

Part I

Special Focus: The Netherlands

1. Dutch Defence Exports, Efficiency in Diversity
2. Dutch Armed Forces, A New Perspective
3. 1810 newspapers at your fingertips!
4. Epicos “Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects”
5. Development of a customized Howitzer crew training and simulation system
6. Development of a customized ISR / UAV training program
7. Epicos- Market Research

Part II

Epicos Newsroom

1. STIM202 a breakthrough in MEMS gyro performance with new features
2. North Africa and Mideast turmoil dents air travel
3. US factory orders drop unexpectedly
4. Sukhoi Superjet 100 to start Aeroflot flights in May
5. From Afghanistan to Libya: divided NATO faces new test

Dutch Defence Exports, Efficiency in Diversity



Europe plays an important role in the international scene of arms transfer. During the period 2006–2009 after USA and Russia the (8) largest exporters of major conventional weapons, were European. The Netherlands is one of the countries that constantly contribute to the augmentation of this phenomenon. Actually, the Dutch exports have been

dramatically increased throughout the years. The result is that The Netherlands is currently the 3rd country in arms exports, behind Israel and Sweden, if we calculate the exports in relation with the population of the country, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) a Swedish think tank. Additionally, the country is the 6th exporter of arms for the period 2006-2009, following USA, Russia, Germany, France and UK.

Dutch companies have managed to establish themselves as some of the most important and trustworthy in the globe. This is clearly illustrated by the fact that during the period 2006-2009 Dutch exports reached the amount of 3588 US\$ m. expressed at constant (1990) prices whereas for the period 2002-2005 this amount was 1372 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices, hence increased by more than 160%.

Exports (expressed in US\$ m. at constant 1990 prices)

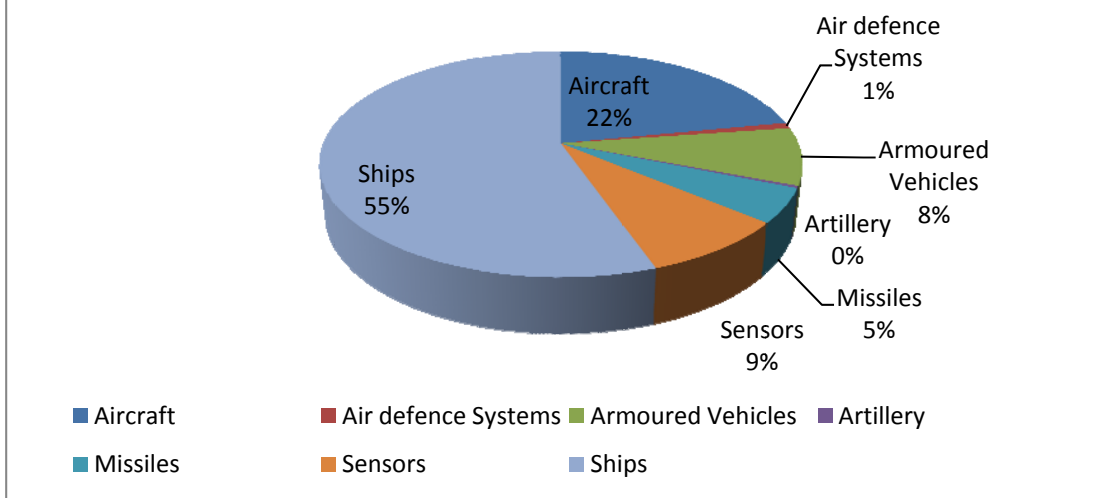
	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Chile	346	386	5		737
Indonesia		297	149	149	594
Germany	347		10	15	372
Portugal	165		19	183	367

Source: SIPRI Publications, Arms Transfers Database

Dutch arms exports are rather diversified in its geographical structure and range of exported items. More than (20) countries imported defence equipment from The Netherlands, whereas, the four (4) first countries, based on the amount of funds allocated are: Chile, Indonesia, Germany and Portugal. This actually denotes that Brazil is exporting in three (3) different continents, Europe (Germany and Portugal) Americas (Chile) and Asia (Indonesia).

The diversification of the geographical allocation of Dutch exports is in accordance with the broad spectrum of exported items. Ship vessels are the predominant area of exports for the period 2006-2009 with a total amount of 1987 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices. The 2nd most important sector is that of aircrafts with 785 US\$ m. at constant (1990) prices whereas other areas such as armoured vehicles, sensors and artillery follow.

Arms exports from The Netherlands by category, 2006-2009



In 2009 Chile procured (18) F-16C FGA aircrafts from The Netherlands. The total amount of the procurement was \$235 million. The deliveries of the airplanes will be completed in 2011. Of course it is needless to say that this is a second hand arms sale something which does not contributes directly to Dutch industry participation.

Furthermore, in 2009 The Netherlands finished the delivery of (2) SIGMA-90 frigates to Indonesia. The same year The Netherlands also concluded the delivery of (10) MIRADOR air search radars to Germany. The radars are used by the (5) Braunschweig (K-130) frigates produced in Germany. It will be useful to stress here that the picture of the Dutch exports to Germany is rather “distorted”, as several parts exported are included in large weapon systems like the Boxer Wheeled Multi-Role Armoured Vehicle which are imported to Holland again. The Boxer is a system with two customers, Netherlands and Germany, and is build by Dutch and German companies.

Finally, in 2010 Portugal received (2) Doorman frigates which were procured in 2006. The frigates were previously in service with the Dutch Navy. The total amount of the procurement reached €240 million.

The Netherlands is among the world’s highest military exporters. A wide variety of defence equipment is exported to several different countries throughout the world. This diversity is definitely the most important fact that safely leads us to the ascertainment that this trend will continue.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Dutch Armed Forces, A New Perspective



Ministry of Defence

Nowadays, military operations and missions are becoming increasingly complex. Modern armed forces have to tackle with a great diversity of tasks under a wide range of circumstances. Additionally, the theatre of operations has been dramatically expanded. Operations are conducted all over the world and often within the framework of integrated multinational partnerships. Within this context, the key elements for a successful outcome are quick deployment, flexibility and the ability to react swiftly to unexpected opportunities and threats. Additionally, the process of globalisation and the relationship between internal and external security has been further intermingled meaning that many problems in Dutch society have a significant international dimension and vice versa. Under this context, national borders have without doubt lost some of their importance as the demarcation line for the security of the Netherlands territory and society. Thus, Dutch armed forces have a dual role safeguarding against threats both to the nation and the society.

By taking into consideration the current political situation in Europe it will be safe to assume that the territory of The Netherlands will not be exposed to a large-scale conventional military threat during the next two decades. Nevertheless, this does not mean that we should believe that The Netherlands has no need for armed forces. In the contrary, Dutch armed forces have several other tasks, such as to promote the international rule of law and international stability. The experiences in the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan have underscored the fact that a variable and sometimes high level of force must be taken into account during stabilisation operations.



Taking this under consideration we can understand that the theatre of operations has been dramatically diversified and expanded. Operations are conducted all over the world and often within the framework of integrated multinational partnerships. Within this context, react swiftly to unexpected opportunities and threats.



Additionally, Dutch society is vulnerable towards new kinds of composite threats such as pandemics, flooding, terrorism, serious disturbances or large-scale breakdowns of communication and

information systems. Dutch armed forces should be able to provide its capabilities and services to civil authorities in the event of emergency. This civil-military cooperation formulates an operational and tactical consortium which makes the optimum use of the available assets in the Netherlands armed forces. In this way the maximum of security is been provided to the civilians.

A modern and capable military must be able to protect the society against known and unknown security risks. Additionally, it must secure the interests and values of it. The Dutch armed forces are structured and equipped to carry out the aforementioned tasks and are ready to adapt to new challenges and to the constantly developing international environment.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

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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...

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Development of a customized Howitzer crew training and simulation system



A leading player in artillery simulation and training concepts is interested in expanding its Howitzer crew training and simulation system into new markets. The complete training system is a proven concept, which uses a complete turret with all equipment, dummy ammunition and monitoring systems for the instructors to make sure that artillery training can be performed as realistic as possible. The system simulates the whole firing process and is considered to be much more cost effective than training in the real environment. Having delivered more than 50 systems to 10 international customers worldwide, the company has established the market leadership in this field.

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

Mail at: g-menexis@epicos.com

Development of a customized ISR / UAV training program



A company offering a complete range of high end training systems for Intelligence Surveillance & Reconnaissance (ISR) and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) users offers to create a customized ISR/UAV training program. The training system can be used to train users of new or existing ISR/UAV equipment in a third country as part of a direct or indirect offset program.

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Japan Disk Storage Systems 2010-2014 Forecast and Second-Half 2009 Analysis by Vertical Market Segment



This IDC study, which is a translation of the Japanese report IDC #J10520102, presents the revenue performance of the Japan disk storage systems market by industry and company size up to 2H09, as well as forecasts from 2010 to 2014.

The revenue of the Japan disk storage systems market by industry was analyzed in terms of OS, installation environment (DAS/SAN/NAS), and external/internal disk storage systems, while the revenue of the Japan disk storage systems market by company size was analyzed in terms of external/internal disk storage systems. "The investment trend in the Japan external disk storage systems market is changing drastically. The market is expected to head for recovery in 2011, but each industry will see a different recovery speed. It is important for storage vendors to decide which industry to focus on," says Toshihiko Tsutsui, senior market analyst, Storage Systems, IDC Japan.

Western Europe, Discrete Manufacturing, IT Spending Forecast Update, 2007-2011



In this IT spending forecast report, Manufacturing Insights provides an overview of the developments of IT investments in Western European discrete manufacturing. Beginning with an overview of trends and business environment affecting the major manufacturing

subindustries, the report explores the changes in major drivers and directions in IT adoption in the discrete manufacturing industry in Western Europe. On the quantitative side, the focus is on spending in hardware, packaged software, and IT services for the major European countries (Germany, France, the U.K., Italy, Spain, and other Western Europe) in 2007-2011. The following discrete manufacturing industries are considered: automotive; aerospace; industrial machinery; electronics and electrical goods; printing and publishing; wearing apparel, leather, and leather products; and other discrete.



STIM202 a breakthrough in MEMS gyro performance with new features

Sensoror Technologies AS offers STIM202 a multi axis high performance gyro module enabling safety critical applications in the Industrial, Aerospace and Defense markets, offering an immediate choice to system designers to displace large, expensive, fragile and prone to wear current FOG or mechanical gyro sensors.

[For Further Information Press Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Sensoror Technologies AS

North Africa and Mideast turmoil dents air travel

Unrest in North Africa and the Middle East dampened growth in international air travel in February, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said on Tuesday.

International passenger travel grew by 6.0 percent year-on-year last month, compared to 8.4 percent in January, and the airline association predicted that the Japanese nuclear disaster would have a further impact in March.

IATA Director General Giovanni Bisignani warned that those shocks were denting the industry's recovery from recession.

"As the unrest in Egypt and Tunisia spreads across the Middle East and North Africa, demand growth across the region is taking a step back," he said in a statement.

"The tragic earthquake and its aftermath in Japan will most certainly see a further dampening of demand from March," Bisignani added.

IATA estimated that the political turmoil in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and other countries had wiped about one percent off total passenger travel in February.

"The industry fundamentals are good. But extraordinary circumstances have made the first quarter of 2011 very difficult," he explained.

Air freight grew by 2.3 percent in February compared to 8.7 percent a month earlier, a slowdown IATA partly blamed on factory shutdowns over the Chinese New Year.

IATA represents some 230 carriers that account for more than 90 percent of scheduled air traffic globally but does not include many of the big budget airlines.

Source: 2009 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

US factory orders drop unexpectedly

Lower demand for machinery and defense equipment prompted a fall in US factory orders in February, the Commerce Department said Thursday, dashing hopes for a rebound after start-of-year blizzards.

New orders for big-ticket items -- such as planes, computers and cars -- fell 0.9 percent during the month, led by a 4.2 percent drop in machinery orders.

That shocked economists, who had expected orders to rise.

"We expected a hefty rebound after the blizzards depressed core orders in January," said Ian Shepherdson of High Frequency Economics.

But experts took some heart from the fact that without wildly erratic defense equipment, new orders would have actually risen 0.4 percent.

"Bottom line is that this does not look good," said Shepherdson, adding that lingering weather effects or statistical anomalies may yet be to blame.

Source: 2009 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Sukhoi Superjet 100 to start Aeroflot flights in May

MOSCOW, March 29 (RIA Novosti) - Russia's flagship airliner Aeroflot said on Tuesday it will begin regular commercial flights of the Sukhoi Superjet 100 in mid-May. The company has placed orders for 40 models of the aircraft, which will initially conduct flights between Moscow and the central Russian city of Nizhny Novgorod. The Superjet, championed by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, is designed to replace the Soviet-era mid-range planes that entered service in the 1960s and 80s. Sukhoi is seeking to sell at least 800 planes, more than half to foreign airlines. It currently has over 120 confirmed orders, with the first Superjet to be delivered to neighboring Armenia's air carrier Armavia by the end of April.

Source: Ria Novosti

From Afghanistan to Libya: divided NATO faces new test

From the dusty battlefields of Afghanistan to the skies over Libya, NATO is now engaged in two conflicts with no endgame in sight, posing a test for a war-weary alliance divided over the latest campaign.

NATO is intervening in a Libyan conflict that Western officials warn could last weeks or longer, just as Europeans are losing appetite to keep fighting a war in Afghanistan that has cost much blood and money in the last decade.

In Libya, the keys to success rest in the hands of the rebellion's ability to maintain momentum against Moamer Kadhafi's forces, and the ability of Western allies to keep public support for the effort, analysts said.

"I have my doubts as to whether this is something we can sustain over months and months and months," said Jan Techau, director of the Carnegie Europe think tank.

"People in the United States are already war-weary, and I don't know how the mood is in France and Britain and whether this can go on endlessly," Techau told AFP.

"The big question is how long it will take for the rebels to come up with some kind of success, or this could be a long protracted stalemate situation where neither the rebels nor Kadhafi are strong enough," he said.

While the objective in Afghanistan is clearer -- handing control of military operations to Afghan forces under a democratic regime by 2014 -- Western powers have sent mixed signals about their intentions in Libya.

France took sides this month when it recognised the rebels' Provisional Transitional National Council, but it is the only Western country to have done so. Qatar recognised the group on Monday.

But Western powers insist that the aim of the mission is not to seek regime change in Libya, pointing out that the UN Security Council resolution approving military action to protect civilians does not call for Kadhafi's ouster.

"As we've seen in the past, regime change is a very complicated business, sometimes it takes a long time, sometimes it can happen very fast. But it was never part of the military mission," said US Defence Secretary Robert Gates.

When NATO agreed to take full command of the campaign from a US-led coalition on Sunday, the alliance said it would remain "impartial" in the conflict and would strictly limit strikes against Kadhafi forces to operations aimed the immediate protection of civilians.

"The problem to date with strikes to protect the population is that in reality it means removing the tyrant. But we don't dare say it," said Alain Deletroz of the International Crisis Group.

NATO was divided over intervening in Libya from the outset.

It took a full week of sometimes heated debate within NATO for the alliance to agree to take charge of the Libyan campaign from a coalition led by the United States, France and Britain.

The US was eager to quickly hand off the lead, but France wanted to keep political control of the operation away from NATO, Turkey was highly critical of the Western strikes on Libya, and Germany outright opposed to a military intervention.

"You already have a situation where allies don't want to be there. Germany and Turkey are the most prominent," said Ian Davis, director of the NATO Watch think tank.

The alliance would have been better served if it could have set out an agenda early on in the more than one-month-old conflict, Davis said. "If NATO had planned and had a stronger humanitarian agenda written in its rationale, it might be easier to sell all of this," he said. "It might not have had this wrangling over the leadership role."

"Apart from France and Britain, no one wanted to take responsibility, the US was hiding behind the Europeans, the Europeans behind the Arabs, and then behind NATO so they could hide behind the NATO logo," he said. Decisions taken at an international conference on Libya in London on Tuesday will be crucial, as well as winning more support for the mission from Arab and African states, analysts said.

"The revolution must remain an Arab revolution, otherwise the Arab world won't forgive us," Deletroz said.

Source: 2009 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)