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Portugal: Current and Future Defence Budget

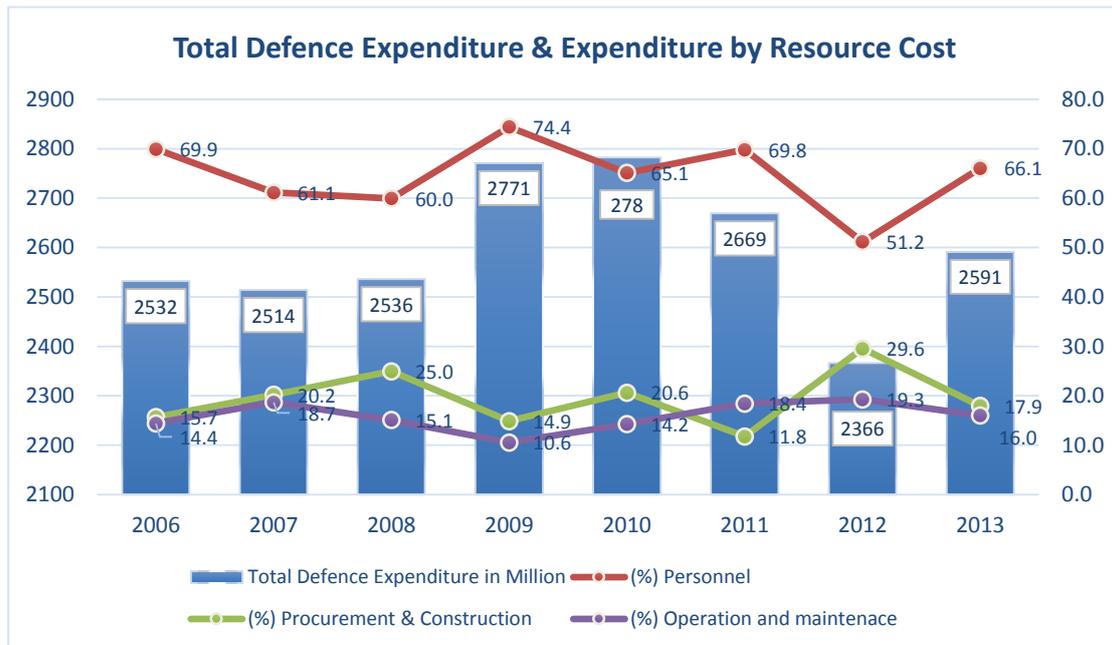


Portugal was heavily hit by the global economic crisis. The reorganization of the available resources was essential for the macroeconomic survivability of the country. Under this notion Portuguese authorities put as a priority the rationalization of military spending, by ensuring articulation between the different branches and a more efficient use of resources.

Furthermore Portuguese authorities will try to reorganize and rationalize both the Ministry and the command structure of the Armed Forces, emphasizing coordination and the profitable use of synergies.

Between 2005 and 2008, Portugal has shown a relative consistency in military spending of around 2.5 billion Euros. For the period 2008-2011, defence expenditure reached 2.7 billion. Under strong pressure from austerity measures, military expenditure decreased by more than 11% in 2012 rebounding in 2013 reaching 2.6 billion Euros.

Regarding personnel, the Portuguese armed forces experienced substantial reductions. In 2005 the three branches of the armed forces accounted for approximately 47200, while in 2013 accounted for approximately 33000. However, personnel expenditures still represented 66.1% of defence expenditures in 2013, only slightly decreased from 69.9% that it was in 2006. More on that the government announced that the armed forces would undergo a further reduction in personnel, bring the total force size down to approximately 31000 soldiers.



With Information provided by EDAs Defence Data Portal and United Nations' Report on Military Expenditure

The current breakdown of spending in 2013 according to data provided by the United Nations Report on Military Expenditure was as following: personnel expenditure 66.1% operation and maintenance 16%, Procurement & Construction 17.9%.

According to the guidelines specified in the “Defence 2020” document the future breakdown should be restructured providing at least 15% of the total budget to investment, 65% to personnel expenditure and 25% to operations. More on that the latest Military Planning Law (LPM) provides 960 million Euros in armament programmes up to 2018.

Kyriazis Vasileios,

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor



Portuguese A&D Industry: Current Capabilities and Turnover



Portuguese defence industry expanded during the 1960s. The reason was that the country needed to meet the specialized requirements of anti-guerrilla operations in Africa. This created a stable base upon which the Portuguese defence industry was slowly built. Consequently, even after the end of the fighting in the middle 1970's and the subsequent scaling down of the armed forces, the sudden outburst of the production capabilities that occurred in previous years had exceeded the country's needs, something that had as a result a modest level of sales abroad.

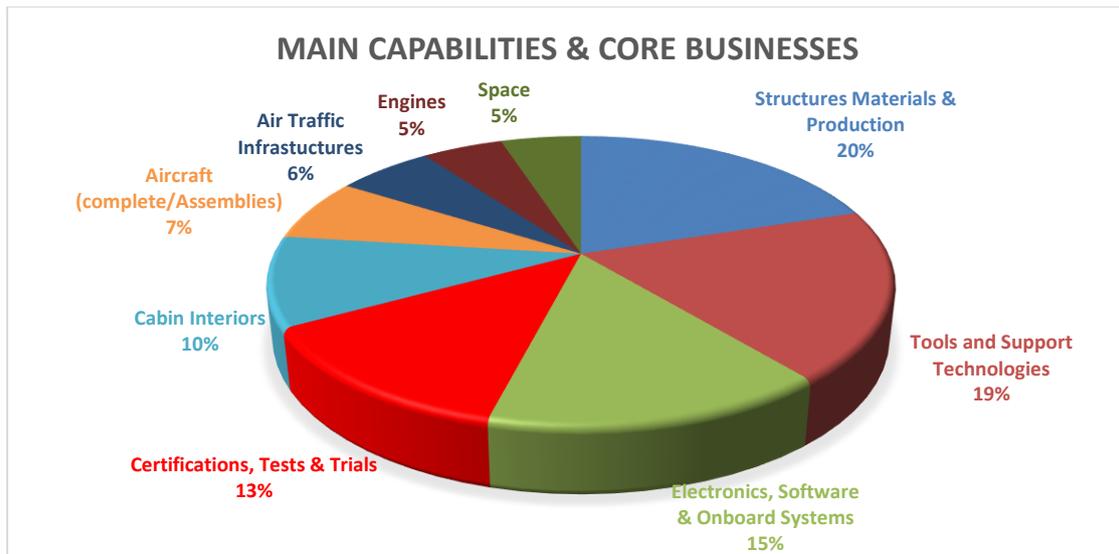
This helped the Ministry of Defence to keep production lines open for artillery, mortar, and small arms ammunition.

Currently, the Portuguese defence industry is dominated by some significant companies. One of them is EID (Empresa de Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Electrónica). EID, provides communication systems for the armed forces of Portugal, Spain, Lithuania and the UAE. Another important company is OGMA (Indústria Aeronáutica de Portugal).

The company is an established and authorized maintenance center for several Original Equipment Manufacturers, including Lockheed Martin, Embraer, Rolls-Royce among others.

EDISOFT (Empresa de Serviços e Desenvolvimento de Software) provides software engineering solutions to national and international customers, such as the Portuguese Ministry of Defence (Ministério da Defesa Nacional -- MDN) and major defence companies like DCNS, Thales and the VT Group. Finally, in the naval sector Arsenal do Alfeite the mission of which is to provide the Navy and other customers with services of design, shipbuilding and ship repair with appropriate quality controls.

According to Aeronautic, Space and Defence Federation (AED), the Portugal association representing the aeronautical, space, security and defence industries in the country, currently its 68 members have a turnover of 1.72 MM Euros and provide 18500 direct jobs. Additionally, 87% of total production is exported. The main capabilities and core businesses of the 68 members are illustrated in the pie-chart below.



More specifically, in the aerospace sector AED members have the following competencies:

- **Commercial and Corporate Aviation**
 - Aerospace Engineering and Design
 - *Integrated Design and Cabin Environment Development*
 - *Cabin and Interior Refurbishment Materials Supply*
 - Components Manufacturing
 - Aircraft Maintenance JAR-145/EASA Part-145
 - Aircraft Operation JAR-145/EASA Part-145
 - Flight School
 - Passengers and Cargo Air Transport – JAR-OPS 1 Certified
- **Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)**
 - *Unmanned Tactical and Experimental Aerial Vehicles*
 - *System Development and Integration*
 - *Mission Control Software and Commercial Applications*
- **Systems and Simulation**
 - Simulation Platforms Conceptualization and Development
 - System Test Benches and Tools Development
 - Virtual Reality Systems and VR Supported Crew Training
 - *Systems Integration*
 - *Communication Systems*
 - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- **Structures and Materials**
 - *Aerospace Structures, Structural Significant Items (SSI) and Sub- Assemblies in: Metal, Plastic, Composite*
 - Engine Materials and Parts
 - *Semi-finished Products*
 - *Surface Treatments*
 - *Non-Destructive Testing*
 - *Components and Materials Inspection*
 - *Smart Materials*
 - *Material Engineering and Development*

- **Tools and Machines**
 - *Development and Manufacturing of Maintenance and Production Tools*
 - *Special Tools*
 - *Project, Development and Manufacturing of Special and Custom Machines*
 - *Automation and Control Systems*
 - *Material Coating and Casing Technologies*
 - *Systems Testing, Certification and Validation*

- **Space**
 - *Onboard Systems*
 - *Test benches Development and Coordination*
 - *Commercial Satellites Applications and Development*
 - *Geographic Information Software (GIS)*
 - *Mission Control Software and Commercial Applications*

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](#)

Design and development of jigs and special tools for the Aerospace/Defence and automotive industry

A company specialized in tooling, engineering and measurement solutions for the aerospace/defence and automotive industries, is proposing, in the frame of an offset program, the partnership with a Prime contractor or lower tier company, for the design and development of jigs and special tools for the Aerospace/Defence (A&D) and automotive industries.

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

Mail at: a-kintis@epicos.com

Synthetic Flight Training Device for helicopter and fixed-wing pilots’ entry level and advanced training (non-combat)

A company constituting the first civil avionics and simulator manufacturer in its country, is proposing collaboration with a Prime Contractor or a third party in a targeted country, for the development and installation of a helicopter or fixed-wing simulator, to serve civilian and military helicopter pilots’ entry level (VFR) and advanced (IFR) training needs. The project can be implemented either as a standalone project, or integrated within a major acquisition package.

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

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**Rheinmetall to equip Gripen fighter aircraft for Brazil and Sweden with automatic cannon**

On behalf of Swedish defence contractor Saab AB, Rheinmetall will be equipping a total of 88 Gripen NG ('Next Generation') fighter aircraft with the BK27 automatic cannon with a newly developed linkless ammunition feeding system. The order is worth a mid-eight figure euro amount.

Brazil and Sweden – one new customer and one longstanding one – will soon have at their disposal Gripen NGs armed with the globally acclaimed Mauser 27mm revolver cannon from Rheinmetall Oberndorf. Delivery will take place during the 2017-2025 timeframe, and includes service support and spare parts. Rheinmetall also offers the accompanying ammunition for the weapon system.

Just awarded, the contract highlights once again the longstanding and successful cooperation between Rheinmetall and Saab. With the Gripen NG order, the BK27 – developed and produced at the legendary Mauser plant in Oberndorf – will be used in another state-of-the-art warplane. The linked ammunition-feeding version of the gas-operated revolver cannon serves as the standard weapon in the multi-role Tornado, while the Eurofighter features the linkless version. Some 3,500 systems have been manufactured to date.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

FINMECCANICA: Helicopter Contracts Valued around 80 Million Euro Signed with Customers in China and Japan during Heli Expo



Finmeccanica, through its Helicopter Division, has announced during Heli-Expo 2016 (Louisville, Kentucky) new contracts for 26 helicopters with customers in China and Japan. The

contracts valued at approximately 80 million Euro highlight Finmeccanica's strong presence and growth in the Asian Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and public utility helicopter markets.

Specifically in China a contract for 25 AgustaWestland AW119Kx single engine helicopters has been signed with Sino-US. Deliveries are expected to start by June 2016. This contract includes a comprehensive support and training services package and is part of a framework agreement for 60 AW119Kx aircraft to be acquired through 2017. The helicopters will be operated by Kingwing General Aviation Co. Ltd (Kingwing) and will be used in China for Emergency Medical Service (EMS) missions. In Japan the company Shizuoka Air Commuter Corporation has ordered a GrandNew helicopter in air ambulance configuration for use in the Niigata Prefecture, as part of the national helicopter air ambulance programme across all Japanese prefectures. The helicopter will enter service in the autumn of 2016.

On the first day of Heli-Expo 2016, the Helicopter Division of Finmeccanica presented an evolution of the light single-engine SW-4 commercial helicopter, now designated the AW009. The new model provides improved levels of comfort, reduced maintenance and operating costs as well as an all new integrated avionics suite, and in the future, the option of a more powerful engine. The AW009 can be equipped for training, law enforcement, emergency medical and passenger transport missions. Finmeccanica Helicopter Division has received an initial Letter of Interest from the Riverside Police Department of California. Finmeccanica Helicopter Division has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with AAL USA of Huntsville, Alabama, to facilitate avionics integration and FAA certification, expected by year end.

Finally, the Helicopter Division of Finmeccanica celebrated today with the Era Group, the longest serving helicopter provider in the industry and the largest civil operator of AgustaWestland helicopters, their tremendous operational success and achievement of 100,000 flight hours with their fleet of 40 AW139 helicopters operated across their group. Era operates and leases the aircraft in support of offshore, search and rescue, and EMS operations. The worldwide fleet of AW139s today, with 800 aircraft already delivered, has now exceeded 1,400,000 flight hours.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)



AUSTAL USA Awarded US \$14 Million in Additional LCS Sustainment Orders

Austal Limited is pleased to announce it has been awarded US\$14.656 million in modifications to a previously awarded Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) contract by the U.S. Department of Defense.

Under the contract, Austal USA will perform planning and implementation of deferred design changes that have been identified during the construction period. The corrections and upgrades are necessary to support sail-away and follow-on post-delivery test and trials period.

The cost-plus contract modifications exercise options for post-delivery support of Littoral Combat Ship USS Gabrielle Giffords (LCS 10) and Littoral Combat Ship USS Omaha (LCS 12). Work will be performed at Austal's shipyard in Mobile, Alabama. The Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, District of Columbia, is the contracting activity.

Austal has a US\$3.5 billion block-buy contract from the U.S. Navy to build 10 Littoral Combat Ships and a separate US\$1.6 billion block-buy contract from the U.S. Navy to build 10 Expeditionary Fast Transport vessels (EPF). Seven LCS and three EPF are currently under construction in Austal's Mobile, Alabama, ship manufacturing facility.

About Austal

Austal is a global defence prime contractor and a designer and manufacturer of defence and commercial ships. For more than 25 years Austal has been a leader in the design, construction and maintenance of revolutionary ships for Governments, Navies and Ferry operators around the world. More than 250 vessels have been delivered in that time.

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For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Austal

Airbus Group to Place Another Production Project at New Facility of Azura Polska

Azura Polska, a business unit of Nimrod Group, has officially opened its office and production facility in Poland. This event follows the award of a \$ 45 million multi-year contract by Airbus and STELIA Aerospace in July 2015, for the serial production of A350 XWB sheet metal parts. The newly-opened facility can soon grow further thanks to another production project from Airbus Helicopters.

The new project involves development and production of new aviation seats, which are currently in the research phase, conducted by Airbus Helicopters' design office in Łódź and the Łódź University of Technology (Politechnika Łódzka). The aim of the project is to develop, design, certify and produce a new generation of seats providing improved crash safety compared to existing seats. According to the plan, the development work on the implementation of the design and tests of the new seats should finish in 2016, and the production could be launched in the Łódź-based facility in 2017. The seats to be produced by Azura Polska could be used on all helicopters manufactured by Airbus Helicopters.

With the opening of Azura Polska in Łódź, Nimrod Group is supporting Airbus Group's business development strategy for Poland. It was Airbus Helicopters who invited Azura Polska to join its industrial centre in Łódź, which will also include a full assembly line of the Caracal helicopter. The design office of Airbus Helicopters, which was established in February 2015, is also based in Łódź. In return for the contract for the production of Caracal helicopters in Poland, Airbus Helicopters plans to create 1,250 direct and 2,000 indirect jobs, therefore it invites its suppliers to join the strategy of investment in Poland.

The Airbus Group strategy to develop co-operation with Polish companies is not limited to a single contract, but concentrates on an integrated system for the creation of new, innovative products and their production for Airbus Group markets and international clients. Other partners and suppliers of Airbus Group are also ready to place production activities in Poland. Simultaneously, the strategy involves development of co-operation with Polish universities in Warsaw, Łódź, Radom, Gdańsk, and additional ones in future (including Bydgoszcz and Dęblin), which is co-ordinated by the Airbus Helicopters' design office in Łódź.

"The implementation of the helicopter contract involves the launch of production of parts and components for the Caracal helicopters in Łódź, Dęblin and other cities of Poland. But more importantly, it will result in a broader investment and production engagement of Airbus Group itself or in co-operation with partners, including the development of a system of trusted suppliers in Poland," said Tomasz Krysiński, Vice-President Research and Innovation at Airbus Helicopters.

"The investment in R&D activities in Poland will grow systematically up to the level of € 200 million per year. As a result of the activities, much more than 3,250 jobs, which have been foreseen as offset, will be created. The jobs will go beyond the employment in the Caracal factory in Łódź, which is only one tenth of the commitment," Krysiński added.

Airbus Group

Airbus Group is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. Comprising Airbus, Airbus Defence and Space and Airbus Helicopters the Group employs around 138,600 people and in 2015 generated revenues of 64.5 billion Euros.

Airbus Helicopters

Airbus Helicopters is a division of Airbus Group. The company provides the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to its customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments. Flying more than 3 million flight hours per year, the company's in-service fleet includes nearly 12,000 helicopters operated by more than 3,000 customers in 154 countries. Airbus Helicopters employs more than 22,000 people worldwide and in 2015 generated revenues of 6.8 billion Euros. Airbus Helicopters' ambition is to go from the biggest to the best, becoming the benchmark in the industry for helicopter manufacturing.

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For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Airbus Helicopters

Thai Aviation Services Selects Fleet of Sikorsky Helicopters to Support Gulf of Thailand Operations

Thai Aviation Services has informed Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company, of the decision to renew its existing fleet of commercial helicopters with five S-76D medium lift and two S-92 heavy lift aircraft. Selection of an all-new Sikorsky aircraft fleet will enable the Bangkok-based operator to continue its track record of providing safe, reliable helicopter transportation to oil and gas customers in the Gulf of Thailand. The announcement was made at the 2016 Helicopter Association International Heli-Expo show.

“We thank Thai Aviation Services for again selecting Sikorsky helicopters to perform critical offshore oil and gas transport missions,” said Christophe Nurit, Sikorsky Sales Vice President in Asia. “Selection of these advanced aircraft combined with Sikorsky’s support services will ensure high aircraft availability rates for customers that rightly demand reliability and performance.”

The new fleet replaces six older model S-76® aircraft and two S-92 aircraft currently operated by Thai Aviation Services. Acquisition of the new helicopters via a major aircraft leasing company’s order book will begin in the third quarter of 2016 until all fleet aircraft are replaced by early 2017.

“Thai Aviation Services, as the market leader in offshore helicopter support services in Southeast Asia, demands the highest levels of safety, reliability and aircraft availability from our fleet,” said Craig Havas, Thai Aviation Services Deputy Managing Director – Operations, and S-92 Chief Pilot. “The Sikorsky fleet option, consisting of the S-76D and the S-92 helicopters, provides us with all of these aspects, in addition to a cost effective and operationally seamless transition from our current fleet. We look forward to strengthening our long-standing relationship with Sikorsky in order to continue the TAS tradition of exceeding our customers’ expectations in Southeast Asia.”

The S-76D helicopter is an all-new aircraft similar in external size and shape to the family of S-76 aircraft that has accumulated almost 7 million flight hours since 1979. The selection by Thai Aviation Services marks the S-76D helicopter’s debut in Southeast Asia.

Noted for its high power and low noise, the S-76D model can achieve cruise speeds at much lower power settings than its S-76 family predecessors. Noticeable improvements in handling qualities in all weather conditions are a function of the new tail rotor design combined with the aerodynamic airframe and highly responsive four-axis autopilot system. S-76D aircraft are certified for 12 passengers in airline layout, or five to eight in executive configuration.

The larger S-92 helicopter has proved to be a favorite for offshore operators since 2004. The offshore community has accumulated the vast majority of the more than 950,000 flight hours on the global fleet of 275 aircraft. The S-92 cabin can seat up to 19 passengers in airline configuration.

The high volume of flight hours for both the S-76 and S-92 platforms has yielded for Sikorsky and its customers a wealth of performance data. Ongoing analysis of the HUMS data has enabled Sikorsky to forecast component and system life, resulting in markedly improved flight readiness and more productive aircraft.

About Thai Aviation Services

Over the past 26 years, Thai Aviation Services has played a vital role in the development of the Thai helicopter industry, and continues to set the standard for offshore helicopter operations in Thailand. The company operates from the U-tapao International Airport, Songkhla Naval Base and Nakhon Si Thammarat Airport in support of production and exploration activities in the Gulf of Thailand, including along the territorial waters of neighboring countries, such as Cambodia and Malaysia.

About Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company

Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company, based in Stratford, Connecticut, is a world leader in aircraft design, manufacture and service. Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that – with the addition of Sikorsky – employs approximately 126,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Sikorsky

Data Link Solutions Increasing MIDS JTRS Production Capabilities for U.S. and Coalition Forces

Data Link Solutions (DLS), a joint venture between BAE Systems and Rockwell Collins, has been awarded a \$51.8 million contract from the U.S. Navy Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command to provide the Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS) Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS JTRS) to U.S. and coalition forces. This award includes radios for U.S. platforms and Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customers.

“This award reflects our strong past performance meeting terminal deliveries and our commitment to providing the best value to our U.S. and allied forces,” said Jack Stevens, director at DLS. “This contract underscores DLS’s leadership in Link 16 airborne networking and provides the latest in certified, reprogrammable, software-defined radio architecture for tactical data links.”

This MIDS JTRS Lot 4 award represents a significant majority of the Lot 4 competition and marks a substantial increase in terminal orders and deliveries, as the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force begin transitioning multiple platforms to MIDS JTRS. MIDS JTRS enhances battlefield communications for joint and coalition warfighters by providing the ability to communicate by voice, video, and data with a line-of-sight, jam-resistant capability across ground, air, and naval assets.

“With this award, DLS will have a major ramp up in MIDS JTRS production,” said Doug Schmidt, director at DLS. “This production boost allows increased manufacturing cost savings that are then passed on to our customers, making new advanced data link technologies more affordable.”

Work will be performed in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Wayne, New Jersey, and is expected to be completed August 2017.

About Data Link Solutions

DLS was established in 1996 by two of the world leaders in military communications, Rockwell Collins and BAE Systems, to pursue next-generation Link 16 applications. DLS is a leading supplier of Link 16 terminals and software, as well as logistics and support services for air, land, and sea-based platforms. The company has a heritage of more than 25 years of Link 16 design and production experience, with more than 6,500 Link 16 systems delivered worldwide.

DLS has provided MIDS terminals for more than 40 different platforms in 38 countries. Product offerings include the Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS) Class 2 family, the MIDS Low Volume Terminal (MIDS-LVT) and MIDS-LVT-3 Fighter Data Link, the MIDS-LVT-2, the MIDS-On-Ship, the URC-138 Link 16 terminal, TacNet™ Tactical Radio, and various country-unique data links. DLS is the only company to provide all MIDS-LVT variants

including the Fighter Data Link and the MIDS-LVT-2/11 and has added MIDS JTRS to its offerings.

For Further Information [Click Here](#)

Source: Epicos, Data Link Solutions

Cubic Receives \$3.7 Million for the Addition of New Weapons Simulation Capabilities

Cubic Global Defense (CGD), a business unit of Cubic Corporation (NYSE: CUB), today announced it has received series of contracts totaling \$3.7 million to integrate new weapons into the U.S. Marine Corps' Squad Immersive Training Environment (SITE) simulation system. SITE is interoperable with Instrumented-Tactical Engagement Simulation System (I-TESS II) and uses the instrumentation as its backbone. With these contracts, the U.S. Marine Corps is CGD's first customer to field geo-pairing technology for non-line-of-sight weapons. Geo-pairing technology, which provides the relative position between a shooter and a target, allows the ability to pair with a target without the use of lasers.

Cubic will provide new simulator weapons, such as the surrogate Tube-launched, Optically tracked, Wire-guided (TOW) anti-tank guided missiles and the MK-19 grenade launchers, for use during live training exercises. Cubic will also support the design, development and integration of SITE-specific capability enhancements to the I-TESS II training system in addition to evaluating ruggedized prototype, testing and effectiveness. These enhancements address training proficiency and readiness gaps at the squad level and support both direct force-on-force and force-on-target tactical engagement training.

"As we continue to bring cutting-edge training capabilities such as the geo-pairing technology for non-line-of-sight weapons to live training battlefields, we are overcoming the limitations of laser and providing a complement to laser-based engagement," said Bill Toti, president of Cubic Global Defense. "We want to put our Marines in a realistic combat environment where they are going to experience the various aspects of actual combat including threats, sights and sounds, but in a safe environment where they can make mistakes, learn and be better prepared."

With SITE, the U.S. Marines will be able to perfect their skills at calling in artillery fire. The system calculates ballistics and transmits a kill message to those within the impact zone. This not only provides more realistic training, but also brings artillerymen into training exercises, allowing them to run through the targeting and firing process all the way through to pulling the lanyard.

About Cubic Corporation

Cubic Corporation designs, integrates and operates systems, products and services focused in the transportation, defense training and secure communications markets. As the parent company of two major business units, Cubic's mission is to increase situational awareness and understanding for customers worldwide. 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 realistic combat training systems, secure communications and networking and highly specialized support services for military and security forces of the U.S. and allied nations. For more information about Cubic, please visit the company's website at www.cubic.com or on Twitter @CubicCorp.

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Source: Epicos, Cubic Corporation