

Saab chosen for LHD Combat System

The Australian Department of Defence's announcement of the Tenix-Navantia partnership to build two of the world's largest and most advanced Landing Helicopter Dock amphibious ships is welcomed news to Saab.

Equipped with integrated helicopters, watercraft and medical facilities, including two operating theatres and a hospital ward, the ships will be capable of deploying over a thousand personnel and their vehicles by sea and air.

This brings an exciting opportunity for Saab, flagged to deliver the combat management system and combat system integration for these two super ships. The installation of the Saab combat management system in the new LHDs (Landing Helicopter Dock ships) demonstrates Saab's significance in combat system engineering capability and the through-life support for the 30+ year expected life of the ships. This major project will benefit greatly from the relationships developed between Saab, Tenix and the Royal Australian Navy in delivering the ANZAC frigate fleet and subsequent upgrades over the past decade.

The total cost of the two LHDs is approximately \$3 billion with Saab's share to be around \$100 million. The combat system design and integration work will be carried out by Saab Systems in South Australia. This will create some new jobs and existing employees will transfer from existing tasks as they are completed. The ANZAC ship Anti Ship Missile Defence upgrade will produce the baseline combat management system for the LHD class. ●



Saab's Combat Management System for LHD's

Modern, high performance, robust and resilient. Scalable architecture allows growth, interoperability and support for open standards.

Combat system configurations that result in a 99% compliance.

Low integration risk with less than 10% new software (reuse).

Systems and processes certifiable by Navy Technical Regulatory System.

Head Office

21 Third Avenue, Technology Park, Mawson Lakes SA 5095
Telephone 08 8343 3800 | www.saabsystems.com.au



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The seamless battlespace ... *from barracks to battlefield*



The Chief of the Army has publicly espoused the need for a 'hardened and networked army' and the combined Land 75/125 Project is one step in achieving the networked component of this vision.

Saab Systems has submitted its tender under Land 75/125 for the supply and support of a Battle Group and below Command, Control and Communications (BGC3) System for the Australian Army.

The tender has now entered an extended evaluation period involving source selection demonstrations and a parallel offer definition period. During the offer definition period, to be conducted in 2008, tenderers are required to integrate the system into vehicles and onto soldiers who will then conduct trials to evaluate the system. Saab recently passed the first evaluation hurdle by successfully completing

the Variable Message Format (VMF) compliance test in Canberra on September 12th.

The BGC3 system will equip both mounted and dismounted soldiers, providing a fully integrated combat capability up to the battle group level. Using the BGC3 system, soldiers will be able to seamlessly inter-operate with vehicles, command posts and man-packs providing near real-time situational awareness, command and control and inter-operability with other ADF platforms and coalition partners.

Saab, as the prime contractor, has teamed with Northrop Grumman Mission Systems, Thales Australia, Tenix Land Systems Division and Viasat to provide a suite of operationally proven products that bring the latest improvements in technology to the fore-front of the battlefield.

The system is based around Northrop Grumman's C2PC and C2CE Battle Management software, currently in-service with the U.S. Marine Corps and 37 other countries including Australia. The Saab BGC3 system will provide a software defined radio that is Type 1 encrypted and has been certified against the U.S. Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) standards. The system will provide VMF messaging, that is the key to current and future interoperability with coalition partners and the evolving ADF Network Centric Warfare concepts.

The Saab solution for BGC3 builds on our experience from the Battlefield Command Support System, and is a 'system of systems' approach that provides the mounted and dismounted soldier with an integrated C3 capability forming the basis of a Seamless Battlespace. The BGC3 system will provide a growth path for the future inter-operability of the ADF, enabling the exchange of the common operating picture between the Land and Joint domains. ●

Expanding the role of GBAD

Saab's Land Weapons Business Development Manager, Inger Lawes will address the upcoming Land Warfare Conference in Adelaide in October to discuss how ground based air defence (GBAD) can play a greater role in protecting Australia.

Mr Lawes believes that expanding the use of GBAD systems around Australia could significantly increase Australia's ability to defeat terrorist attacks.

According to Mr Lawes, GBAD is currently not considered as a means of addressing a terror threat. "Existing Australian GBAD lacks real time command and control to enable it to connect to the Australian Air Defence System," says Mr Lawes. "As such, the air defence commander is unable to control GBAD missile engagements in real time."

Real time control is essential in order to reduce the potential of friendly aircraft being inadvertently targeted.

"Introducing a real-time data link capability that would enable GBAD to communicate with the Australian air defence system is a worthwhile near term enhancement," says Mr Lawes.

"This relatively simple and low cost capability upgrade would optimize the existing capability enabling its use against terror threats."

GBAD could be used against a 9/11 type threat, i.e. hijacked aircraft, conventional cruise missiles and even improvised or low tech cruise missiles and UAVs. GBAD would be used as part of a layered and integrated approach to defeating the terror threat. ●

ANZAC Alliance *extended*

The second quarter of 2007 saw the signing of the new ANZAC Alliance between Saab Systems, Tenix Defence and the Defence Materiel Organisation strengthening Saab's role in support of Navy's Anzac class.

According to Jock McManus, this latest alliance is a new beginning for the ANZAC class. "The ANZAC Ship Integrated Material Support Program Alliance will see Saab Systems continuing to support the ANZAC class for the next nine years at least with an option for an additional six years after that," said Mr McManus. This alliance is an expanded version of the previous ANZAC Alliance. It has the same membership but has been expanded to include in-service support and through-life capability upgrades.

"It includes, for example, the insertion of new technology, including commercially available technology," explained Mr McManus. Importantly, the alliance is also intended to allow members to take advantage of open architecture principles;



an area where Saab Systems is a world leader. Announcing the new ANZAC Alliance, the Minister for Defence Dr Brendan Nelson said that Saab and Tenix have been chosen to support the DMO in maintaining and enhancing the Anzac class, "as they possess detailed knowledge, skill and experience developed over the past 16 years in building, managing and supporting them." ●



Project Managers *recognised by AIPM*

As an important part of its project management professional development program, Saab Systems recently arranged external assessment and certification for a number of its project managers against the Australian Institute of Project Management (AIPM) competency framework.

According to Tony Davis, Deputy Managing Director of Saab Systems, the company's initial intention was an informal assessment to learn more of the certification process.

"However, it became clear to AIPM assessor, based on his review of our project management framework and processes—and the quality of our candidates—that the assessment could be formalised immediately. Resulting in certification for a number of Saab project managers," said Mr Davis.

The assessor subsequently awarded AIPM Registered Project Manager accreditation to Anthony Cassidy, Peter Holloway, Mark Slade, Peter Blackmore and Michael Wilkin. Glynn Stringer and Sheryl Lutz were also accredited at the higher level of AIPM Master Project Director.

"This achievement has enabled Saab Systems to deliver ahead of schedule on the Skilling Australia's Defence Industry (SADI) Project Management Training, Assessment and Certification (PMTAC) program commitments that we recently gave to the DMO," said Mr Davis. "This recognition



Sheryl Lutz and Glynn Stringer, Master Project Directors

of Saab's project management pedigree provides extra confidence in our project management rigor when compared to others in the Australian defence industry."

Saab expects more project managers to undertake external assessment in coming months as part of their professional development program and the Saab/DMO SADI PMTAC program. ●

Saab bids for Greek Frigate Project

The effective distribution of information across the battlespace has always been one of the capstones of success in conflict. Saab Systems' ongoing efforts in the development of tactical data link capability are improving how the ADF and other global customers share information within the theatre of operations.

Saab Systems have teamed with CEA Technologies and Australian Marine Technologies to offer a full advanced air warfare system for the upgrade to the Hellenic Navy's MEKO 200 Hydra class frigate. As a marketing tool for the bid, the team has produced a video highlighting the total capability package on offer that they will use across the international marketplace with its premier at the Defence Systems and Equipment International in London.

The video highlights the advance air and surface defence of the CEAFAAR active phased array radar and the solid state

missile illuminator CEAMOUNT in both the open ocean and littoral environments. The combination of the CEA radar and the Saab 9LV combat management system for air and surface defence in the littoral environment is particularly potent. The package enables early detection and engagement, particularly from asymmetric threats including small boats, land based threats such as vehicle mounted anti-ship missiles as well as defence against helicopter threats.

Saab and CEA have collaborated on the recent anti-ship missile defence upgrade of Australia's Anzac class, a MEKO 200 just like the Hydra class, and are confident that they, together with AMT (who will provide platform design support) have an extremely competitive offering.

The video is a combination of real footage and computer generated imagery with operations room footage taken from the Defence Science and Technology Organisation's combat systems integration laboratory. ●



Providing international support for 9LV

Saab Systems' Naval Systems division is supporting Saab's International Sales and Marketing team to seek new customers around the globe for the proven and highly capable 9LV combat management system.

According to Jim Males, Saab Systems' on-going support to Australia's ANZAC class frigates opens doors that might not otherwise be available to Saab globally. "Australia's Commonwealth membership, as well as its membership of NATO's evolved sea sparrow missile consortium means that Saab Systems Australia has valuable access and experience," said Mr Males.

"A good example where this Australian heritage is being leveraged is the project to upgrade to the MEKO 200 Hydra class for the Hellenic Navy. Saab Systems is taking the lead on the MEKO upgrade using our role developing, sustaining and upgrading the Anzac class (also MEKO 200) as a reference."

MEKO 200 Hydra class vessels are approximately the same vintage as Anzac ships and the Hellenic Navy is looking to upgrade its four vessels with enhancements to capability

similar to the recent Anzac class upgrade in which Saab Systems was so closely involved.

As a service provider to the RAN, Saab Systems is in a position to support members of other defence groupings that Australia is a party to. These groups include the Five Power Defence Agreement (Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Malaysia and the United Kingdom) and AUSCANUKUS (Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.) The latter grouping has made it possible for Saab Systems to team with Lockheed Martin to offer an air-warfare subsystem as part of the planned refit of Canada's 12 Halifax class frigates.

9LV is a scaleable system which can be used reduced in size and capability for use in coastal patrol vessels, fleet auxiliaries and other vessels where some combat capabilities are not essential. The technology behind 9LV allows access to powerful processing systems at quite low cost.

Saab Systems places great importance on working with Saab's international sales and marketing division to help the 9LV system in the international sphere. ●

Saab Systems

delivering exceptional system solutions

Insight contains information on projects and activities undertaken by the Saab group of companies in Australia.



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