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Australia: Future Defence Budget



Australian Government
Department of Defence

The Australian government is determined to support a defence budget which will ensure that the armed forces will be able to deliver their core capabilities. For 2015-16 budget, the government has reaffirmed this commitment and will progressively grow the defence budget of 2% of GDP within a decade. The Australian government will provide its defence with \$31.9 billion in 2015-16 and \$132.6 billion over the forward estimates. This is an increase of \$9.9 billion over the forward estimates when compared to the 2014-15 budget and represents record expenditure on defence.

Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that over the past 12 months the Government has committed more than \$5 billion to new defence capabilities including:

- Two additional Boeing C-17A Globemaster III aircraft to bolster the Royal Australian Air Force's existing fleet of six strategic lift aircraft
- The new Helicopter Aircrew Training System - a fully integrated modern training environment preparing aircrew for the new generation of advanced combat helicopters
- State-of-the-art Special Forces vehicles being assembled in Australia.

Additionally, in 2015-16 budget, the Government will provide defence with an additional \$752.7 million in 2015-16 and \$802.4 million for carrying out international operations/missions. This will increase total Operations funding to \$910.7 million in 2015-16 and \$1,071.8 million over the Forward Estimates as follows:

- Operation Highroad (Afghanistan - NATO led mission) - \$115.1 million in 2015-16 and \$134.4 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Slipper (Afghanistan) - \$121.9 million in 2015-16 and \$225.8 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Manitou (Maritime Operations including counter-piracy in the Middle East Region) - \$43.2 million in 2015-16 and \$45.9 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Accordion (Middle East Region) - \$191.0 million in 2015-16 and \$193.0 million over the Forward Estimates;
- Operation Okra (Iraq) - \$390.8 million in 2015-16 and \$418.3 million over the Forward Estimates; and
- Operation Resolute (Coastal Surveillance Operations) - \$48.7 million in 2015-16 and \$54.4 million over the Forward Estimates.

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

L-3 to Supply SATCOM Terminals to the Australian Defence Force



In order to further enhance the telecommunication capabilities of the armed forces, the Australian authorities concluded the purchase of 236 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs), additional support equipment, and training from L-3 as part of Joint Project 2008 Phase 5B1.

The total cost of the procurement is \$81.8 million. With the conclusion of the deliveries Australia defence forces further utilize the Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) system, significantly increasing their satellite communications capabilities. Hardware deliveries are expected to be completed this year.

The contract will deliver L-3 GCS's Hawkeye™ and Panther™ family of VSAT terminals, integrated with L-3 Linkabit's MPM family of modems, and includes the option to purchase additional terminals and equipment. These terminals will enable ADF troops on the ground to benefit from increased data rates and a higher level of network performance. This award comes as follow-on to the \$35 million Joint Project 2008 Phase 3H contract awarded to L-3 in 2013 for 54 Hawkeye III Lite VSATs and support equipment.

Mr. Bob Jacobson, President of L-3 GCS and L-3's Tactical SATCOM sector stated the following regarding this procurement: "The L-3 GCS SATCOM terminals are attractive to the Australian military for a number of reasons, including their certification for use on the WGS and their reputation within the U.S. Department of Defense for quality, performance and reliability. Australia is an emerging market for WGS-certified terminals and we look forward to building on the valued relationship we share with our Australian partners".

Kyriazis Vasileios,
Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

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](#)

Truth verification and emotion identification software system for military and homeland security applications



A leading provider of voice analysis and emotion detection technologies, for the defence and civilian markets, is proposing to partner with another company in a targeted country. The partnership can include the provision of an advanced software turnkey solution and a knowledge transfer of the company's truth verification and emotion identification software system. The proposed software platform is used across a multitude of application areas, including governments and security

organizations, law enforcement agencies and immigration authorities.

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

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Smart wearables for Future Soldier and Homeland Security applications



In today's rapidly transforming armed forces, the infantryman continues to play a central role in new operational scenarios. The infantryman has to operate in urban areas and under extreme climatic conditions supporting peace keeping operations in several countries, all over the world. He has to confront new asymmetric threats, and frequently faces attacks from irregular forces. In this frame, a company with extensive experience in providing customized cutting edge solutions in the field of information technology, telecommunications and image processing, is

proposing the development of smart wearables to be used in several Future Soldier and Homeland Security applications. The proposed wearables will pinpoint the exact location of Future Soldier, monitor biostatistics and atmospheric readings with precision and relay this information by automatically switching between GSM/GPRS, UMTS, Wi-fi/Wimax, Tactical IP networks and satellite communications.

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

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BAE SYSTEMS Wins 40 Mk4 Naval Gun Contract for Brazil



The 40 Mk4 gun is the latest naval version of the successful Bofors 40mm Gun that is used by many Navies and Coast Guards around the world. “The versatility of our new 40mm Naval Gun and Ammunition System is attractive to customers around the world,” said Lena Gillström, managing director of Weapon Systems, Sweden at BAE Systems. “This award illustrates our strong position

as a leading naval gun provider in the Americas.”

Series production for the guns starts immediately with deliveries beginning in 2016 and continuing through 2018. A portion of the manufacturing of parts, subsystems, as well as final assembly and test will take place in Brazil through BAE Systems’ new and long-term partners. The company recently teamed with Ares Aeroespacial e Defesa S.A. of Rio de Janeiro for manufacturing, assembly, and installation, as well as after-sales activities for the 40 Mk4 guns.

“This local production for the naval guns illustrates our commitment to establishing mutually beneficial partnerships with Brazilian industry,” said Llyr Jones, vice president for Latin America and Canada at BAE Systems. “We’re applying similar principles with our other Brazilian programs.”

In the last 40 years, BAE Systems has delivered close to one hundred 40mm Guns to the Brazilian Navy, Marine Corps, and Army, as well as many thousands of rounds of 40mm ammunition. The company’s programmable, multi-purpose 3P round has been manufactured in Brazil since 1999.

In addition to Brazil, countries currently using BAE Systems’ 40mm Guns include Japan, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Estonia, Uruguay, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Embraer Executive Jets sells Legacy 650 to Air Hamburg



Embraer Executive Jets today announced that a purchase agreement was signed with Air Hamburg for a Legacy 650. With this acquisition, the Germany-based business charter operator, which serves European, Russian and Middle East destinations, expands its Embraer fleet to six aircraft – five Legacy 600/650 and one Phenom 300. The delivery of this aircraft is scheduled for the third quarter of 2015. “We are pleased and privileged to support Air Hamburg’s growth with one more Legacy 650,” said Marco Túlio Pellegrini, President & CEO, Embraer Executive Jets. “Based on a proven platform with over 25 million hours flown, the Legacy 650 continues to deliver a superior and unparalleled customer experience.”

With more than 250 aircraft in operation worldwide, the Legacy 600/650 offer three distinct cabin zones, with the largest cabin, galley, lavatory, and baggage compartment in their classes.

“The Legacy 600/650 is a great aircraft. Three cabin zones and a huge baggage compartment together with the great dispatch reliability make the Legacy the perfect aircraft for our operation,” said Floris Helmers, CEO and Partner, Air Hamburg. “With today’s deal we will take delivery of three new Legacys to our fleet within three quarters of a year. One L650 joined the fleet in January, one L600 will be ferried from São José dos Campos in two weeks and today’s L650 will be delivered in September.”

About Air Hamburg

Air Hamburg was established in 2005 by the young entrepreneurs Floris Helmers and Alexander Lipsky, after managing their Hamburg based flight school FLUGSCHULE HAMBURG since 2001. A personal touch expressed by the slogan “SIMPLY PERSONAL” is the trademark of the aviation school and the airline. Both founders can still be found working as instructors and pilots.

AIR HAMBURG is focused on the following mission as basis for further expansion: Youngest fleet, no owners’ approval, and 100% crewed aircraft guarantee highest availability. The airline with 20 business jets generated a turnover in 2014 of EUR 53 million, with 180 employees.

The 20 jets with open base are available for flexible flights, 365 days a year, 24/7 due to a Dispatch and Sales team working in 3 shifts around the clock. The cockpit crews are simulator trained and fully customer minded. In the cabin, the highest level of service and catering can be guaranteed due to well-trained cabin service representatives.

Executive Handling – our own FBO in HAM: hamburg-handling.com

Service from pilots for pilots at the airport of Hamburg. Our ground handling agents are taking care of the dispatch and processing of all ground proceedings of arriving and departing jets at the GAT of Hamburg.

For more information concerning the AIR HAMBURG group, please visit: www.air-hamburg.com

About the Legacy 650

The large Legacy 650 comfortably carries up to 14 passengers with privacy in three distinct cabin zones, and premium acoustic comfort. In addition to the best-in-class galley and a fully accessible in-flight baggage compartment that surpasses in size even those of most ultra-long range business jets, the aircraft may be configured with up to two lavatories. The Legacy 650 features internet connectivity and the latest generation in full HD in-flight entertainment, with Honeywell's Ovation Select entertainment and cabin management system.

The Legacy 650 features advanced navigation capabilities and the Honeywell Primus Elite™ avionics suite. The Legacy 650 has a range of 3,900 nautical miles (7,223 kilometers) with four passengers, with NBAA IFR fuel reserves, which means that the aircraft can fly nonstop from Geneva, Switzerland to Boston, United States, or Mumbai, India.

About Embraer Executive Jets

Embraer is one of the world's leading executive jet manufacturers, having entered the business aviation market in 2000 with the Legacy jet, which led to the launch of Embraer Executive Jets in 2005. Its portfolio, the broadest in the market, consists of the entry-level Phenom 100E and the Phenom 300 light jet, the Legacy 500 midsize and Legacy 450 mid-light, the super midsize Legacy 600 and large Legacy 650, and the ultra-large Lineage 1000E. Completing ten years in the market, Embraer Executive Jets' global fleet exceeds 860 aircraft, which are in operation in more than 60 countries and are supported by the Company's global Customer Support and Services network of 76 owned and authorized service centers, complemented by a 24/7 Contact Center, at its headquarters, in Brazil. For more information, please visit www.embraerexecutivejets.com

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SAAB Grintek Defence Strengthens its Partnership in South Africa

Saab Grintek Defence and African Equity Empowerment Investments Limited (former Sekunjalo Investment Ltd), have signed an agreement under which AEEI becomes a partner in Saab Grintek Defence.

AEEI previously held a 5% investment in the holding company Saab SA but now strengthens its partnership by acquiring just over 25% of the operational company Saab Grintek Defence.

Saab Grintek Defence has reinforced its position as a leading South African defence and security company, bringing capabilities including electronic warfare systems, sensor technology, command and control, training systems, avionics, security and support solutions to the African and international markets.

“We are proud to have AEEI as a strategic partner and we see this agreement as further strengthening our commitment to the industrial growth and prosperity of South Africa at the same time supporting our endeavours to supply security solutions in Africa,” says Leif Karlsson, Acting CEO Saab Grintek defence.

As the export market represents almost 75% of the South African company’s total turnover, Saab Grintek Defence was awarded the Best Exporter Award by the SA Premier Business Awards in both 2013 and 2014. Hosted by the Department of Trade and Industry, in partnership with Proudly South Africa and Brand South Africa, the award recognises the spirit of success, innovation and good business ethics in the economy.

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Saab Grintek Defence

Saab provides a broad range of world-leading products services and solutions within military defence and civil security to the Sub-Saharan/South African market. An impressive range of defence forces across the globe are using South African electronic warfare and avionics technology being designed and produced at Saab Grintek Defence facilities in South Africa.

Saab also has business units and local employees in Cape Town, South Africa, in Gaborone , Botswana and in Nairobi, Kenya. Saab is a global company with operations and employees in about 40 countries around the world. Through innovative, collaborative and pragmatic thinking, Saab constantly develops, adopts and improves new technology to meet customers' changing needs.

Source: Epicos, SAAB Grintek Defence

Alitalia plans to withdraw from Air France-KLM partnership

Italy's airline giant Alitalia said Tuesday it will not be renewing a partnership deal with Air France-KLM when it expires in 2017 because it is "no-longer beneficial."

Alitalia, which was rescued by Etihad Airways in a merger deal at the end of last year, said the original agreements concluded in 2009 and 2010 were done "under very different economic circumstances."

"These agreements are no longer beneficial, either commercially or strategically, to the new Alitalia and its ambitious turnaround plan," Alitalia chief executive Silvano Cassano said in a statement.

"They were negotiated when Alitalia was in a very different position, with the result that the agreements in their current forms favour the other party," he said.

Cassano said Alitalia remained open to further discussion on finding "a mutually acceptable solution" but the contracts would not be renewed under the present terms.

Source: 2015 AFP, Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Embraer Confirms Firm Order from Tianjin Airlines for E-Jets and E-Jets E2

Embraer S.A. and China's Tianjin Airlines, a subsidiary of the HNA Group, have signed the final agreement for the sale of 22 aircraft. The contract, with an estimated value of USD 1.1 billion at current list prices, comprises 20 E195s and two E190-E2s, making HNA Group Tianjin Airlines the first Chinese airline to order the E-Jets E2s. The agreement between the two companies for 40 aircraft was previously announced during Chinese President Xi Jinping's State visit to Brazil, in July 2014. The remaining 18 E190 E2 will be part of a second approval by the Chinese authorities in a later stage.

The first E195 will be delivered in 2015, and the first E190-E2 is scheduled for delivery in 2018. This order will be incorporated in Embraer's 2015 second-quarter backlog. Tianjin Airlines is currently the operator of the largest fleet of E-Jets in Asia.

"We are honored to confirm this repeated order for our largest client in Asia," said Paulo Cesar Silva, President & CEO, Embraer Commercial Aviation. "China is growing very fast and there is a need for smaller narrow-body jets to support efficient hub and spoke operations, complementing larger narrow-body aircraft operations, thus providing an ideal balance of frequency and seats, encouraging the development of new markets with lower risks and incremental capacity, while generating significant demand for new aircraft in this category."

"As the number of passengers is growing in China, these E195s will be very important to support Tianjin Airlines' strategy to attend this demand," said Du Xiaoping, the Chairman of Tianjin Airlines. "We are very satisfied with the E190s that are currently in operation and are sure that the new airplanes will allow us to achieve our development objectives."

The Embraer-Tianjin Airlines partnership is well established. Tianjin Airlines was the launch customer for the E190 in China and operates the largest E-Jets fleet in Asia with 50 E190s in its fleet. It is also the first carrier being appointed as an Authorized Service Center for Embraer aircraft in China. Recently, the carrier announced to install Embraer AHEAD-PRO system for all its 50 E190s, becoming the first user of this system in China.

HNA Group Tianjin Airlines was launched as the first true regional airline in China in 2009. In 2010, the carrier changed its focus from purely regional operations to a combination of mainline and regional services. Its aim is to become a medium-to-large international airline, as it pursues a new "regional aviation and global operations" strategy. In 2011, Tianjin Airlines received the "Best Regional Aviation Airline in China" and "Global Four-star Airlines" awards from Skytrax for its outstanding achievement. Today, the carrier operates a fleet of more than 80 jets that serves some over 100 domestic and international cities and carries over ten million travelers.

About Embraer Commercial Aviation

Embraer is the world's leading manufacturer of commercial jets that seat up to 130 passengers. Nearly 900 aircraft from the 37, 44, and 50-seat ERJ 145 family of regional jets have been delivered to airlines since their introduction in 1996. The E-Jet family includes four larger aircraft that have between 70 and 130 seats. The E170, E175, E190, and E195 set the standard in their category with their advanced engineering, high degree of efficiency, spacious, ergonomic cabins with two-by-two seating, and attractive operating economics. Since E-Jets entered revenue service in 2004, Embraer has received over 1,500 firm orders for this aircraft family. More than 1,100 have been delivered.

In 2013, Embraer launched E-Jets E2, the second generation of its E-Jets family of commercial aircraft comprised of three new airplanes – E175-E2, E190-E2, E195-E2 – seating from 70 to 130 passengers. The E190-E2 is expected to enter service in the first half of 2018. The E195-E2 is slated to enter service in 2019 and the E175-E2 in 2020.

Follow on Twitter: @EmbraerSA

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Embraer S.A.

Saab Receives Order for Artillery Ammunition

Defence and security company Saab has received an order for explosive training artillery ammunition. The order amounts to approximately SEK 114 million and delivery will take place during 2015-2016.

Work on this order will be performed by Saab's subsidiary Saab Bofors Dynamics Switzerland (SBDS), and includes the manufacture and delivery of explosive training artillery grenades. The work includes conversion of live rounds into training rounds with SBDS performing the technical alteration, the filling of the target marking and explosive components as well as the final assembling.

"This order is an endorsement of Saab's world-class munitions facility in Switzerland, which provides products and services for business partners and Armed Forces around the world," says Görgen Johansson, head of Saab's business area Dynamics.

"This order is completely in line with our strategy to strengthen and extend our range of services. We have a well-proven track record of fulfilling a wide range of national and international service contracts within the field of munitions, the respective components and

explosives," says Stephan Kocher, head of Saab Bofors Dynamics Switzerland. The industry's nature is such that due to circumstances concerning the product and customer, further information about the customer will not be announced.

SBDS is an industry leader in the design, development and production of mortar rounds, warheads, less-lethal applications and other energetic products. The company is a specialist in total munitions life cycle management and provides servicing of different ammunition types, mainly for large-calibre products. SBDS operates as a subsidiary of Saab and is based in Thun, Switzerland where it maintains a start-of-the-art development and production site with advanced test and simulation facilities.

For further information, please contact:

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Saab serves the global market with world-leading products, services and solutions within military defence 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.

Source: Epicos, SAAB

European Male Drone Development: Airbus, Finmeccanica and Dassault Aviation Welcome the Signature of the Trinational Declaration of Intent

Europe's leading aerospace companies Airbus Defence and Space, Dassault Aviation and Finmeccanica have welcomed the agreement of France, Germany and Italy to conduct a definition study of a European developed unmanned aerial system. Under the terms of a Declaration of Intent (DoI) signed by the nations today, the companies will conduct a two-year definition study of a Medium Altitude/Long Endurance (MALE) drone. A decision will then be taken on whether to start development and procurement of the system.

Bernhard Gerwert, CEO Airbus Defence and Space said "This important step by industry and government clearly recognises that sovereignty in development of new systems, and specifically in military reconnaissance and unmanned aviation is of strategic importance for European security."

Eric Trappier, CEO Dassault Aviation said: "We welcome this important announcement, which confirms the legitimacy and interest of our joint industrial initiative started in 2013. European countries must develop a sovereign, Next Generation MALE UAS solution, for both military and security missions, which is required by our Armed Forces".

Mauro Moretti, CEO Finmeccanica, said: "The Next Generation MALE UAS represents a step change for the European Defence and Security agenda. This initiative is a unique opportunity to pursue a joint technological path built on proven industrial leaderships all contributing to a single objective".

Today's declaration follows the three companies' submission in May 2014 of a Next Generation MALE UAS study proposal envisaging a 24-month "Definition Phase", immediately followed by a full "Development Phase". This will allow the delivery of the first solutions in the early 2020s.

In light of an increasing dependency of European states on non-European defence equipment and technology, Europe's largest military aerospace companies launched in June 2013 a joint call for the sustainment of key capabilities to ensure the continent's sovereignty in the construction of future military aircraft.

About the MALE 2020 Definition Phase

A definition phase focuses on tailoring new developments to customer requirements. It is the first phase of a system development and serves to reduce financial and development risk to a minimum – thanks to a "trade-off" process – before the launch of the subsequent full scale development addressing with the customers key issues such as competitiveness, sovereignty, growth potential, compliance with joint requirements or certification. Usually a definition phase involves customer countries, their Armed Forces, procurement Agencies and Industries.

About "MALE 2020"

The "MALE 2020" Project foresees the development of an European Unmanned Aerial System for long-endurance missions at medium flight altitudes. Besides being an answer to European armed forces' requirements, it will take into account the need to optimise the difficult budgetary situation through pooling of research and development funding. With a sovereign European development, critical requirements around the certification of drones are inherently built into the programme from the onset. MALE 2020 is orientated to foster the development of high technologies and contribute to sustaining key competencies and jobs within Europe.

About Airbus Defence and Space

Airbus Defence and Space is a division of Airbus Group formed by combining the business activities of Cassidian, Astrium and Airbus Military. The new division is Europe's number one defence and space enterprise, the second largest space business worldwide and among the

top ten global defence enterprises. It employs more than 38,000 employees generating revenues of approximately €13 billion per year.

About Dassault Aviation

With over 8,000 military and civil aircraft delivered to 83 countries over the last 60 years, logging some 28 million hours in flight, Dassault Aviation has built up expertise recognized worldwide in the design, development, sale and support of all types of aircraft, ranging from the Rafale fighter to the high-end Falcon family of business jets and military drones. Dassault Aviation posted sales of €4.59 billion in 2013, and has nearly 11,600 employees.

About Finmeccanica

Finmeccanica is Italy's leading manufacturer in the high technology sector and ranks among the top ten global players in Aerospace, Defence and Security. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (FNC IM; SIFI.MI), in 2014 Finmeccanica generated revenues of about €14 billion. With 273 locations and production facilities in 20 countries, Finmeccanica is a multinational and multicultural group which boasts a significant presence in four domestic markets: Italy, the United Kingdom, the U.S. and Poland. Finmeccanica's core business activities are in the following sectors: Helicopters (AgustaWestland), Defence Electronics and Security (Selex ES, DRS Technologies), Aeronautics (Alenia Aermacchi). The company also has a significant position in Space (Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space), Defence Systems (OTO Melara, WASS, MBDA) and Transportation (Ansaldo STS, AnsaldoBreda).

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Source: Epicos, FINMECCANICA