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Kazakhstan: Defence Budget Past & Future Procurements

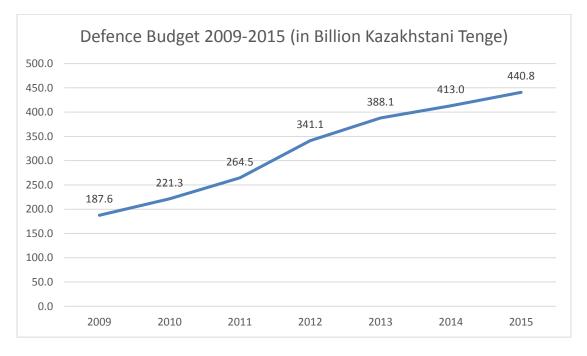


Kazakhstan's army is considered to be one of the best equipped and trained in Central Asia. Like all post-Soviet countries, Kazakhstan's armed



forces are mainly equipped with Russian and Soviet-made equipment. Using the wealth gathered from exporting natural resources, the Central Asian country is in the process of

further modernising its defence Inventory. In order to achieve this, defence budget is sky rocked from 187.6 billion Kazakhstani tenge -KZT- (562.7 million US dollars) in 2009 to 440.8 billion KZT (approximately 1.3 billion US dollars) in 2015. National defence budget is expected to continue rising in the years to come, mainly driven by an arms' race in the Central Asia region.



Source: http://www.minfin.gov.kz

As it is already mentioned Kazakhstan mainly operates and procures Russian and Sovietmade defence equipment. Under this notion in 2015, Kazakhstan received 5 second-hand S-300PS/SA-10B Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) systems. The delivery of the S-300 system is part of the unified Russia-Belarus-Kazakhstan air defence network.

In the future it is expected that Kazakhstan will be mainly interest in Russian-made aircraft such as the Su-35 multirole fighter and the Yak-130 operational trainer. Additionally, the Ka-52, Mi-28NE and Mi-35M attack helicopters have great potential in the Kazakhstani market.

At the same time, in an effort to expand and diversify the range of its defence equipment suppliers and as part of its multi-vector foreign policy Kazakhstan has also procured defence assets from other countries such as France, Spain and Germany. By selecting European defence contractors Astana put pressure on Moscow, leaving to the Russian defence industry no choice but to somehow accept Kazakhstani demands in terms of Technology Transfer (ToT) and pricing.

In 2012, Kazakhstan procured 20 EC725 Super Cougar transport helicopter from France that were assembled in the country and 45 EC-145 helicopters from Germany that will be assembled in Kazakhstan as KH-145.

The EC-145 helicopters will be assembled in the Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering, a Joint Venture between Eurocopter and Kazakhstan Engineering. The projected capacity of the facility is up to 12 helicopters a year. Localization of the production processes is to be brought up to 30% within the next 6 years. «Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering» is the only plant to assemble EC 145 helicopters in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Since the establishment of the partnership 20 helicopters have been delivered on the market of Kazakhstan, including 14 helicopters for the Ministry of Emergencies of Kazakhstan and 6 helicopters for the Ministry of Defence of Kazakhstan.

Additionally, it is worth noticing that Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering has exclusive rights to export EC-145 helicopters in countries such as Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and partly in Russia. More on that Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering received two certificates from the Civil Aviation Committee of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan: the certificate for the organization of the maintenance and repair of aircraft and aviation training centre certificate.

The Kazahk Air Force currently operates five C-295 aircraft. A memorandum of understanding has been signed for three more C-295s that will be received by 2018. The delivery of the first two aircraft were concluded on January 16, 2013.

In the naval sector Kazakhstan has signed a memorandum of intent with the German company Abeking&Rasmussen for the supply of corvettes. The two sides also discussed the possibility of establishing a ship-building facility in Kazakhstan. "We are ready to cooperate with the Armed Forces of Kazakhstan and support the establishment of a shipbuilding facility in the country" stated the sales director of the German company Mr Thomas Haake according to a press release provided by Kazakhstan's Ministry of Defence.

Kyriazis Vasileios Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Kazakhstan: Defence Industry, International Cooperative Schemes and Technological Capabilities





Kazakhstan's economy is heavily dependent on oil and gas. Local authorities, try to diversify the economy away from these two types of produce as a way to mitigate future

these two types of produce as a way to mitigate future risks and strengthen the country's economic position. As part of this diversification strategy the Central Asian country is working towards the expansion of the local

defence industrial base. In order to achieve this, a growing emphasis has been placed in developing the country's indigenous capabilities, through the formation of strategic synergies and partnerships with foreign firms and research institutions. Through this process the country is also laying the foundations of self-reliance in its military needs. The Ministry of Defence has set an ambitious goal of bringing to 80% local content in defence products procured for the country's armed forces. The goal is projected to be reached by 2020. Currently Kazakhstani defence industry has the capacity to manufacture armored wheel vehicles, optical-electronic devices, bulletproof vests, radios, flight simulators, navy vessels as well as simulators for combat vehicle crews.

On the global scale, Kazakhstani defence industry is somehow small, with one main player the stated owned Kazakhstan Engineering. In total, the company operates 27 separate entities located in various regions in the country. Nevertheless, Kazakhstan has announced ambitious plans to become not only a leading regional exporter of arms in Central Asia but also in a broader international scale. This has been exemplified in its strong push to set up joint ventures with key players of the defence industry from several countries.

In 2011, Thales and Kazakhstan Engineering inaugurated a production facility in Almaty, which will produce state-of-the-art tactical radio units for the Kazakh Armed Forces. At this facility, Thales Kazakhstan Engineering (TKE) produces the VHF PR4G F@stnet and HF Skyf@st families of software radio products.

In 2010 a Joint Venture between Eurocopter and Kazakhstan Engineering, the Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering was formed. The projected capacity of the JV's facility is up to 12 helicopters a year. Localization of the production processes is to be brought up to 30% within the next 6 years. «Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering» is the only plant to assemble EC 145 helicopters in the Commonwealth of Independent States. Since the establishment of the partnership 20 helicopters have been delivered on the market of Kazakhstan, including 14 helicopters for the Ministry of Emergencies of Kazakhstan and 6 helicopters for the Ministry of Defence of Kazakhstan.

Additionally, Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering has exclusive rights to export EC-145 helicopters in countries such as Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and partly in Russia. More on that Eurocopter Kazakhstan Engineering received two certificates from the Civil Aviation Committee of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kazakhstan: the certificate for the organization of the maintenance and repair of aircraft and aviation training centre certificate. Kazakhstan Engineering has also formed a JV with the Spanish company Indra, in Almaty, for the design, development, production, integration and maintenance of systems, solutions and services based on information, electronic and communications technology. More on that direction, the Turkish company Aselsan, a top military electronics company, has opened a plant in cooperation with Kazakhstan Engineering, for the production of electro-optical products.

The South African Paramount Group together with Kazakhstan Engineering, and LLC Kazakhstan Engineering set up a 15,000 m2 production facility in Kazakhstan for manufacturing an indigenous version of Paramount's armoured combat vehicle, the Marauder. The new variant of the Marauder, is called Arlan. It is expected that Paramount's factory in Kazakhstan will achieve a capacity of more than 200 vehicles per year.

Additionally, the company Kaztehnologii JSC, with the support of the Kazakhstani Ministry of Defence, signed a memorandum on transfer of technology with the Chinese «Norinco Corp» for the production of large-calibre ammunition.

In order to further enhance the knowledge of the county in the production of UAVs, in August 2016, the Defence Minister of Kazakhstan has signed an agreement with his Israeli counterpart for the establishment of a drone-manufacturing infrastructure in Kazakhstan based on Israeli technology, as it is was reported in the website of the Ministry of Defence. The agreement was signed during a visit of Kazakhstani delegation to Tel Aviv.

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Finally, it is worth mentioning that recently an aviation technical centre has been established in the country. The facility is going to partially cover the air forces' requirements in Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO), especially when it comes to the Su-30 fighter aircraft and C-295, An-26 and An-72 types of aircraft. The technical staff of the centre were trained in three different groups; the first one completed its training in "AirbusMillitary" training centre in Spain, the second in Ukraine, in the "Antonov" state enterprise, and the third in Israel.

> Kyriazis Vasileios Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects"

Cpicos.com 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

Low cost battle vehicle information system



A company with long standing experience in the development and production of electromechanical instruments and avionics systems, is proposing the adaptation of existing Battle Vehicle Information System (BVIS) technology used in MBTs, in order to meet related requirements in light armoured vehicles used in peace keeping and homeland security applications around the world.

For Further Information Contact our ICO Department Mail at: a-kintis@epicos.com

Manufacturing of precision tools and moulds to be used in the production of composite parts for defence applications (aeronautical, land vehicles, shipbuilding, etc.)



A company with significant experience in the production of high quality tooling for plastic parts manufacturing for the automotive and consumer goods industries, is proposing collaboration for the production of precision tools and moulds, for manufacturing of composite material articles. These articles will be subassemblies or lower level parts of defence applications equipment

(aeronautical, land vehicles, naval, etc).

For Further Information Contact our ICO Department

Mail at: a-kintis@epicos.com

News from our A&D Business Network

UK Government commits £1.3 billion funding for Successor Submarine programme



BAE Systems today welcomed the announcement by the Right Honourable Sir Michael Fallon MP, Secretary of State for Defence, of nearly £1.3 billion of funding for the Successor programme.

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The programme will deliver four new submarines for the Royal Navy and will replace the current Vanguard class, with the first submarine entering service in the early 2030s. The UK Ministry of Defence (MOD) funding announced today will cover initial manufacturing work, which will start next week, on the first of the Trident ballistic-missile-carrying submarines. It will also enable further procurement of long lead items in addition to ongoing redevelopment of the facilities and infrastructure required to build the submarines at BAE Systems' site in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

Comparable in size to the Vanguard class submarines, the next generation of nuclear deterrent submarine is widely considered to be one of the world's most complex engineering challenges. Technological advances, threat changes, new methods of design and production mean the new submarines will be a completely new design. Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said: "Britain's ballistic missile submarines are the ultimate guarantee of our nation's safety – we use them every day to deter the most extreme threats. We cannot know what new dangers we might face in the 2030s, 2040s and 2050s so we are acting now to replace them." Tony Johns, Managing Director of BAE Systems Submarines, added: "This additional financial investment by the MOD is an expression of confidence in our ability to build these sophisticated vessels. We have been designing the new class of submarine for more than five years and thanks to the maturity of our design, we're now in a position to start production on the date we set back in 2011. This is a terrific achievement and I pay tribute to all those who have made this possible."

The Company and the MOD have also made significant investments in the Barrow site's operating systems, facilities and skills to prepare for the manufacturing phase of the Successor programme. The continued redevelopment of the site will transform the way submarines are built and will include new facilities and the refurbishment of existing infrastructure to ensure it has the capacity needed to deliver the Successor programme.

The Successor programme already employs more than 2,600 people across MOD and industry, including 1,800 at BAE Systems. Thousands more will be employed in the supply chain with an average of 7,800 people expected to be working on Successor each year throughout the duration of the programme. At peak, in the early 2020s, BAE Systems anticipates employing more than 5,000 people on the Successor programme. To date, BAE Systems has worked with more than 100 suppliers, 85% of whom are based in the UK. The total spend in the supply chain is anticipated to reach between £8-9bn, with in excess of 350 suppliers in the submarines' build programme.

For Further Information Click Here

Cubic Awarded \$5.75 Billion IDIQ Contract to Support Government-wide Human Capital, Training and Organizational Improvements



Cubic Global Defense (CGD), a business unit of Cubic Corporation (NYSE: CUB), today announced the award and receipt of Notice-to-Proceed on a \$5.75 billion Multiple Award, Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (MA-IDIQ) task order contract from the General Services Administration

(GSA) in partnership with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for Human Capital and Training Solutions (HCaTS). Under this contract, CGD will have the opportunity to provide customized training and employee development, human capital strategy and organizational performance improvement services across the federal government at all levels. The base MA-IDIQ contract duration is for five years with an additional exercisable five-year option period.

With this contract, the government will have direct access to CGD's deep organizational planning and transformation; force structuring; modeling and simulation experience; as well as game-based, virtual, immersive and neuroscience-based training and development capabilities. CGD is one of 72 unrestricted contracts awarded under the HCaTS vehicle and 37 that were set aside for small businesses under the HCaTS SB vehicle.

"As part of our NextTraining strategy, Cubic is focused on raising organizational readiness and optimizing human performance in all government settings," said Chris Bellios, senior vice president of defense and intelligence services for Cubic Global Defense. "We look forward to working with GSA, OPM and various government organizations to expand the impact and accessibility of organizational government performance solutions."

HCaTS is considered to be the first government-wide human capital solution using category management, an enterprise-wide approach to acquiring goods and services used in private industry and by other government agencies. HCaTS contracts will allow federal agencies to take an efficient and innovative approach to their workforce and training requirements. The GSA will handle administration of the contracts while OPM will manage the programs.

About Cubic Corporation

Cubic Corporation designs, integrates and operates systems, products and services focused in the transportation, defense training and secure communications markets. Cubic Transportation Systems is a leading integrator of payment and information technology and services to create intelligent travel solutions for transportation authorities and operators. Cubic Global Defense is a leading provider of live, virtual, constructive and game-based training solutions, special operations and intelligence for the U.S. and allied forces. Cubic Mission Solutions provides networked Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) capabilities for defense, intelligence, security and commercial missions. For more information about Cubic, please visit the company's website at <u>www.cubic.com</u> or on Twitter @CubicCorp.

Epicos NewsRoom

epicos.com Orbital ATK Receives Orders Totaling \$126 Million to Supply Range of Munitions to U **Army and International Allies**

Orbital ATK, Inc, a global leader in aerospace and defense technologies, announced today that it has been awarded multiple delivery orders from the U.S. government to supply non-U.S. standard ammunition (NSA) for the Department of Defense in support of international allies. The combination of orders received in September and October 2016 under Orbital ATK's Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity and Basic Ordering Agreement contracts total \$126 million.

The selection of Orbital ATK as a provider to the NSA program demonstrates the company's expertise in program, technical and supply chain management, and is complemented by a worldwide team of proven suppliers. Orbital ATK has been the leading supplier to the NSA program since its inception in 2008, providing an important and timely supply of products to our country's allies.

"Orbital ATK has long been a reliable source of affordable, high-quality ammunition to the U.S. Armed Forces and its allies across the globe," said Kent Holiday, Vice President and General Manager of Orbital ATK's Small Caliber Systems Division of the Defense Systems Group. "We are honored to support our Army customer in every facet of ammunition requirements they may have, and these significant orders continue Orbital ATK's legacy of commitment and performance to the U.S. Army NSA program."

Orbital ATK is the operator of the U.S. Army's Lake City Army Ammunition Plant in Independence, Missouri, where it is the largest manufacturer of small caliber ammunition for the U.S Department of Defense. Orbital ATK's Defense Systems Group is an industry leader in providing innovative and affordable precision and strike weapons, advanced propulsion and hypersonics, missile components across air-, sea- and land-based systems, ammunition and related energetic products.

About Orbital ATK

Orbital ATK is a global leader in aerospace and defense technologies. The company designs, builds and delivers space, defense and aviation systems for customers around the world, both as a prime contractor and merchant supplier. Its main products include launch vehicles and related propulsion systems; missile products, subsystems and defense electronics; precision weapons, armament systems and ammunition; satellites and associated space components and services; and advanced aerospace structures. Headquartered in Dulles, Virginia, Orbital ATK employs approximately 12,000 people in 18 states across the U.S. and in several international locations. For more information, visit www.orbitalatk.com.

Source: Epicos, Orbital ATK

SAAB Awarded Research Contract from DARPA

Defense and security company Saab has been awarded a contract by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to perform research for the latter's Massive Overmatch Assault Round (MOAR) study.

The research, to be conducted by Saab's business area Dynamics, will focus on the development of a precision-engagement capability for shoulder-fired weapons. Saab will analyze possible concepts and propose solutions, or highlight areas where future investigations are needed.

"This research is crucial to improving the power of small military units," said Görgen Johansson, head of Saab business area Dynamics. "Today's short-range weapons lack active guidance, while long-range weapons are extremely expensive, physically burdensome, and often require teams of operators that smaller units do not have. Saab is investigating a possible solution: a precision-guided munition for shoulder-fired weapons that provides a long-range, high-precision, multi-target capability."

Saab will conduct studies on its own Carl-Gustaf and AT4 shoulder-fired weapons, both of which are current U.S. Army Programs of Record in service with the U.S. Army.

"Analyzing already-established platforms allows the research to remain focused on the munition itself," said Johansson. "Rather than developing a completely new solution, we are seeking to apply improved capabilities to existing systems – and that would translate to lower costs and faster availability."

Since the 2014 launch of Saab's Carl-Gustaf M4 version, the company has already been investing its own R&D money into new "smart" munitions to leverage the new system's advanced capabilities.

The MOAR study is part of DARPA's Office-Wide Broad Agency Announcement entitled "Innovative Systems for Military Missions."

For further information, please contact:

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Saab Group serves the global market with world-leading products, services and solutions within military defense and civil security. Saab has operations and employees on all continents around the world. Through innovative, collaborative and pragmatic thinking, Saab develops, adopts and improves new technology to meet customers' changing needs.

With several locations across the United States and Canada, Saab North America provides a broad range of defense and homeland security products, services and solutions to North American customers. Saab North America is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Saab Group.

Source: Epicos, SAAB

ArmorSource Selects Honeywell Spectra Shield[®] For Helmets Used By U.S. And International Militaries

Honeywell announced today that ArmorSource LLC, a leading provider of advanced ballistic head protection products, is using Honeywell Spectra Shield[®] ballistic composite materials to create helmets that meet and exceed the latest military requirements in the U.S. and around the world.

Makers of ballistic protection gear are increasingly transitioning from traditional aramid products to ultra-high molecular-weight polyethylene (UHMWPE) products such as Spectra Shield, as they move to meet new requirements for helmets that are lighter weight but still able to protect against a range of threats. Use of UHMWPE materials reduces the weight of helmets and improves mobility without sacrificing performance.

ArmorSource helmets, such as the AS-501 Ultra Lightweight Ballistic Helmet for Military Troops and the LJD Aire Helmet, are made with Spectra Shield and are among the lightest ballistic helmets available for military and law enforcement agencies today. The LJD Aire Helmets are 40 percent lighter than traditional helmets and exceed the ballistic protection of the U.S. Army's existing combat helmet, the Lightweight Advanced Combat Helmet.

Due to Honeywell's Advanced Dynamic Deflection Technology, Spectra Shield-based helmets more effectively redirect energy from ballistic threats to the head. Even with reduced weight, helmets made with Spectra Shield provide full coverage and protection from small fragments and bullets.

"Spectra Shield is a state-of-the-art material that is a critical component of our products to better serve military and law enforcement personnel," said Yoav Kapah, President and CEO, ArmorSource LLC. "Helmets made with Spectra Shield provide less weight-related strain on

bodies while maintaining or exceeding ballistic protection. We are excited to utilize Spectra Shield in our products and in our research and development efforts for new helmet platforms."

ArmorSource supplies helmets made with Spectra Shield to militaries in Australia, Austria, Italy, Spain and other countries in addition to various U.S. agencies such as the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Marshall Service.

"Spectra Shield is crucial for militaries seeking next-generation armor that offers the most advanced protection available," said Tim Swinger, business director for armor at Honeywell Packaging and Composites. "Our collaboration with ArmorSource will bring key improvements to the armor industry that will ensure the availability of the most lightweight, advanced design ballistic helmets possible."

Spectra fiber is made from ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene using a patented gelspinning process. It has up to 60 percent greater strength than alternate aramid fiber and, pound for pound, it is 15 times stronger than steel but is light enough to float. Spectra fiber is used to create Spectra Shield, an advanced ballistic-resistant material. Spectra Shield technology is a patented Honeywell process designed to optimize the ballistic performance characteristics of Spectra as well as aramid fiber.

Spectra Shield and Gold Shield[®] products have been widely adopted and proven for the most advanced armor applications globally, from bullet-resistant vests, breast plates, and helmets, to combat vehicles and military aircraft where lightweight solutions and performance are critical.

Honeywell maintains an active Spectra fiber and ballistic materials research program focused on continuous improvement and development of high-performance materials. For more information about Spectra fiber, visit <u>www.honeywell-spectra.com</u> and check out this <u>video</u>.

Source: Epicos, Honeywell

L-3 Acquires Aerosim

L-3 Communications (NYSE:LLL) announced today the acquisition of Aerosim, including Aerosim Technologies, Inc. ("Aerosim Technologies") located in Burnsville, Minnesota, and Aerosim Flight Academy, Inc. ("Aerosim Academy") located in Sanford, Florida. The acquisition was completed on September 30, 2016 and terms were not disclosed. Following the acquisition, Aerosim will be integrated into the L-3 Commercial Training Solutions (L-3 CTS) division of the company's Electronic Systems business segment and will be renamed L-3 Aerosim-CTC. Aerosim is projected to generate approximately \$50 million in sales for the year ending December 31, 2017 and to be accretive to L-3's earnings.

Aerosim is a globally recognized leader in commercial training with capabilities that are complementary to those offered by L-3 CTS. Aerosim Technologies provides innovative portable and flexible pilot and maintenance technician training products, enhancing efficiency with lower-cost solutions. Aerosim Academy, a flight school for prospective airline pilots, trains both U.S. and international cadets.

"The addition of Aerosim is a good fit with L-3's expanding business of providing customized solutions that address the global shortage of pilot training resources and the increasing demand for qualified pilots," said Michael T. Strianese, L-3's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "Aerosim adds value to our portfolio and further exemplifies our disciplined growth strategy in key markets."

The integration of Aerosim into L-3 CTS further enhances L-3's potential to develop innovative training, resourcing and simulation solutions. It enables L-3 CTS to provide even stronger airline pilot training capability – augmenting existing flight training operations in Phoenix, Arizona, the United Kingdom, Thailand and New Zealand. The acquisition also provides additional training product capabilities, which aligns with and complements the existing suite of RealitySeven[™] Full Flight Simulators and Flat Panel Trainers.

"With its focus on the customer, quality and safety, Aerosim is a strong cultural fit with L-3 CTS and expands our capabilities to provide totally scalable training solutions," said Alan Crawford, President of L-3 Commercial Training Solutions. "This acquisition demonstrates our commitment to being a leading global flight training organization with an even more comprehensive suite of the highest-fidelity, cost-effective flight training devices."

Dave Rapley, CEO of Aerosim, added, "By joining L-3 CTS, we will reshape the future of commercial pilot and maintenance training through a shared vision and complementary capability. This collaboration presents a significant opportunity to align our advanced technologies and training excellence to offer our customers a truly integrated and end-to-end solution in the commercial aviation arena."

L-3 CTS includes L-3 Link UK, L-3 CTC Aviation and now L-3 Aerosim-CTC. It is a world leader in providing intelligent total training solutions for pilots and maintainers across a wide range of commercial platforms. L-3 CTS provides a full spectrum of state-of-the-art training

solutions, including ab initio training, airline training, training centers and high-fidelity simulation products.

Headquartered in New York City, L-3 employs approximately 38,000 people worldwide and is a leading provider of a broad range of communication and electronic systems and products used on military and commercial platforms. L-3 is also a prime contractor in aerospace systems. The company reported 2015 sales of \$10.5 billion.

To learn more about L-3, please visit the company's website at <u>www.L-3com.com</u>. L-3 uses its website as a channel of distribution of material company information. Financial and other material information regarding L-3 is routinely posted on the company's website and is readily accessible.

Source: Epicos, L-3 Communications

Fabryka Broni will equip the Police with another batch of P99

On 22 September 2016, a ceremonial signing of the contract for the delivery of 1,000 semiautomatic P99 pistols took place at the seat of Fabryka Broni in Radom. On behalf of the National Police Headquarters, the contract was signed by inspector Małgorzata Borowik, Phd, director of the NPH Logistics Department, while Fabryka Broni was represented by president of the Management Board Adam Suliga.

"The P99 pistol is a modern weapon used as the basic service weapon of the Polish police," said NPH Logistics Department director inspector Małgorzata Borowik, PhD. "This contract is yet another stage of improving the equipment of police officers by providing them with a new version of this well-known weapon. This delivery will make it possible to withdraw the technologically obsolete weapons (P64, P83) from use in consecutive units," she added.

The 9x19mm Parabellum semi-automatic P99 pistol is a service and personal defence weapon for both the police and other law enforcement personnel. It has a modern design characterised by both ergonomics and complete operating reliability. The pistol can be safely carried with a round in the chamber which makes it possible to fire the first shot immediately.P99 can be used by both right-handed and left-handed shooters. The pistol's frame is made of polymer and features a Picatinny rail which makes it possible to attach tactical lights or laser sighting equipment to it.

"Fabryka Broni offers weaponry of the highest quality, dedicated to law enforcement services. The contract with the National Police Headquarters is yet another contract for P99 concluded over a short period of time. The highest quality and reliability of the products we offer is our greatest asset and a magnet for our customers," saidFabryka Broni's management board president Adam Suliga. "Polish law enforcement officers are well

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familiar with our weapons. It should be noted that the first P99 semi-automatic pistols from Radom were received by the Polish Police already in 2001," he added.

The owner of the P99 license is Carl Walther GmbH with which Fabryka Broni has been cooperating since 1998. During the first stage of the cooperation between Walther and Zakłady Metalowe Łucznik, both companies signed a contract on the assembly of 50 pieces of P99 pistols in the AS version from the pilot batch. Later, the following stages of performing the subject-matter of the agreement were taken over by the successor of Zakłady Metalowe–the current Fabryka Broni "Łucznik" – Radom Sp. z o.o.

The Polish Police is the biggest recipient of the Radom-made P99 pistol. Apart from the Police, P99 pistols are used also by the officers of other law enforcement forces: Border Guard Service, Customs Service, and Prison Service.

For Further Information <u>Click Here</u>

Source: Epicos, PGZSA