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Special Focus: Homeland Security



Following the events of 9/11 the term Homeland Security has obtained a new and different perspective. From safeguarding the security of the nation's interior against possible enemy actions during a conflict, it has transformed to the protection of the every-day social activities and the national transport, power, communication and health infrastructure, and finally the nation's natural resources. Under this context the responsible authorities for the implementation of Homeland Security have a different reality to face.

Most probably the institution that faced the biggest and most strenuous modification was the Armed Forces. The Armed forces found themselves with a new mission; to safeguard the essence of modern society and living and the everyday normal financial and social activities of the citizens. Armed forces had to deal with enemies that had never encountered before and that were using methods and tactics unknown until then. This new reality made the aforementioned institution and a great number of other institutions and governmental agencies to realize the value of contingency planning and the build-up of special capabilities to respond, manage and control great-scale disasters.

The main focus of the preparation for the confrontment of a crisis has shifted from the actual crisis to the implementation of measures for the deterrence of the crises and to the creation of the proper structures that will minimize the effects of it. This alternation has also affected the industry that has also shifted its attention and started to develop new systems suitable for the new tasks.



Therefore, several important companies developed capabilities for homeland security. These developments have as a purpose the creation of a wide spectrum of products that will secure vital assets of infrastructure including transportation systems, food and water supply, and critical social services such as health care, law enforcement, and emergency services. In order to meet with the complex requirements of the new notion of homeland security, defence companies use the whole spectrum of their capabilities in order to help the customers satisfy the unique challenging and situations that they face within the complex framework which budget and regulatory constrains create.

Managing Homeland Security has clearly become an essential role of the government as well. It is the constitution of every country and of course the common belief of its citizens that entails the government with the responsibility of ensuring public health and safety and therefore protects them from potential risks and troubles. Additionally, the government has



to manage the coordination of resources in response to the recovery from associated emergency events.

Currently, there has been a tremendous improvement in the domain of Homeland Security as the institutions that are involved in the aforementioned domain managed to adapt to this new reality. In spite of the progress made so far the fact remains that as much as advanced a society and subsequently its security forces are, there are still technological capabilities that can turn in the hands of a skilled opponent who has the opportunity to inflict as much damage as

possible. Therefore the effort of the involved institutions should continue to be strenuous and unrestricted.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

*Ability Computers and Systems Industries Ltd,
The ability to deliver both interception and decryption*



ABILITY Computers and Systems Industries Ltd is an Israeli company that was founded in 1993 by a team of experts in military intelligence and communications who were joined by specialists in electronics and mathematics. Their goal

was simple but extraordinarily complex – to devise state of the art interception and decryption solutions that would serve the needs and ever-increasing challenges of Security, HLS, Intelligence Agencies, Law Enforcement Agencies and security services around the world.

The company's core focus has been the development of advanced, customer oriented, field-proven systems for off-air interception of cellular and satellite communications .

Ability uniqueness is in its complete capabilities in both interception of communications as well as communication decryption.

ABILITY has nearly two decades of field proven record in servicing leading security agencies all over the world as well as Law Enforcement Agencies and armed forces around the globe! Ability specializes in off-air interception of communication networks and deciphering solutions for cellular and satellite communications.

Ability products are sold worldwide and are restricted to authorized government agencies and law enforcement services only.

Ability systems are deployed for surveillance, border security, anti-terror, anti-crime, intelligence gathering, reconnaissance, target tracking, internal security, airport security and tracking suspicious people for authorized users only, such as:

- Ministries of Defense
- National Agencies
- Secret Services & Security officers
- Federal Police forces & Presidential Police
- Homeland Security organizations
- Border control forces
- Large scale integrators
- Anti drug organizations and law enforcement units
- Armies, Navies, Air Forces
- Ministries of Interior
- Ministries of Justice



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ability

Recently, based on the technology developed for Defense, Security and HLS, Ability detected a market for similar capabilities for commercial needs and decided to expend the offering to the market by performing a spin off to the interception technology to fit some unique commercial needs, such as:

- System for SMS broadcasting
- System for broadcasting of pre recorded voice message
- Kit for Independent Emergency GSM communication (Voice, SMS, MMS). Next generation will include 3G capabilities
- Systems for Search And Rescue needs – support detecting people in disaster areas by tracking their GSM handsets.

Company Vision

- Deliver cutting edge and cost effective solution to the ever-ending demands of Law Enforcement, Defense and Security markets
- Provide all building blocks for off the air, communication interception and monitoring systems



- Being a world leader with the biggest market share of interception & monitoring of personal communication

Areas of Activities

- Variety of Cellular interception systems, including full passive and semi passive solutions
- Advancer solution for UMTS
- CDMA passive solutions
- Personal satellite communication interception, including Thuraya, Iridium and other commercial channels
- Frontends integration with larger scale systems

Company solutions are relevant only to authorized official users.

For Further Information about the company press [here](#) or contact

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Interview with Mr. Rony Reshef, VP of Marketing & Sales of Ability Computers & Software Industries Ltd



“The company seeks to provide the most advanced solutions to fit customer needs, as such, Ability focuses currently on the UMTS area, commercial needs and next generation solutions”, said Mr. Rony Reshef, VP of Marketing & Sales of Ability Computers & Software Industries Ltd in an exclusive interview that he gave to Epicos.

- Can you please tell us about the place of Ability in the national and international market?

Ability is among the world leaders in the area of Off the Air Interception with unique, pioneered solutions which some were offered to the international customer's long time before any other company could do it. Ability solutions are field proven with record of many installations worldwide.

- What are the next steps and priorities of the company?

The company seeks to provide the most advanced solutions to fit customer needs, as such, Ability focuses currently on the UMTS area, commercial needs and next generation solutions. In addition, the company continues to improve the existing systems for upgrading the current install base and also, offer upgrades to systems provided by other companies.



- Why someone should choose Ability to do business?

During the time since 1993, Ability proved itself as a professional stable company that can provide high level unique solution in very attractive price. Ability personal are skilled and can offer full support to the customer to apply to their needs, starting with support to define the needs, installation, training, integration and customized solution. As Ability owns the technology, we can offer solution which no other company can offer (including specific localization for specific customers)

- Is there is a specific country that the company is going to expand?

Ability is an international company and as such, we are active all over the world (according to the MOD regulations and restrictions).

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- What are the main technological advantages of the company?

The main advantages are with advanced deciphering solutions for our own systems and the ability to offer those solutions for integration with systems provided by other companies.

We are offering the most advanced UMTS solution currently available in the market while seeking continues improving it.

We offer wide band unique interception solutions which can be operated locally or remotely.

- What are the main distinct divisions and market segments that Ability is activated?

It is listed above in the general company over view.

- Is Ability currently investing in a new technology?

Ability is conducting continues effort to improve the capabilities and offer new advanced solutions.

Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects"



Epicos " Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects " provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

[For Further Information Press Here](#)

Development of a CCTV Surveillance and Biometrics Access Control System for Homeland Security and/or Military Applications



A company active in the fields of video technology and biometrics-based entry control is proposing the development of a CCTV Surveillance and Biometrics Access Control System for Homeland Security and/or Military applications. This system will be based on a combination of legacy sub-systems already developed and fielded in several customers but it could also include the latest advances in video surveillance and biometrics-based entry control technologies.

[For Further Information Contact our ICO Department](#)

Mail at: a-dimou@epicos.com

AIS Monitoring & Control center implementation



A high technology company is proposing the cooperation with Homeland Security Agencies for the enhancement of their national coastal waters surveillance capacity through the implementation of a National AIS (Automatic Identification System) Monitoring and Control Center and its integration with existing systems related to maritime safety. The project can be implemented either through the fulfillment of an offset obligation in the country or through a direct cooperation with

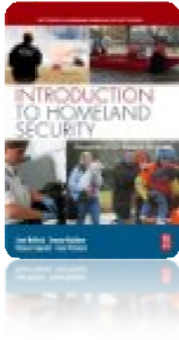
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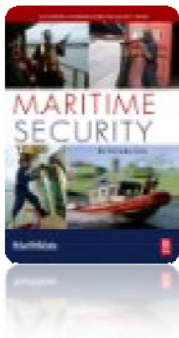


Introduction to Homeland Security, Third Edition: Principles of All-Hazards Response, by Jane Bullock, George Haddow, Damon P. Coppola, Sarp Yeletaysi



Introduction to Homeland Security has set the standard for homeland security textbooks. The improved third edition follows the quality of the previous two and also gives new assessments about the future of Homeland Security. Additionally, the book provides links to the most current online information something that helps the reader keep up with the latest developments in a rapidly developing field. Introduction to Homeland Security should be regarded as a must read for students and professional practitioners that are interesting in one of the most comprehensive and significant subjects that nowadays, troubles the international scene.

Maritime Security: An Introduction, by Michael McNicholas



The evolution that we now call the modern shipping industry began small but nowadays has grown in an extend that it is difficult, if not impossible to control. That is the reason why it is important to try to safeguard it as much as possible. Maritime Security is trying to highlight the dangerous that modern shipping industry is facing. Maritime Security is a very useful textbook that should be regarded as a must read for the homeland security officials, the U.S. Coast Guard, policy makers, goverment and private sector professionals.



Russian president calls for further arms reductions

DAVOS (Switzerland), January 27 (RIA Novosti) - Russian President Dmitry Medvedev said he was ready to sign a law on ratification of a new START treaty and urged the United States to continue joint efforts aimed at further strategic arms reduction. Both houses of the Russian parliament have ratified the new arms reduction deal between Russia and the United States, paving the way for the president to sign the ratification into a law. "When I come back from Davos, the text of the ratified treaty will be put on my table," Medvedev said Wednesday at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland. The president added that he had already agreed with his U.S. counterpart Barack Obama on how to exchange the instruments of ratification. "However, we must not stop at that and continue our efforts in reduction of strategic offensive weapons and limitations in a related area of missile defense," Medvedev said. The new arms reduction pact, replacing START 1, which expired in December 2009, was signed by Medvedev and Obama in Prague in April, 2010. The document slashes the Russian and U.S. nuclear arsenals to a maximum of 1,550 nuclear warheads, down from the current ceiling of 2,200. The U.S. Senate ratified the deal on December 22, 2010, but added several amendments to the resolution on ratification, including a demand to build up U.S. global missile defenses. Russian lawmakers also added some provisions to the ratification document and issued two supplementary statements to the resolution on ratification of the agreement.

Source: Ria Novosti

Russia insists on equal part in European missile defense

MOSCOW, January 27 (RIA Novosti) - Russian experts must be involved in the development of the European missile defense network on a permanent and equal basis, the chief of the Russian General Staff said. Russia and NATO agreed to cooperate in the creation of the European missile defense system in Lisbon in November last year. The parties agreed to formulate terms for missile defense cooperation by June 2011. "The main condition for joint work [in the area of missile defense] should be permanent participation of Russian experts in drafting the European missile defense architecture," Gen. Nikolai Makarov said at a meeting of the Russia-NATO Council on Wednesday. NATO earlier proposed to create two separate systems that would exchange information, while Russia proposed a unified missile defense network, which would include joint centers for establishing threats and be based on joint decisions. NATO also suggested that the creation of the European missile defense architecture should be a gradual, step-by-step process. Makarov said on Wednesday that this approach was unacceptable because Moscow wanted to see clearly the real purpose of the European missile shield and Russia's role in it from the very beginning. "We want to understand the entire design of this 'house', its purpose and cost, and the role to be given to Russia in it," the general said.

Source: Ria Novosti

Turkish PM Erdogan to talk trade, economy in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK, February 1 (RIA Novosti) - Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan will discuss the development of trade and economic relations between his country and Kyrgyzstan, where he arrives for an official visit on Tuesday, a senior Kyrgyz government official said. "I believe that the visit will yield weighty and positive results. A business forum involving some 300 businessmen from both countries will be held during the visit," Sapar Isakov, the head of the foreign policy department with the Presidential Administration, said. Contracts on the export of Kyrgyz agricultural products to Turkey are expected to be signed during the business forum, he said. Isakov added that it would be the first visit of the Turkish prime minister to Kyrgyzstan over the past eight years. "We want to verify our earlier reached agreements, to improve relations in the perspective and to synchronize our steps regarding Turkish investments into economy of our country," he said. The diplomat also recalled that Turkey helped his country by giving \$21 million in aid last year, when Kyrgyzstan was embroiled in a political turmoil. Kyrgyzstan saw large-scale opposition riots in April of 2010 that overturned President Kurmanbek Bakiyev and brought the opposition to power. The political situation in the country stabilized after the country elected a new parliament and approved Roza Otunbayeva, the former opposition leader, as president for a transitional period until 2012.

Source: Ria Novosti

Armenia, Iran agree oil pipeline deal

MOSCOW, January 31 (RIA Novosti) - Iran and Armenia have agreed to build a pipeline to carry Iranian oil derivatives to Armenia. The agreement was reached between Iranian Oil Minister Massoud Mirkazemi and Armenian Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Armen Movsisyan in Tehran on Saturday. A timeframe has yet to be set on the pipeline from the northwestern city of Tabriz to the Armenian border. Mirkazemi said the volume of exports of oil products will be finalized in the near future. He pointed to cheaper energy prices in the Persian Gulf region in comparison to the Mediterranean region as well as the safety of transit as the advantages of the deal for Armenia.

Source: Ria Novosti

Boeing, Netherlands MOD Mark 1st Flight of Royal Netherlands Air Force CH-47F (NL) Chinook

Ridley Township, Pa., Jan. 26, 2011 -- Representatives of Boeing [NYSE: BA], its suppliers and the Netherlands Ministry of Defence marked the first flight of the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAf) CH-47F (NL) Chinook heavy-lift helicopter in a ceremony Jan. 25 at Summit Aviation in Middletown, Del.

The aircraft made its first flight on Dec. 8 and is scheduled to complete its flight test program in August after approximately 100 flight hours. There are two aircraft in flight test.

The RNLAf has ordered six CH-47F (NL) Chinooks to enhance its current fleet of 11 CH-47D (NL) aircraft. The new Chinooks are equipped with survivability equipment, a forward-looking infrared system, and fast rope positions, which will be used to support Special Forces operations. The engines will include air particle separators for operation in harsh environments. These additions will make the RNLAf CH-47F a versatile, multi-role aircraft for worldwide operations.

Boeing expects to begin delivering the aircraft later this year, making the RNLAf the first international customer to field the new CH-47F.

The flight tests have included assessments of the advanced operational capabilities enabled by the aircraft's Avionics Control and Management System cockpit and newly integrated Digital Automatic Flight Control System. By the conclusion of the tests, the aircraft will be certified airworthy by the Netherlands Military Aviation Authority.

"The Chinook has over the years proven itself to be a true workhorse for the Netherlands Air Force," said Air Commodore Theo ten Haaf, Commanding Officer Defence Helicopter Command of the RNLAf. "The aircraft proved to be 'the right tool' for a difficult and challenging job, especially in austere environments and during the combined air and ground operations in Afghanistan. Both ground troops and aircrew speak highly of it."

He added, "The CH-47F is a major improvement over the 47D model. The arrival of these new aircraft in the RNLAf will ensure that the RNLAf continues to operate with the best in the field of tactical transport helicopter operations both now and in the future."

"Our goal is to use available technology to provide customers with the best solutions while enabling long-term sustainability," said Leanne Caret, H-47 Programs vice president for Boeing. "We have a long-standing relationship with the Netherlands and this new aircraft is another example of our focus on providing advanced solutions to meet our customers' growing demands."

The Netherlands MOD and Boeing also are evaluating a potential upgrade of the current CH-47D (NL) Chinook fleet to the new CH-47F (NL) configuration.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Defense, Space & Security is one of the world's largest defense, space and security businesses specializing in innovative and capabilities-driven customer solutions, and the world's largest and most versatile manufacturer of military aircraft. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Defense, Space & Security is a \$32 billion business with 66,000 employees worldwide.

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Source: Epicos, Boeing Defense, Space & Security