army selected the FLIR Kobra robot as its CRS-H platform. The five-year production contract is worth up to \$109 million to build upwards of 350 unmanned ground vehicles. In November, the Army announced it had begun fielding CRS-H. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) teams will use the system to perform a range of missions, such as disarming vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices and other heavy-duty jobs. Modular payloads can be added for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) detection and other tasks.

In 2017, the Army selected the medium-sized Centaur robot as its MTRS Inc. II solution. FLIR is delivering systems under that multi-year program of record, valued at more than \$150 million upon award, including options. Since then, other U.S. military branches have opted to deploy Centaur as well.

Over the last year, FLIR has announced multiple orders totaling nearly \$100 million for more than 750 Centaur unmanned ground systems from the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps. In addition to its use for

bomb disposal efforts, Centaur operators can quickly attach different sensors and payloads to the robot to address other missions, including CBRN threats.



Robots

QinetiQ and Pratt Miller Deliver First Robotic Combat Vehicle - Light to U.S. Army



QinetiQ Inc. and Pratt Miller Defense are pleased to announce the delivery of the first Robotic Combat Vehicle – Light (RCV-L) to the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (CCDC) Ground Vehicle Systems Center (GVSC).

The RCV-L is a purpose-built hybrid-electric unmanned ground combat vehicle (UGCV) integrating technology from both organizations.

The first RCV-L was delivered to GVSC on November 5, 2020. The RCV-L, provided by the team of QinetiQ Inc. (QinetiQ) and Pratt Miller Defense (Pratt Miller), is the first of four systems to be delivered. The culmination of eight months of challenging work, this on-time delivery is a major milestone for the RCV program's industry/government collaboration.

Michael Rose; Branch Chief for Robotic Combat Platforms, GVSC Ground Vehicle Robotics; shared the following after the delivery took place. "The delivery of the first RCV-L is an exciting result of numerous government organizations and industry working together to achieve our first combat ready robotic vehicle. This unit is the first of four vehicles developed in support of the Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T) Soldier Operational Experiment, planned for 2022, and represents a significant milestone for the program. QinetiQ and Pratt Miller have successfully developed and delivered these systems within budget and on-schedule even in the face of the COVID-19

pandemic. The GVSC team now plans to add Autonomous Mobility as well as Government Furnished Software for the Tethered UAS Multi-Mission Payload and CROWS-J Lethality package."

"We are proud to deliver the first Robotic Combat Vehicle to the U.S. Army," said Laurent Lannibois, QinetiQ's RCV Program Manager. "This delivery will provide the Army with an unmanned vehicle ready for integration into ground combat operations. Our team's ability to deliver this unparalleled and versatile capability on schedule while working through the unexpected challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic is commendable."

The team hosted representatives from GVSC along with the Next Generation Combat Vehicle (NGCV) Cross Functional Team (CFT), and Program Executive Office (PEO) Ground Combat Systems (GCS) Product Manager Robotic Combat Vehicle (PdM RCV) the week prior to delivery at Pratt Miller's New Hudson, MI facility. They demonstrated the RCV-L system and shared the progress of the follow-on vehicle builds.

"This is an important step forward for the RCV enterprise and, more importantly, for our Soldiers," said Brig. Gen. Ross Coffman, director of the Army's Next Generation Combat Vehicles Cross Functional Team. "We look forward to getting this prototype into the hands of our Soldiers and getting their feedback on how we can best utilize Robotic Combat Vehicles in defense of our great nation."

The RCV-L is a purpose-built hybrid-electric unmanned ground combat vehicle (UGCV) configured to meet the specific needs of the program. It builds upon the proven maturity provided by the Pratt Miller Expeditionary Modular Autonomous Vehicle (EMAV) and integrates QinetiQ's Modular Open System Architecture (MOSA) robotic control systems to make it both highly flexible, and payload agnostic.



Brian Barr, Pratt Miller Product Manager, described the RCV-L, "By building upon years of EMAV development, testing, and experimentation with the United States Marine Corps, we were able to provide the Army with a mature low-risk system that exceeds the objective level speed, maneuverability, and payload requirements in a single system configuration. The EMAV platform's modular flat deck architecture has been integrated with over 20 payloads and exemplifies the flexibility required to address current and future threats."

The RCV-L Prototype Project was awarded to QinetiQ North America (now a wholly owned subsidiary of

QinetiQ Inc.) with major subcontractor Pratt Miller, in March 2020 through the National Advanced Mobility Consortium. The agreement includes the delivery and support of four RCV-L platforms with procurement options for up to 16 additional RCV-L systems.

