ISSN 2547-9067

Greek Defence News

BIMONTHLY DEFENCE AND SEURITY REVIEW FOR GREECE, CYPRUS, AND THE SOUTHERN EAST EUROPEAN REGION

ISSUE: January – February 2024

VOL. 24 No 1-2

2024 Athens International Firefighting Conference

13-14 March 2024, War Museum, Athens, Greece

INNOVATIVE UNMANNED TECHNOLOGY

ALTUS
Land Sea Air

CONTACT US

+30 2821044492

www.altus-lsa.com

Coverpage photo: primeminister.gr
Editor-in-Chief:
Dimitrios Angelopoulos M. Sc.
Marketing & Sales:
Dionysis Antonopoulos

GREEK DEFENCE NEWS is a bi-monthly defence and security review published by **DBDC INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE PUBLICATIONS&EVENTS LIMITED** covering security matters as well as political, military and defence industrial issues in Greece, Cyprus and in the region of the Southern Eastern Europe. No material may be reproduced without the recent content of the editor.

Annual subscription rate:
Print + Digital 120 euro (Air mail surcharge is included)
*__Digital__ 60 euro

DBDC INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE PUBLICATIONS&EVENTS LIMITED
11 ZinonosSozoustr, Office 103,
CY-1075 Nicosia, Cyprus,
Tel : 00357- 22475406,
Fax : 00357- 22475606,
Email:dbdc@skynet.be
www.dbdcgroup.com

Contents

Advertisement International Sales POC

EUROPE:
Stephen Barnard CEO, ADJUTANT MTCT:
M: +49 228 3500886
M: +44 7984 033154
F: +44 1252 315324,
stephen.barnard@web.de
stephen.adjutant@gmail.com

BRUSSELS POC: Av. Gribaumont 54,
Woluwest.Labert, 1200 B
Bruxelles, Belgium,A
Tel+322
e-mail dbdc@skynet.be

UK POC, **DBDC INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE PUBLICATIONS&EVENTS UK LTD**
27 Old Gloucester Street London WC1N 3AX
England, UK, Tel +447700397790,
+442045423359, dbdcukltd@gmail.com

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

KYSEA selected Greece's New Military Leadership

© MOD

On 12 January 2024, the National Security Governmental Council (KYSEA), Greece's top decision-making body for foreign affairs and defense matters, implemented substantial changes to the military leadership.

These changes reflect the government's dedication to conducting a comprehensive defence review of the Armed Forces' operations and addressing issues from the recent past.

Lieutenant General Dimitrios Houpis, the former Commander of the Special Warfare Command, now assumes the role of the Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff (HNDGS).

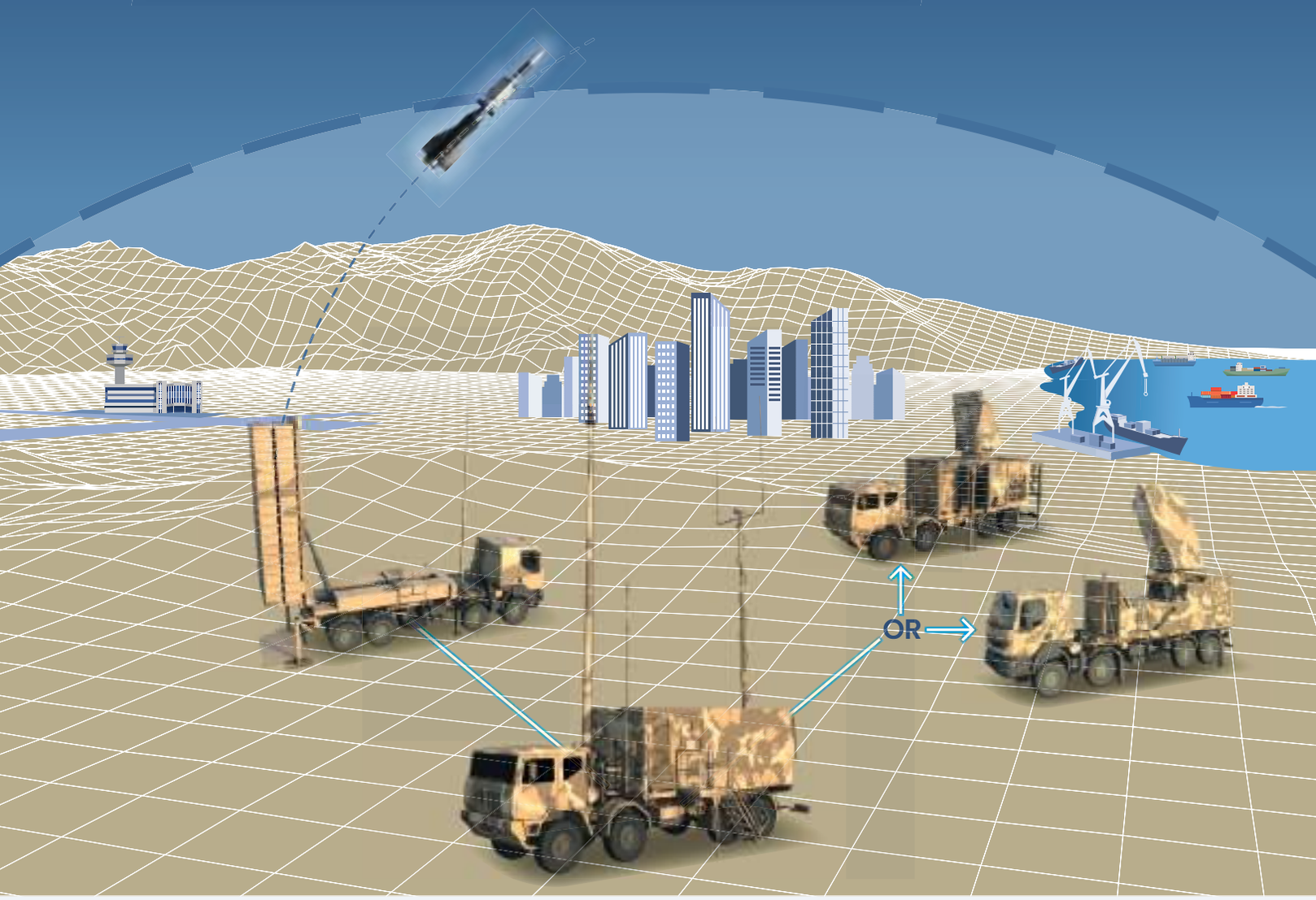
Lieutenant General Georgios Kostidis has been appointed as the Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff (HAGS), while Dimitrios Kataras, formerly the Vice Admiral of the Hellenic Navy, has taken on the position of Chief of the Hellenic Navy General Staff (HNGS). Dimosthenis Grigoriadis, the former Commander of the Air Support Command, is now the Chief of the Hellenic Air Force General Staff (HAFGS).

Rear Admiral Polychronis Koulouris, previously the Deputy Fleet Commander in Chief of the Hellenic Fleet has been promoted to the position of Chief of the Hellenic Fleet. Panagiotis Georgakopoulos, formerly the Director of the D Branch of the Hellenic Air Force General Staff, now assumes the role of Chief of the Hellenic Tactical Air Force Command (HTAF).

SAMP/T NG

Global Airspace Sovereignty – Country & Forces Protection

The new **European** Long-Range Ground-Based Air Defense



Range
Detection ≥ 350 km - Interception ≥ 150 km

Mobility
Fast deployment on all kind of roads

Mission-proven
Permanent protection of airspace

Interoperability
Easy to integrate into all types of air defense network - Fitted for IAMD

360° protection
Rotating radar and missile launched vertically

Autonomy
Preserve sovereign employment in operation

eurosam

Innovative air defense

eurosam.com

SCAN THIS CODE TO DOWNLOAD OUR BROCHURE

SCAN THIS CODE TO ACCESS OUR WEBSITE

Greek frigate Hydra departs for Red Sea to join Operation

Following a decision of the Government Council for Foreign Affairs and (KYSEA), on 26 February 2025, Hellenic Navy and "Hydra" frigate departed from Salamis Nava Base for the Red Sea to participate in a mission to protect merchant ships from attacks by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi militia. The Houthis, an Iran-backed rebel group that controls a part of Yemen, say their attacks are in retaliation for Israel's war in Gaza. With 12% of global trade and as much as 30% of global container traffic passing through the vital waterway, their strikes have threatened to severely disrupt trade flows into Europe. France, Germany, Italy and Belgium have so far confirmed they plan to contribute ships to the EU mission. Greece will provide a commander for its operational headquarters, Italy will provide the force commander, and France the deputy force commander. The European Union´s Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) OPERATION ASPIDES is an EU defensive maritime security operation under the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

Operation ASPIDES will contribute to restore and safeguard freedom of navigation, for the sake of the EU, the region, and the wider international community. The EUNAVFOR OPERATION ASPIDES mandate is to:

- Protect vessels against ongoing attacks,
- Accompany vessels,
- Reinforce maritime situational awareness – such as monitoring, assessing possible threats and sharing information – in coordination with partners.

EUNAVFOR OPERATION ASPIDES, within its purely defensive mandate, will protect shipping targeted by attacks at sea or air. It will not conduct strikes on land. ASPIDES will act in line with the UN Security Council Resolution 2722, which demands the cessation of Houthis' attacks on merchant and commercial vessels and recognizes the right to defend vessels against such attacks, in line with international law. Building upon the Strategic Compass for Security and Defence, ASPIDES consolidates the EU's capacity to respond rapidly to a global crisis, in cooperation with like-minded international partners, while reinforcing the strategic autonomy of the EU.

HEADQUARTERS
Larissa, Greece

OPERATION COMMANDER
Commodore Vasileios Gryparis

FORCE COMMANDER
Rear Admiral Stefano Costantino

DURATION OF MANDATE
1 year

OPERATION LAUNCHED
19 February 2024

OPERATION AREA
From the Red Sea to the Gulf and a large part of the North-West Indian Ocean

BUDGET
€8 million

STAFF
in Europe:
Operation Headquarters located in Larissa (Greece): 130
in the region:
Force Headquarters embarked on a Frigate: 30

ASSETS
- 4 frigates
- 1 aerial asset

Meeting mission-critical needs of the future

- Designed for Public Safety
- Reliable access to Push-to-Talk with files, video, multimedia and location information
- Operates on TETRA, 4G/5G and Satcom networks with quality of service for priority and preemption
- Improves situational awareness and operational efficiency

Agnet® the next generation collaboration solution
τη λύση συνεργασίας επόμενης γενιάς

Read more

Discover advanced solutions for reliable communication in a changing world

AIRBUS

HELLENIC ARMED FORCES ARMAMENT PROGRAMS

HELLENIC ARMY

Supply of 12 Used Armored Engineer Combat Vehicles

The General Directorate for Defence Investments and Armaments announced an international tender for the supply of Supply of 12 Used Armored Engineer Combat Vehicles (AMCVs). The estimated budget is 24.000.000€. Interested companies should submit complete technical and financial offers by 19 March 2024. Armoured Engineer Vehicles (AEVs), or Combat Engineer Vehicles (CEVs) as they are also referred to, play a key role not only on the battlefield, but also have a role to play in disaster relief as they are well equipped to rapidly clear roads and other obstacles using their specialized front end equipment (FEE).

Snipper's Rifle

On 15 February 2024 within GDDIA premises, took place the opening of the participants' financial offer for the Tender 03/2020, for Snipper's Rifle Procurement, where the Greek company ATESE SA was represented by its legals representatives.

HELLENIC NAVY

Hellenic Navy to join the US Navy's Constellation-class frigate program

© U.S. Navy graphic/Released

Greece considers joining the US Navy's Constellation-class frigate program "Our interest in the co-design and co-production of the seven advanced Constellation-class frigates in Greek shipyards," says Defense Minister Nikos Dendias.

"On January 16, we received a letter from the US Navy accepting, in principle, our interest in the co-design and co-production of the seven advanced Constellation-class frigates in Greek shipyards," Dendias said. "Therefore, based on this proposal, if there is an agreement, Greece could participate in this program right from the beginning, in the design phase. This would be a significant step forward for both the Hellenic Navy and the local shipbuilding industry, he remarked.

The Constellation-class multi-mission guided-missile frigates of the US Navy are based on the joint Italian-French FREMM type frigates, which are already in service with the French, Italian, and Egyptian navies. In 2020, the US Navy announced that it had selected a FREMM variant for its new Constellation class of 20 frigates. Concerning the transfer of four littoral combat ship (LCS) to Greece by the US under the Excessive Defense Article (EDA) scheme, which was mentioned in US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's letter to Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Dendia said it is being reviewed by competent authorities. The Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) is a fast, agile, mission-focused platform designed to operate by the US Navy in near-shore environments, winning against 21st-century coastal threats. The LCS is capable of supporting forward presence, maritime security, sea control, and deterrence. The US Navy began procuring Constellation (FFG-62) class frigates (FFGs) in FY2020, and a total of four have been procured through FY2023, at a rate of one ship per year. Current Navy planscall for procuring a total of 20 FFG-62s. The Navy's proposed FY2024 budget requests about $2.2 billion for the procurement of the fifth and sixth ships in the program. The Navy's FY2024 budget submission programs the procurement of an additional six FFG-62s during the period 2024-2028 FFG-62s are being built by Fincantieri/Marinette Marine (F/MM) of Marinette, WI. F/MM was awarded a fixed-price incentive (firm target) contract for Detail Design and Construction.

HELLENIC AIR FORCE

Delivery of a new Flight Inspection Aircraft to Hellenic Airforce (HAF)

Within the contract framework between Aerodata and Hellenic Air Force (HAF) for the delivery of a new Flight Inspection Aircraft, on 16th of November 2023 the factory new aircraft King Air

PRONOIA
FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

ROSENBAUER DEALER IN GREECE

THINKING AHEAD
SINCE 1936

80+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

IN THE FIREFIGHTING AND RESCUE SECTOR

HIGH-QUALITY & CERTIFIED PRODUCTS
THAT ENSURE RELIABLE OPERATION, THE MOMENT YOU NEED IT

With more than 80 years' experience in the fire & rescue sector, PRONOIA maintains the mentality of a youthful company at the cutting edge of technological evolution, whilst taking an agile approach to dealing with the challenges of the market.PRONOIA is active in the following sectors: Industrial, Maritime, Oil & Gas, Food & Beverage, Mining, Transportation, Construction, Fire Service, Civil Protection and Armed Forces.

By keeping a close eye on the international fire & rescue sector, we are always on the lookout for new and innovative products, which we try at our testing facility before adding them to our product range. With accumulated knowledge, experience and a friendly approach, we equip firefighters, rescuers, high risk facilities and large construction projects. At PRONOIA, we achieve this wide range of operational activity because we represent the top manufacturers in the world in firefighting, rescue and personal protection equipment.

PRONOIA
We think ahead, so that you are safe.

www.pronoia.gr

48, Lysia street,
Peristeri, 12132, Athens
+30 210 57 20 762
info@pronoia.gr

Business Register No. 145008301000

360, equipped with the latest generation of Flight Inspection System AeroFIS®, was handed over to our customer.

© Aerodata

Within this project, Aerodata took the responsibility for the purchase of the basic aircraft, the design and production of the Flight Inspection System as well as for the integration into the aircraft and all related services such as EASA certification, ferry flights, training for pilots, maintenance technicians and flight inspectors. The Automatic Flight Inspection System (AFIS) is individually customized to the highest extent, in order to comply with the demanding requirements of HAF. The system integrates two workstations, direction finder, hybrid multi-constellation phase tracking GNSS solution as position reference and all standard capabilities. This delivery forms the beginning of a long-term relation for provision of service and support for the next decades.

HELLENIC DEFENCE INDUSTRY

INTRACOM DEFENSE launches the PROTEAS Project

INTRACOM DEFENSE (IDE), as the Coordinator of a cross-European consortium, signed a grant agreement for the first of its kind Special Operations Forces (SOF) Command Post and

© IDE

Command & Control System (SOFCPC2), to support EU-led SOF Small Joint Operations.20 million Euros are funded by the European Defence Fund for the study, design, prototyping, and integration, testing and evaluation. The contract was signed following the conclusion of a competitive evaluation process. The project PROTEAS (“dePloyable special opeRations fOrces mulTi-Environment commAnd post and C2 System”), in the framework of the European Defense Fund – EDF 2022 program, aims to promote the upgraded role of SOF, as envisioned by the EU. PROTEAS will not only reduce the time for operational readiness but also reduce the cost of EU SOF Small Joint Operations.

IDE leads the PROTEAS consortium consisting of other partners from Greece (ISD S.A., Satways), Belgium (C&V Consulting, Dotocean), Cyprus (Eight Bells, Ubitech), France (Thales Six GTS France, Commissariat à l’ Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives, Hensoldt France SAS, SAS Impact), Germany (Rheinmetall Electronics), Italy (Leonardo S.p.A.) and Norway (Squarehead). The Ministries of Defence (MoDs) of Greece, Italy, France, Norway and Belgium, support and co-fund the project with an additional maximum 3 million Euros. The Hellenic MoD has appointed the Project Manager who will act as the main point of contact between the project stakeholders and the PROTEAS Consortium. At the Kick-off Meeting of PROTEAS which took place in Athens on the 18 & 19 of December 2023 with the participation of involved MoDs, a foundation was laid that will help to implement the program successfully. This is enhanced by all partners that where satisfied by the outcome and are already starting the work with full force. The Chairman of the B.o.D. and CEO of IDE, Dr. George Troullinos, stated that: “PROTEAS is not just a Research and Technology Project. Our technologically innovative proposal meets the operational requirements of the respective MoDs for SOF operations and will also strongly contribute to the overall plan of action for strengthening EU’s security and defence policy, by enabling EU to act rapidly and robustly whenever a crisis erupts”.

EFA VENTURES

Integrated Services for Aerospace, Defense & Civil Protection

EFA VENTURES is the partner of choice for the supply of integrated and specialized services for Defense & Civil Protection related projects.

Specialized Services

- Fully Support of the Firefighting Cycle (Forest Evaluation, Risk Assessment, Fire Prevention, Firefighting Co-ordination, Forest Restoration)
- Aircraft Wet Lease for firefighting
- Integrated Services for aircraft maintenance & upgrade
- Uncrewed Systems
- Industrial Participation
- Program Management & Engineering Advisory

10 Omirou & 7 Stratigi str. / 15451 Neo Psychiko - Athens, Greece / **T** +30 210 6728610 / **F** +30 210 6728624 / **info**@efagroup.eu

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN INDUSTRIES RELATED TO THE HELLENIC ARMED FORCES ARMAMENTS PROGRAMS

IFV Philoctetes

© Nexter

On 31 January 2024, a meeting was conducted between the Hellenic Army General Staff officers and representatives of the French company Nexter. The aim the meeting was the presentation of the company's IFV Philoctetes.
The VBCI (Véhicule Blindé de Combat d'Infanterie) is a wheeled armored Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV) designed and manufactured by the French defense company Nexter (formerly known as Giat Industries). The VBCI was developed to replace the aging AMX-10P tracked IFV in service with the French Army. The development of VBCI began in the late 1990s, with the first prototype being completed in 2000. The vehicle entered service with the French Army in 2008.

The VBCI is an 8x8 wheeled vehicle, offering improved mobility, protection, and versatility compared to its tracked predecessor. The vehicle is designed to carry a crew of three, including a driver, commander, and gunner, as well as nine infantry soldiers.

The VBCI in the French Army is equipped with with a one-man Nexter Dragar turret armed with a dual-feed 25mm NATO cannon type 25 M811 with 150 rounds in the turret and a coaxial 7.62mm machine gun. In all weather conditions, the Tarask® turret provides the dismounted combat units with effective fire support.

The VBCI PHILOCTETES is fitted with a CTA T-40 turret designed and manufactured by CTA International, a joint venture between two major defense companies, Nexter Systems of France and BAE Systems of the United Kingdom.

Leonardo UK

On 22 January 2024, a meeting was conducted between the Hellenic Air Force General Staff officers and representatives of the UK company Leonardo. The aim the meeting was the presentation of the company's BriteCloud Expendable Active Decoy.

BriteCloud is the world's first Digital Radio Frequency Memory (DRFM) Expendable Active Decoy (EAD), which delivers increased platform protection to fast-jet aircraft and their crews against a growing range of airborne and surface-based RF threats.
The self-contained jammer fits standard countermeasure dispensers and so can equip a wide range of platforms. It is designed to disrupt incoming missiles' RF tracking systems and produce an impressive 'miss distance', minimising the risk of a missile exploding close to the platform.

Over the past decade, BriteCloud has been proven for operational use through a rigorous series of trials around the world, with Leonardo electronic warfare (EW) technologists working alongside UK and allied defence forces to confirm the decoy's full operational capability. This includes the US Air National Guard, which issued a 'fielding recommendation' for BriteCloud 218 as part of a Foreign Comparative Testing (FCT) programme involving US F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter jets. The US has subsequently designated BriteCloud 218 as AN/ALQ-260(V)1.

Testing has covered the 'BriteCloud 55' variant, which can be launched from a standard 55mm chaff and flare dispenser, and the smaller 'BriteCloud 218', which fits into 2"x1"x8" dimensions. Additionally, the BriteCloud 55-T variant is designed to protect large military transport aircraft.

Israel Aerospace Industry (IAI)

On 28 November 2023, a meeting was conducted between the Hellenic Army General Staff officers and representatives of the Israeli company IAI. The aim the meeting was the presentation of the company's ELM-2180 WatchGuard Multi-Mode Ground Surveillance Radar.

ELM-2180 WatchGuard is a fifth generation of movement detection tactical Ground Surveillance Radars (GSR), providing both staring and electronic steering search techniques. Featuring a

ATESE S.A.

Construction, Development & Renewable Energy

✓ *Renewable Energy Sector (Wind & Solar Energy Projects)*
✓ *Concessions through Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)*
✓ *5th grade government license*

Consulting & Defense

✓ *Consulting Team for Project Management Services*
✓ *Defense & Security Systems Division*
✓ *High Tech Division*

Quality Assurance & Esg Framework

✓ *ISO Certifications*
✓ *Business Licenses*
✓ *Defence & Security Certifications*

© IAI

high update rate, the radar enables very high probability of target detection and tracking to support complex missions. Combination of staring and scanning allows to adapt and optimize the radar operation for any scenario.

The WatchGuard is a solid-state, small size and low weight Active Electronically Scanning Phased-array (AESA), multi-beam all weather radar providing high accuracy detection data, either locally or to remote Command and Control (C&C) systems. The radar covers 90° to 360° by employing 1 to 4 stationary (non-rotating) phased array antennas, each covering a sector of 90°.

EMBRAER

© EMBRAER

On 23 November 2022, a meeting was conducted between the Hellenic Air Forces General Staff officers and representatives of the Brazilian company EMBRAER. The aim the meeting was the presentation of the company's C-390 Millennium transport aircraft. The C-390 MILLENNIUM is the new generation military multi-mission aircraft that brings unrivaled mobility, high productivity and operation flexibility at low operational costs on a single and unique modern platform. The C-390 is capable of transporting and launching cargo and troops and performing a wide array of missions including medical evacuation, search and rescue, humanitarian search and rescue, aerial refueling (fighters and helicopters), aerial firefighting and humanitarian assistance.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Hellenic Fire Service

The Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund S.A. has recently announced the following tenders on behalf of the Hellenic Fire Service:

- "Upgrade - modernization of two (2) Super Pumas – water tanks". Estimated budget is €2.400.000,00.

- "Purchase of fire engines and other response vehicles for the Hellenic Fire Service and Purchase of vehicles for General Secretariat for Civil Protection, regional-local civil protection centres and voluntary organizations". Estimated budget is € 80.090.000,00 including 24% VAT.
  "Procurement of twenty-five (25) amphibious single engine Fire Fighting Aircrafts for the island complexes". Estimated budget is €154.858.600,00.

- "Purchase of fire engines and other response vehicles for the Hellenic Fire Service and Purchase of vehicles for General Secretariat for Civil Protection, regional-local civil protection centres and voluntary organizations". Estimated budget is €80.090.000,00 including 24% VAT.

General Secretariat for Civil Protection

The Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund S.A. has recently announced the following tenders on behalf of the General Secretariat for Civil Protection:

«Purchase of fire engines and other response vehicles for the Hellenic Fire Service and Purchase of vehicles for General Secretariat for Civil Protection, regional-local civil protection centers and voluntary organizations» €64.588 709,75 excluded VAT.

Ministry of Citizen Protection

The Ministry of Citizen Protection announces an open electronic tender for the supply of surveillance systems for the reception and recording of audio and video in public places, which will be installed on police personnel uniforms and vehicles, for the prevention and suppression of criminal acts.

Estimated budget is € 17.550.000,00 including 24% VAT.

HYNAERO

WHO ARE WE ?

The Fregate-F100 is an advanced large capacity amphibious water bomber to address the growing challenge of wildfires

Intended for

Providing security to the population

&

Protecting the environment, the infrastructure and the economy

HYNAERO is a company located in France developing the European Fregate-F100 to provide private & institutional operators with the appropriate aerial capacity to fight wildfires.

HYNAERO is developing its design office and assembly line in Bordeaux-Mérignac airport amongst a robust and dynamic aeronautical industrial ecosystem.

HYNAERO intends to develop a strong network of industrial partnership in Europe and with customers.

HYNAERO SAS
58 avenue Marcel Dassault
33700 Mérignac – France
contact@hynaero.com
+33 683 301 771
https://hynaero.com

NATO

NATO Chiefs of Defence discuss deterrence and defence priorities

From 17 to 18 January 2024, the NATO Military Committee in Chiefs of Defence Session took place at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The 31 Allied Chiefs of Defence and Invitee Sweden focused on the executability the Alliance's new defence plans, NATO's warfighting transformation, NATO's continued support to Ukraine and military cooperation with NATO Partners Austria, Australia, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, and the Republic of Korea. During the two-day meeting, the Chiefs of Defence met for the first time in a NATO-Ukraine Council format.

© NATO

Opening the NATO Military Committee session alongside NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoană, Chair of the Military Committee Admiral Rob Bauer stressed that the rules-based international order is under immense pressure: "The tectonic plates of power are shifting. And as a result we face the most dangerous world in decades. In this new era of collective defence we must defend not only the physical safety of our 1 billion people and 31 (soon to be 32) nations, we are defending freedom and democracy".

The Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Geoană highlighted various global security challenges: "Today, our peace is threatened. War, terrorism, instability. Authoritarian states threaten our values. We need a strong NATO more than ever and a strong NATO is what we have."

The first session saw General Cavoli, Supreme Allied Commander Europe - SACEUR, brief on the executability of the DDA Family of Plans and the way ahead regarding NATO's deterrence and defence posture. Allies are actively working on making the new defence plans fully executable.

Regarding NATO's warfighting transformation, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation General Lavigne and Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation General Badia updated the Chiefs of Defence on the progress regarding NATO's transformation, focusing on the future of multi domain operations and the adaptation of NATO's Command and Control.

The session of Integrated Air and Missile defence saw the Chiefs of Defence discuss the improvement of NATO's readiness and interoperability in the Air domain.

The afternoon saw the Chiefs of Defence discuss and provide additional guidance to the two Strategic Commanders regarding NATO's deterrence and defence priorities ahead of the Washington D.C. The new defence plans require more people, more training and exercising, more stockpiles and capabilities, and more planning defence investment.

In the inaugural NATO-Ukraine Council in Chiefs of Defence format, the Ukrainian Military Representative to Ukraine, Major General Serhii Salkutsan briefed the NATO Chiefs of Defence on behalf of Ukrainian Chief of Defence General Zaluzhnyi. Praising the bravery and determination of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, the Chiefs of Defence reaffirmed their unwavering and continued support to Ukraine. Admiral Bauer stipulated: "The outcome of this war will determine the fate of the world. Our support is not charity; it is an investment in our security."

The second day began with the Military Committee gathering with the Chiefs of Defence from the Partner Interoperability Advocacy Group: Australia, Austria, Ireland, New Zealand and Switzerland. The PIAG Nations hold non-NATO Nation Status, which grants an individual security agreement that allows the exchange of classified information and participation in NATO training and exercises. The Chiefs of Defence stated that the current security environment clearly demonstrates the increased importance of cooperation with Partners, especially regarding interoperability.

Meeting with their Indo-Pacific partners Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea, the NATO Chiefs of Defence discussed how regional security issues are increasingly becoming global security issues. Together, they discussed how to develop further training and exercising opportunities amidst closer cooperation.

The final session of the day saw the Chiefs of Defence meet with the NATO Secretary General,

Life Solutions

BONPET LIQUID

- A unique extinguishing formula
- An ecological extinguishing agent
- For all fire categories A, B, F &
- EVs Traction Li-ion Batteries 400V

Bonpet® systems

Reliable fire extinguishing systems

AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING
AMPOULE

EXTINGUISHING **GRENADE**

FIRE EXTINGUISHING
SPRAY

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

FIRE EXTINGUISHING
TRAILER

26, 25 MARTIOY Str, 15239 NEA PENTELI, ATTICA, GREECE
Tel. +30 210 7660784 / Email: info@lifesolutions.gr . www.lifesolutions.gr

CE MPA Dresden UL

Mr. Jens Stoltenberg. The Chiefs of Defence discussed global security issues and the political priorities ahead of the Washington D.C. Summit.

ESDP

Defence Equity Facility

With the Defence Equity Facility, the European Investment Fund (EIF) will invest, as a Limited Partner, into private funds (venture capital or private equity funds) with investment strategies targeting European companies developing innovative defence technologies with dual-use potential.

With EUR 175 million invested between 2024 and 2027, the Defence Equity Facility will stimulate the development of an ecosystem of private funds investing in defence innovation. The Facility should mobilise around EUR 500 million in support of European companies. By taking cornerstone positions in the funds it supports, the EIF will act as key investor and help crowding-in additional investors.

The Defence Equity Facility is targeted at independently managed funds, including first-time management teams, established in the European Union or Norway. Funds receiving an investment under the Facility should invest in SMEs (including start-ups) ormid-caps established in the EU, Norway or Iceland, developing innovative defence technologies with dual-use potential (i.e. having both civilian and defence applications). Fund managers seeking support from the Facility should apply through the EIF website. Further information, including indicative term sheets and product descriptions are available under the call for expressions of interest for InvestEU on the EIF website.

POMANIA

CN ROMARM S.A and Elbit Systems to Cooperate on the Establishment of an Artillery Center of Excellence in Romania

Elbit Systems Ltd. and CN ROMARM S.A, through its subsidiary S Uzina Automecanica Moreni S.A. (UAM), have announced a cooperation agreement between the two companies in the field of artillery production.

© Elbit Systems 155mm ATMOS Advanced Mobile Howitzer

As part of the agreement, the parties will establish a Romanian Artillery Center, with the participation of additional local companies to enhance the domestic industrial base, generate additional employment opportunities and establish a strong foundation for sovereign artillery production in Romania. The cooperation agreement includes production of Elbit Systems' 155mm ATMOS Advanced Mobile Howitzers including the transfer of know-how for the manufacturing, production, assembly and integration of the ATMOS howitzers. ROMARM and UAM will operate as the system integrator, with more than 50% of the total workshare. Moreni will also serve as a long-term local support and maintenance provider for the ATMOS Howitzers.

The partners are considering additional potential Romanian companies for participation in the center of excellence including: ELMET International SRL, Bacau, a manufacturer of Electronic Cables and Mechanical subsystems; IOR Optics Company Bucharest, a producer of military and civilian-grade optics; Simultec SRL, a supplier of operational and tactical trainers and simulators for defence; Systematic, to supply and support the Tactical Communications Network, Fire Support software and C4I applications. The success of this partnership should generate new employment opportunities in Romania, supported by the growing demand for 155mm Howitzers from the Romanian military and other NATO and EU countries.

Elbit Systems is a high-tech defence company, that among other solutions, specializes in land and weapons systems house including the design, development, manufacture and integration of Artillery Howitzer Gun Systems, Mortar Systems,

THE FUTURE OF FIREFIGHTING

Have you ever wondered how easily a wildfire can start and how fast it can spread, causing a disaster?

The past has taught us a lot.

It's time for firefighting to turn the page!

The innovative fire extinguishing system "Typhoon" brings innovation to firefighting, changing a history of 1400 years.

Respecting human life, the environment and economy, the robotic firefighting system is now a fact!

Remote-Controlled Weapon Systems (RCWS), manned and unmanned turrets, tanks and combat vehicles upgrade and modernization as well as comprehensive, high-performance array of precision ammunition, rocket solutions and combat mobility, survivability and protection systems. Elbit Systems has been working in Romania for decades, owning two local companies – ELMET, the largest defence exporter in Romania, and Simultec, Training and Simulators Company.

TURKIYE

Turkiye's locally developed Indigenous Torpedo Akya is Operational

© Turkish MoD picture

On 27 December 2023, the Turkish Defence Ministry announced that the Turkish Navy successfully carried out the first live firing test of the Roketsan-made AKYA heavyweight torpedo with a real warhead in the East Mediterranean. The launch Turkish submarine was the TCG Preveze (S-353), equipped with the locally developed MÜREN Combat Management System.

Türkiye's new combat drone completes endurance flight test

© Baykar 

Türkiye's unmanned combat aerial vehicle (UCAV), Bayraktar TB3, tailored for the country's newly commissioned aircraft carrier, successfully completed a long-duration flight test on Wednesday, remaining airborne for 32 hours, its developer said. According to the statement from Baykar, after its first flight on Oct. 27, Bayraktar TB3 UCAV underwent consecutive performance tests, including the 13th flight test dubbed the endurance flight test. During the test conducted at the Akıncı Flight Training and Test Center in Çorlu, Tekirdağ, the Bayraktar TB3 UAV remained continuously in the air at an average altitude of 20,000 feet for 32 hours. The national UCAV took off with the PD-170 engine developed domestically by TUSAŞ Engine Industries (TEI). Bayraktar TB3 covered a total distance of 5,700 kilometers (3,541.8 miles) in the sky during its 32-hour flight, the company said.

New Ships deliveredto the Turkish Navy

© STM

On 19 January 2024, STM delivered to the Turkish Navy TCG İSTANBUL (F-515), Türkiye's first national frigate, the TCG UTGM. ARİF EKMEKÇİ(A-575) Logistics Support Ship as well as the Replenishment at Sea and Combat Support Ship (DIMDEG) TCG DERYA (A-1590), the second largest ship in the Turkish Naval fleet, and the MARLIN Unmanned Surface Vehıcle (USV).

STM Savunma Teknolojileri Mühendislik ve Ticaret A.Ş the project main contarctor under the

Early Fire Detection, Prevention and Management SR7 Platform

- ✓ *World Leader in Fire Detection*
- ✓ *Present in 25 Countries*
- ✓ *More than 30 Years Experience*
- ✓ *Forest and Industrial Environments*

Scalable and Customizable Solutions

Long Detection Range for standard target (1m2)

Friendly SW Platform

www.sr7.eu

leadership of the Defence Industry Agency (SSB) of the Republic of Türkiye, develops innovative and national solutions, contributing to Türkiye's vision of establishing a fully independent defence sector, and is continuing its efforts in this regard with the construction of national and modern warships for the Turkish Navy. The new Naval Platforms Delivery Ceremony was held at Sefine Shipyard in Yalova.

Attending the ceremony were President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan; Yaşar Güler, Minister of National Defense; Prof. Dr. Haluk Görgün, President of Defence Industry Agency (SSB); Admiral Ercüment Tatlıoğlu, Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces; Özgür Güleryüz, General Manager of STM; and Celal Koloğlu, Member of Board of Sefine Shipyard, as well as many other guests.

Özgür Güleryüz, General Manager of STM, stated that STM undertakes significant duties in the construction of national surface and submarine ships for the Turkish Navy, and has contributed to the Turkish economy through its exports of naval platforms to Pakistan and Ukraine. He said that STM was proud to have been selected as the main contractor in the TCG İSTANBUL project, as Türkiye's first national frigate, and said:

"TCG İSTANBUL, MİLGEM İstif-Class Frigates have taken their place among the five most advanced frigates in the world thanks to their design and technologies. The targeted localisation rate for the Istanbul Frigate was 75 percent, – a figure that we managed to increase to 80 percent through our efforts under the leadership of the SSB, and TCG İSTANBUL has thus taken the crown as the warship with the highest localisation rate in Türkiye. Our national frigate will serve as an important deterrent for our country in the world's seas thanks to its national electronic warfare systems, which have a high localisation rate, its new generation national combat management system and its ability to launch air-guided projectiles."

Referring to the Logistics Support Ship built under another project in which STM was the main contractor, Güleryüz said: "Following the successful delivery of TCG Yüzbaşı Güngör Durmuş (A-574), the first ship of the project, we are proud to be delivering TCG UTGM. ARİF EKMEKÇİ (A-575), the second ship of the project to the Turkish Navy. TCG UTGM. ARİF EKMEKÇİ Logistics Support Ship, named after SAT Commando Lieutenant Senior Grade Arif Ekmekçi who lost his life in the line of duty, will strengthen the supply and logistics capabilities of our Naval Forces, undertaking a broad range of tasks and carrying the cares of the Blue Homeland on its shoulders through its abilities to replenish fuel at sea, and to carry tons of liquid and solid cargoes, with a range of 9,500 nautical miles."

Turkey's KAAN Conducts First Flight

On 21st February 2024**,** Turkey's KAAN, its first national combat aircraft, completed its first flight on Wednesday, part of the country's efforts to upgrade its air force.

© TUSAS

Turkey launched its TF-X project to produce a national combat aircraft in 2016. Turkish aerospace firm TUSAS signed a deal with Britain's BAE Systems worth $125 million in 2017 to develop the next-generation fighter jet. TUSAS shared a video showing a KAAN fighter jet taking off and then returning to an air base in the north Ankara. "With KAAN, our country will not only have a fifth generation fighter jet, but also technologies that few countries in the world have," Haluk Gorgun, head of Turkey's Defence Industries Directorate (SSB), said in a post on social media platform X.

The new fighter jet will initially be powered by two General Electric F-110 engines, which are also used on fourth-generation Lockheed Martin F-16 jets. Turkey aims to use domestically produced engines on KAAN in serial production, Gorgun has said, with that expected to start in 2028. Kaan plays a key role in Turkey's plans to eventually develop a self-sufficient military, despite the high costs and technical complexity intrinsic to building modern warplanes. The twin engine-jet, also known as the National Combat Aircraft (MMU) had its public roll out and initial tax-testing in March of 2023. That year it underwent wind tunnel, radar cross-section, and ejection seat testing—the facilities for which reflected major new investments by TAI. However, its maiden flight took place two months later than intended.

DETECT LOCATE COMMUNCIATE

ARTEMIS

smith myers

TURNS ANY MOBILE PHONE INTO A LOCATOR BEACON

WWW.ARTEMIS.SMITHMYERS.COM

US – Greece military cooperation is getting stronger than ever

On 27 January 2024, Statement by the Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis made the following statement "Today is an important day for our national defence and for Greek diplomacy, because the letter I received from the United States Secretary of State Antony Blinken highlighted and sealed the strategic depth of Greek-American relations. With this letter, Greece is officially on track to acquire up to 40 latest generation F-35 fighter jets.

Nonetheless, at the same time, it will also acquire a very large package of equipment for free, which decisively strengthens all three branches of the Armed Forces, as well as the Hellenic Coast Guard. These are frigates, C-130 transport aircraft, armored tanks and vehicles, but also many other items of defence equipment, which our country secured after a personal request to President Biden in May 2022.

Therefore, the homeland is doubly shielded: on the one hand, its deterrent power is increased on land, in the air and at sea. On the other hand, the Greek taxpayer is not burdened, as this package will be available free of charge, from US reserves. It is the result of a methodic, silent and long effort, that combined Greece's alliance consistency oninternational fronts with the promotion of its national interests. A result which consolidates, at the same time, the dynamic and independent Greek-American strategic relationship.

Blinken's letter to Mitsotakis: The F-35s and the military equipment package

"Dear Prime Minister,

The provision of defense equipment to our NATO allies is a fundamental component of our efforts to boost European security and strengthen the Alliance's collective deterrence and defense capabilities. To this end, we have sought to work closely with Greece to advance our common interests and international peace and security, which are vital to the continuation of the rules-based international order. This strong bilateral relationship is a testament to the strong ties between our nations, and I am encouraged by the progress we have made together under the US-Greece Mutual Defense Cooperation Agreement to maintain strong, capable, and interoperable militaries. Subject to the satisfaction of all relevant legal requirements, including notification to Congress, we intend to expand our corporate security cooperation as follows:

Firstly, on September 27, 2022, the notification process to Congress was completed regarding a $30 million grant to Greece for defense procurement, through the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) process, to encourage critical support to Ukraine. On October 24, 2023, the United States earmarked for Greece an additional $30 million through the FMF process to encourage further donations.

Secondly, we have already notified Congress of the following proposed free concessions in Greecewith the Excess Defense Articles (EDA) program:

- Two C-130H aircraft, Surplus Defense Materiel,
- Ten engines for P-3 aircraft, Surplus Defense Materiel and
- 60 Bradley armored fighting vehicles, as Surplus Defense Materiel.

© https://www.primeminister.gr

Thirdly, we will submit for notification to Congress the following, to be granted to Greece:

- Up to 40 new F-35 aircraft through Foreign Military Sales,
- Three Protector-class ships, as Surplus Defense Materiel and
- Various trucks and trailers, as Surplus Defense Material.

Fourth, we will submit to Congress a legislative proposal on the concession of ships, requesting that it provide the necessary legal authorization to transfer to Greece up to four LCS-type frigates, through the Surplus Defense Materiel process.

Fifth, we continue to be interested in the defense capabilities that Greece could transfer or sell to Ukraine. If these capabilities are of interest to Ukraine and pending an assessment of their status and value by the US government, we can explore opportunities for possible additional Foreign Armed Forces Financing of up to $200 million for Greece.

Sixth, I will prioritize Greece to receive surplus Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected vehicles as they become available over the next year and I will consider Greek needs should KC-135 aerial refueling aircraft become available. In addition to the C-130H, the Ministry of Defense is working to provide pricing and availability data for Greece's purchase of new C-130Js. Greece has made remarkable strides in modernizing its defense capabilities. I look forward to strengthening our cooperation and developing a stronger strategic relationship between our armed forces.

Yours sincerely,

Antony Blinken'.

2024 ATHENS INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTING CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

13-14 March 2024, War Museum, Athens, Greece

GOLD SPONSORS

AUTOMATA autonomous systems

SILVER SPONSORS

ALTUS Land Sea Air

AIRBUS

rosenbauer

PRONOIA FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT

CONFERENCE SUPORTERS

HYNAERO

ATESE S.A.

IAI

SR7

AVIC INTL

smith myers

EFAGROUP

TYPHOON Firefighting System

Bonpet

Life Solutions

MZL MIELECKIE ZAKŁADY LOTNICZE

drones for good

MENTOR Limited

SEI INDUSTRIES

ZVEZA GASILCEV SLOVENIJE

ΠΥΡΟΣΒΕΣΤΙΚΗ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ CYPRUS FIRE SERVICE

ΕΕΛΕΑΑ

MEDIA PARTNERS

TheBigRedGuide.com
Making The World A Safer Place

Address by Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis at the event for the incorporation of new firefighting vessels into the Fire Department

Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis attended the ceremony for the incorporation of two new state-of-the-art firefighting vessels into the Hellenic Fire Department, which took place at the port of Piraeus. During his speech, the Prime Minister stated:

"Ladies and gentlemen, colleagues in the government and the Parliament, Chief of the General Staff of National Defense, Chief of the Fire Department, Regional Governor, Mayor, ladies and gentlemen, It is with joy and emotion that I am present today at this solemn ceremony for the naming of the two new state-of-the-art vessels of the Fire Department.

The Minister of Civil Protection and Climate Crisis spoke about the great effort made by the Greek State to drastically modernize all Civil Protection infrastructure. Indeed, the climate crisis, with which not only we but the entire planet is now confronted, renders this investment in Civil Protection imperative. And I want to express, Minister, my satisfaction with the fact that the "Aegis" Program is being designed and implemented at a very fast pace.

I want to remind you that we will allocate more than 2.1 billion euros for infrastructure related to Civil Protection. And of course, these resources are supplemented by funds from other European programs. The two vessels, which we are naming today, were financed by a previous operational program 2014-2020, and with great effort, as the Minister said, by the personnel of the Fire Department, we managed to save these funds, so that today these vessels are available not only to the Fire Department but also to all other branches that may need them at some point. However, ladies and gentlemen, nothing can be achieved without the women and men of the Fire Department, who, 365 days a year, dedicated to duty, offer their service for the good and safety of all of us. And indeed, today is a moving moment, as we decided - quite rightly - to give these two vessels the names of two members of the Fire Department who fell in the line of duty: **Fireman Savvas Savvares** and cadet **Deputy Fire Chief Aristeidis Mouzakitis**.

I thank the parents of Aristeidis who are with us today in this very moving moment. And I believe that the least we owe to those who sacrifice their lives in duty is not to forget them. And through these symbolic gestures, to keep their memory alive. I wish fair winds and following seas to the new vessels, Chief. I wish us to prepare quickly for the new fire season, as we know very well that the work of prevention does not start with the beginning of the fire season but essentially takes place throughout the winter. And I am absolutely certain that the Fire Department will once again rise to the occasion. Thank you."

Minister of Climate Crisis and Civil Protection Vassilis Kikilias addresses actions and priorities to enhance wildfires prevention and response

Minister of Climate Crisis and Civil Protection Vassilis Kikilias, in an exclusive interview to the Greek Defence News, reports on his Ministry priorities to reinforce the Civil Protection and the Hellenic Fire Corps to provide substantial support during wildfires.

He outlines his core priorities and actions for the upcoming fire season, which include restructuring prevention and response policies with a particular focus on strengthening wildfires prevention.

The climate crisis makes forest fires more dangerous, faster, and uncontrollable. What are your plans for the year 2024 to prevent major disasters from forest fires in Greece?

It is clear on a global scale - we experienced it in Greece in 2023 - that the climate crisis is evolving so rapidly that even the wealthiest countries struggle, or even fail many times, to cope with the extreme natural phenomena that now affect the entire planet. For example, last year in Canada you noted, despite having a huge fleet of aerial means and the most modern technologies at their disposal, that they struggled for months to bring under control the megafires that turned thousands of hectares into ashes, equivalent to the total area of Greece.

The best possible management of natural disasters, which will inevitably come, requires upgrading Civil Protection, investment in prevention, involvement and cooperation of all competent authorities and security bodies, both at the central and local level, our volunteers, and of course responsibility from citizens. Dealing with the climate crisis is a national matter, and only through collective effort can we succeed.

In December, we introduced into Parliament the bill that changes the entire philosophy of civil protection with an emphasis on prevention, we started the preparation for the fire season from early February, we reinforced the Hellenic Fire Corps with 990 hirings of personnel, increased the special forestry units from 10 to 17, intensified controls for arson activities, tightened penalties for intentional and negligent arsonists, and set a framework for property owners to clean their plots. And of course, we are advancing at a rapid pace with the AEGIS equipment Program, amounting to 2.1 billion euros.

Firefighting starts with prevention, so what does Greece do before the summer in order to minimize the risks of forest fires or to limit their impact if they occur?

Prevention is the most effective way to manage natural disasters. As I mentioned earlier, the severity of extreme phenomena, such as the megafires and unprecedented floods, which the planet is facing more and more frequently due to the climate crisis, obliges us to adapt our infrastructure, strategy, and planning with an emphasis on prevention. Prevention was indeed the cornerstone of the bill we passed in Parliament last December. Through a series of actions and collaborations with other ministries and relevant bodies, we have created a much clearer and stronger framework based on 6 main axes:

- Prediction of actions for identifying risks and assessing the consequences of extreme weather phenomena and natural disasters.
- Measures and preventive actions aimed at limiting recognized risks.
- Response, coordination, and operational cooperation between different involved groups, which have been predetermined.
- Operational action to minimize the impact of the natural disaster.
- Information dissemination and, even more so, timely information to guide citizens and take protective measures.
- Restoration after the crisis and support for affected citizens, simultaneously restoring material damages to infrastructure and properties.

At the same time, in preparation for the fire season, we have started conducting training programs aimed at educating all personnel from security forces and agencies involved in forest fire management. For the first time, personnel from the Fire Department, Forest Service, Hellenic Police, Municipalities, and the HEDNO sit together in classrooms for joint training, which will then continue with joint field exercises.

This is a holistic approach to building a protective barrier for the country against the increasingly intensifying climate crisis, with the primary goal always being the protection of human life.

How does Greece differ from other European nations in their approach to aerial firefighting? How do climate and geography affect aerial firefighting operations?

Greece, due to its climate and unique geomorphological characteristics, makes both terrestrial and aerial firefighting operations difficult. Specifically, the inevitable dispersion of forces due to its insularity, high temperatures, minimal soil moisture during the summer months, as well as the strong winds combined with dry and hot conditions - especially in the Aegean - result in the simultaneous outbreak of many wildfires.

Do European governments and the EU invest adequately in either sovereign aerial firefighting fleets or contracted providers to address the increasing frequency and severity of forest fire seasons?

It is now clearly understood that aerial assets do not extinguish fires; however, their role is crucial. Aircraft and helicopters with water drops manage to reduce the pyro-thermal load and intensity of the fire, thus enabling ground forces to approach the focal points for final extinguishment. Therefore, all governments - such as Greece - invest in aerial firefighting fleets, without implying that we do not simultaneously reinforce ground forces. It is not accidental the saying of our firefighters that "if a firefighter's boot does not touch the ground, the fire does not put out."

What simulation techniques and technology have you invested in or plan to invest in forest fire management?

I have received a clear mandate from Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis to rapidly implement the AEGIS program amounting to 2.1 billion euros, which he personally secured. It is an emblematic, substantial program that includes procurement of aircraft, helicopters, vehicles, floating assets, meteorological stations, radars, fire detection systems, drones, and state-of-the-art technology systems based on artificial intelligence. Within just 6 months, we managed to tender almost half of the projects, with some already being contracted, and our goal is to have the entire AEGIS tendered by the end of March. This the largest equipment program ever implemented for the civil protection and constitutes valuable heritage for the coming decades with the aim of protecting citizens' properties, certainly the natural wealth of our country, and primarily defending human life.

VASSILIS KIKILIAS: AEGIS IS BEING IMPLEMENTED - 13 MOBILE BUSINESS CENTERS OF THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY

On 22 February 2024, during special ceremony was signed by the Minister of Climate Crisis and Civil Protection, Vassilis Kikilias, a €8.7 million contract for the supply of 13 Mobile Operations Centers for the Hellenic Fire Corps and the Civil Protection held. This is the first signing of a contract for the supply of equipment for the AEGIS program.

"Today is a very important day for the Civil Protection, the Hellenic Fire Corps and the Greek state because we are finally receiving through the AEGIS program and the Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund S.A. (HRADF) competition the 13 regional mobile coordination centers of the Civil Protection and the Hellenic Fire Corps", said the Minister of Climate of Crisis and Civil Protection.

As Mr. Kikilias said, these are state-of-the-art Mobile operation Centers corresponding to each region of the country. "These precede today and follow in the next few days the signing of other contracts for aircraft, heavy-duty, medium-duty helicopters, for drones, sensors, radar, meteorological stations, artificial intelligence, digitization and training. All these together constitute, in a very difficult time of the climate crisis, which you see its consequences all over the planet and in our country, the gift of the Greek people and the Greek state. A legacy for future generations. All of this will begin to be delivered from the beginning of 2025 and I think it is the largest equipment program that the Civil Protection and Fire Brigade has ever implemented", noted Mr. Kikilias.

The Mobile Operations Centers will contribute to the support of the operational work of the Hellenic Fire Corps and in general the work of the Civil Protection in the management of serious emergency situations, in the development of operational action but also in the orderly administration and operation of all the operational bodies in the field. The new centers will be placed in the 13 regional fire administrations of the country and will be added to the 4 mobile operational centers with the code name "OLYMPOS" that the Fire Brigade already has. Each mobile operations center consists of a two-vehicle 4X4 system, the first with technology, IT and communications workstations and a tethered drone for live visual transmission. The second as a support and equipment vehicle.

"Until the end of March, when we will have tendered the entire Aegis program, we will be here to sign contracts for the basic equipment programs, which concern the citizens of the entire country, the interoperability of the Fire Brigade, the Greek Police, the of the Armed Forces, our volunteers, the citizens, the self-government and all those who will be involved in the battles that we will be called upon to fight in the next period of time", said Mr. Kikilias characteristically, and added that they are looking forward to the immediate delivery - in the schedule that has been defined by the contracts of the 13 mobile business centers in question, while he then thanked HRADF for "the excellent cooperation and the immediate implementation of one of the most important projects ever undertaken by the ministry and the Fire Brigade, in relation to the the biggest threat facing the planet and our country at this time is the climate crisis". In addition, Mr. Kikilias emphasized that the new technology comes to rest next to the men and women of the Fire Department, who, as he said, are being trained "so that they can perform even better, using all this heritage".

"The Aegis Program is a significant program of 2.1 billion euros. Indeed, in these four years knowing that this program is very heavy and difficult, many and many efforts were required in order to be able to move forward. But it is also an obligation that I have undertaken towards the Prime Minister of the country, and I intend to implement it in its entirety", he noted and reiterated that at the end of March the entire program will be completed and entered into a competitive process.

"It is a debt to our country and a debt to our fellow citizens, and it is the most patriotic thing I can think of that the organized state can do towards the citizens, who often feel defenseless," underlined Mr. Kikilias. He pointed out that these "new 13 headquarters are not done as a lump sum from a plan made by the Fire Brigade" and announced that the leadership of the Fire Brigade, in a special event in mid-March, will present the new doctrine of the Fire Brigade in relation to forest fires as well as the way in which they will operate from now on, utilizing, as Mr. Kikilias said, all the capabilities they have, of the scientific community operationally and staff-wise in how they will deal with forest fires.

Horizontal Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Climate Crisis & Civil Protection for the implementation of actions of the “AIGIS” Program, funded by the Restructuring & Resilience Fund

The project concerns the provision of Technical Assistance for the implementation of projects funded by the Recovery & Resilience Fund of the National Civil Protection Program “AIGIS” of the Ministry of Climate Crisis & Civil Protection and in particular:

- Project management (PM) services.
- Project preparation (maturation), tendering and contract monitoring services.
- Project Management Office (PMO) Services.
- Technical consultant & legal consultant services.

The “AIGIS” program is a set of interventions to strengthen infrastructure and technical equipment, integrate ICTs and promote innovation in the field of civil protection.

The horizontal technical assistance concerns the following projects with a total budget of €301m:

- Air-surveillance control and management center.
- Mobile on-site control centers.
- Fire detection & fire extinguishing systems.
- Two medium – size utility helicopters for medical use and one transportation helicopter.
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles – UAVs (Drones) for air surveillance.
- Upgrade – modernization of 7 Canadair CL415 to CL515 aircraft
- Purchase of two Sikorsky/Erickson S-64 Skycrane heavy lift helicopters.
- Purchase of eleven amphibious firefighting aircrafts for the island complexes.
- Upgrade – modernization of two Super Pumas helicopters.
- Purchase of fire engines and other response vehicles.
- Purchase of Vehicles for the General Secretary of Civil Protection (GSCP).
- Procurement of collapsible transportable bridges to deal with floods, disasters, etc., Bailey type.
- The project is implemented within the framework of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan “Greece 2.0” with funding from the European Union – NextGenerationEU**.**

Agnet® - Modern communications for fire and rescue services

© Airbus

Agnet is the next-generation collaboration solution, designed for professional users. It provides reliable access to critical communications services, which deliver far more than push-to-talk over broadband; they also boast such features as data, video, and geolocation services.

Forward-looking fire services are seeking ways to include smart devices in operations – in a secure, controlled way. One way is through a professional group communication solution such as Agnet. Based on 3GPP standards and fully compatible with 4G/5G, Agnet also supports satellite communication services, thus making it possible to extend and ensure coverage in exceptional circumstances, such as large-scale wildfires.

Prioritizing security, Agnet ensures the safety and confidentiality of critical operations by demonstrating resilience against cyber-attacks and data breaches while maintaining seamless operation.

Agnet is much more than an MCX solution. It is a critical collaboration platform, providing organizations with a rich set of collaboration and communication features and endless possibilities for integration. Voice, data, live video, and geolocation services can be accessed and shared with a touch of a button on your smartphone device. Instant video sharing from video cameras or drones to dispatchers or groups will greatly improve situational awareness.

In fire and rescue operations, Agnet assists frontline workers in their missions, contributing to the success of operations, helping people and societies and ensuring the safety of firefighters. Let's explore situations where modern communication and collaboration with Agnet enhances the mission:

- Mission Preparation: The command layer needs to be well-informed about an incident, and Agnet ensures that all firefighters have reliable access to information, as well as guidance. This facilitates smooth communication within the team and with the commander, saving time and enabling commanders to formulate effective plans.
- Incident Response: Firefighters arriving at an incident can quickly access vital information without having to navigate through paperwork. Agnet eliminates the need for radio communication or calls to the command center, allowing firefighters to focus on saving lives and property. Instead of reacting to what has already happened, with Agnet, you can be one step ahead.
- Call for Support: In situations requiring support from other organizations, such as police, emergency medical services, and volunteers, Agnet facilitates seamless communication and information-sharing among all parties involved, improving the overall situational understanding. In addition, another way to get support is through an integrated man down function. The service alerts others to possible injuries for quick response, which can potentially save lives.
- Agnet is ready to enhance its capabilities with the latest technologies, including mission-critical IoT. Integrated technologies like IoT sensors for monitoring O2 levels, heart rate, and temperature can improve the safety of firefighters in action. Other features include tracking vehicles and resources, as well as video streaming and sharing, which enable those running the command and control functions in the office and in the field to have better situational awareness.

Airbus Public safety and Security has decades of experience in critical communications. This expertise and experience are at your service when deploying secure collaboration solutions within your organization. To learn more about the solution, visit www.securelandcommunications.com/agnet

Lambda Automata

In the landscape of today's wildfire combat, real-time situational awareness, both at the field level as well as centrally, is imperative. Cutting-edge software, paired with modern field observation systems -mobile, static or aerial - is key.

Lambda provides a complete suite of software and hardware tools for situational awareness, designed for the most remote, harsh and disadvantaged locations.

Early detection: Recent advances in AI, communication networks allow the creation of dense nation-wide surveillance grids for early fire detection.

Lambda Autonomous Surveillance Towers (LAST) provide 24 / 7, 360 degrees situational awareness for remote and harsh locations.

- The system can be installed in locations with no other infrastructure (power, buildings or communications).
- LAST comes pre-packaged in wooden crates that fit in the bed of a single pickup truck.
- It can be installed by two people in a few hours, similar to an "IKEA" furniture.
- Requires no digging or permanent construction.
- Detects and geo-locates people, vessels, vehicles and smoke piles.
- Provides "eyes-on-the-target" along with geo-location and recording of the reported incidents.

The system comes also into smaller versions:

- **Lambda Autonomous Surveillance Node** (**LASN**) is designed for **upgrading existing infrastructure (e.g., observation posts, telco towers, or antenna parks)** into early fire detection nodes.
- **Man-Portable Lambda Autonomous Surveillance Tower** (MPLAST) comes in a rugged portable box and can be installed in a few minutes.

Operating in disadvantaged environments: Numerous times, firefighting units have to operate in disadvantaged environments, either due to the remoteness of the location or due to failure of critical infrastructure (e.g., telecoms) during a crisis. Drone operators, or ground fire-fighting forces have to conduct missions in locations with unreliable or broken communications, or limited power resources. During their missions, they have

© Lambda Automata

to collect and share intelligence under limited time, power and communication resources.

Lambda Jericho is a man-portable **rugged case with communications, power and situational awareness software**, allowing the fast geo-indexing and dissemination of critical tactical information, **anywhere and anytime**.

Jericho features **in a single hard shell rugged case**:

- **Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency (PACE) communication plans** (satellite, 3G/4G, UHF/VHF).
- **Local wireless or wired internet access** with high uplink and downlink.
- Enough **power for charging up to 10 times** a common tactical quadcopter.
- Lambda's **situational awareness AI** running locally for analyzing, sharing and indexing situational awareness intelligence from local optical or thermal video feeds.
- **Adaptors for most commercial tactical drones** (e.g., quadcopters out there), allowing the automatic indexing, storage and geo-tagging of drone video feeds.
- A **high-resolution portable computer**, for internet access or real-time geographical visualization of any video streams across the network.

All **Lambda** devices share a common scalable web-based situational awareness platform:

- Multiple users can share, view, and inspect live or stored situational awareness information via a common platform.
- Command and inspect a large fleet of surveillance towers, nodes or regular commercial drones connected via Jericho.
- Receive live incidents for confirmation; or go over historical incidents.
- Configured to generate notifications, comparable with regular messaging apps, or custom event management systems.

ALTUS LSA – INNOVATIVE UNMANNED TECHNOLOGY

ALTUS LSA is an innovative technology company which since 2011 provides turnkey solutions and state-of-the-art services in the field of **Unmanned Systems**.
Our company's experience and know-how extends to various areas such as **land and sea border surveillance**, intelligence gathering, **airborne ISR**, natural disaster management, GIS applications, control and protection of critical infrastructure and RGB / thermal / multispectral **mapping**.
ALTUS LSA already has a significant **portfolio client base** consisting of major industry and defense/security organizations such as the OSCE, NATO, EMSA, FRONTEX, the Hellenic Armed Forces and Security Forces, and many others.

Our company's products include **three ATLAS family multicopters** with their maximum take-off weight ranging from 7 kg to 150 kg (heavy lifter) and a hybrid fixed-wing vertical take-off and landing system with the ability to stay in the air for 6 hours and a range of up to 150 kilometers from the control station. For more information you can visit our website at www.altus-lsa.com

AERIAL SURVEILLANCE FOR CIVIL PROTECTION APPLICATIONS

The **early detection of emergency incidents** as well as the visualization of the prevailing situation in the field are key points for **successful prevention andimmediate suppression.**
By limiting the human factor to a minimum and utilizing UAVs that have the ability to perform **automated flights in predetermined areas,** extracting quality information during their flight, we achieve the maximum operational utilization of assets and human resources.
Also with the use of innovative technologies such as **AI, machine learning** and other state-of-the-art technologies, the seamless operation of the system is achieved under any conditions and the degree of false indications is reduced to a minimum (false alarm).

Fire detection:

Use of the UAV's with **an electro-optical and thermal camera,** on days of highfire risk covering large forest areas, with the aim of early event detection through artificial intelligence for early identification and immediate response to them.

Air Patrol:

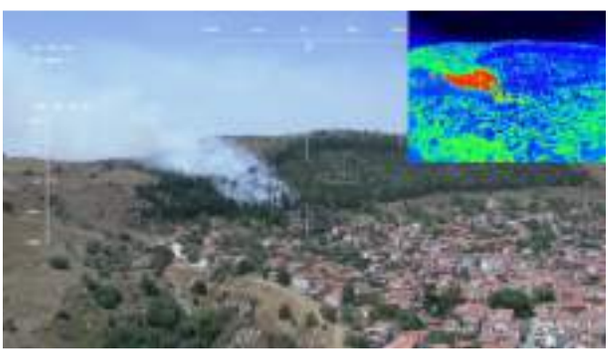
Day and/or night surveillance aerial patrol, with electrical and thermal payload. During this period, **passing vehicles may be monitored,** as well as the presence of people in areas of interest in order to **detect suspicious activity in time**.

Emergency Coordination:

In the event of an emergency (fire, earthquake, natural disaster, etc.) the UAV can approach the area of the incident immediately and provide **an aerial image for the assessment of the incident**, as well as assist in the coordination of its response (surveying a safe passage channel, disaster assessment etc.)

Search and Rescue:

During the search for missing persons in inaccessible large areas, the UAVs with the use of visual algorithms or a special geo-location device of mobile phones provide the possibility of aerial coverage of large areas during the day and at night where other aerial assets do not they have the ability to fly.



Revolutionizing Firefighting: The Rise of Rosenbauer's Electric Vehicles and Personal Protective Equipment

In the ever-evolving landscape of firefighting technology, one name stands out as a beacon of innovation: Rosenbauer. With a commitment to excellence and a focus on safety, Rosenbauer has been leading the charge in revolutionizing firefighting equipment. Their latest offerings in electric firefighting vehicles and personal protective equipment (PPE) for firefighters mark a significant step forward in ensuring the safety and efficiency of firefighting operations.

At the forefront of this revolution are Rosenbauer's electric firefighting vehicles. Traditional fire trucks, powered by diesel engines, have long been the backbone of firefighting fleets around the world. However, concerns about environmental impact, rising fuel costs, and the need for more sustainable solutions have led Rosenbauer to develop electric alternatives.

These electric firefighting vehicles offer several advantages over their conventional counterparts. First and foremost is their eco-friendliness. By utilizing electric power, these vehicles produce zero emissions during operation, reducing their carbon footprint and minimizing air pollution in the communities they serve. Additionally, electric vehicles are quieter than diesel-powered ones, allowing firefighters to better communicate and coordinate during emergencies without the loud noise typical of traditional fire trucks.

Moreover, Rosenbauer's electric vehicles boast impressive performance capabilities. With advanced battery technology and powerful electric motors, they deliver comparable or even superior performance to conventional fire trucks. They offer rapid acceleration, ample torque for climbing steep inclines, and extended range on a single charge, ensuring that firefighters can respond swiftly and effectively to emergencies without compromising on performance.

Complementing these state-of-the-art vehicles is Rosenbauer's range of personal protective equipment tailored specifically for firefighters. The safety of firefighters is paramount, and Rosenbauer understands the importance of providing them with the highest quality gear to safeguard their well-being in the line of duty.

Rosenbauer's PPE combines cutting-edge materials and ergonomic design to offer unmatched protection and comfort. From turnout gear and helmets to gloves and boots, every aspect of their protective equipment is meticulously engineered to meet the demanding requirements of firefighting operations. Advanced flame-resistant fabrics, thermal insulation, and moisture-wicking properties ensure that firefighters stay safe and comfortable even in the harshest environments.

Furthermore, Rosenbauer prioritizes innovation and continuous improvement in their PPE offerings. They work closely with firefighters and industry experts to gather feedback and incorporate the latest advancements in materials and design into their products. This collaborative approach ensures that Rosenbauer's PPE remains at the forefront of safety technology, providing firefighters with the confidence and protection they need to perform their duties effectively.

In conclusion, Rosenbauer's electric firefighting vehicles and personal protective equipment represent a paradigm shift in the firefighting industry. By embracing electric propulsion and leveraging advanced materials and design in their PPE, Rosenbauer is setting new standards for safety, performance, and sustainability in firefighting operations. As communities around the world face increasingly complex challenges, having access to cutting-edge equipment like Rosenbauer's is essential for firefighters to fulfill their vital mission of protecting lives and property.

Visit the Rosenbauer dealer in Greece at www.pronoia.gr

©

The Fregate-F100: the new generation large capacity amphibious aerial firefighting aircraft

Wildfires are a visible and dramatic consequence of climate change. They also contribute to global warming due to the quantity of CO2 they release in the atmosphere and the destruction of vegetation which are a critical carbon sink. To date, states and populations are helpless in the face of this scourge because manufacturers do not offer an effective aerial firefighting (AFF) solution while demand is exploding from year to year.

For this reason, HYNAERO SAS company located in Bordeaux (France) launched the European program FREGATE-F100, a modern large capacity amphibious water bomber aircraft for aerial firefighting.

The FREGATE-F100 will provide private and institutional operators with a modern aircraft adapted to current and future theaters of engagement and capable of operating on sea and water areas historically used in operations by amphibious aircraft.

Why an amphibious plane? Because only the scooping capacity close to the fires allows for the autonomy of action and gives the required high rate of rotations to fight and fix the fires. Aircraft of lower capacity and having to be refilled on dedicated equipped tarmacs do not allow for a high intervention rate.

The integration of state-of-the-art technologies, and the architecture designed specifically for this AFF mission, will make the Fregate-F100 an asset with mission capabilities that are more than doubled compared to any other existing AFF aircraft.

FREGATE by HYNAERO

Hynaero will consult AFF operators (i.e. crew, technicians and firefighter) to collect the operational requirement and make sure the Fregate-F100 will be designed with the operators and build for the operators.

The Fregate-F100 will scoop more than 10 tons of water, cruise et 250kts and thanks to state-of-the-art flight controls, she will have the required high maneuverability at low speed to allow efficient dropping and scooping on less than one kilometer.

A comprehensive mission system will elaborate the air-land situation thus providing situation awareness and deconfliction. Embarked AI will analyze fire mapping and will provide tactical options to best attack wildfires.

HYNAERO is targeting at least 50% of an overall world market of 300 heavy AFF devices to be supplied over the period 2030-2050. The customers are primarily European operating states given the deadlines for renewing their fleets, the need to increase capacity, and the commitment of the European Commission to subsidize the reindustrialization in Europe of a significant aeronautical activity. The northern and southern American market, the north African market and the Asia-Pacific market are also promising.
In addition to the response perfectly suited to the AFF aircraft market, the amphibious capacity of the FREGATE-F100 makes it possible to consider versions for the transportation of passengers and/or cargo, as well as for maritime patrol and search/rescue operations at sea, from the onset of the program.

Please visit our website www.hynaero.com to know more about Hynaero and the Fregate-F100 program.

© SEI

Established in 1978, SEI Industries Ltd. is an engineered fabric manufacturer (heavy-duty, man-made rubber, coated fabric) that supports various customers including government and private helicopter operators. SEI has two business divisions: Aerial Firefighting and Remote Site based in Delta, BC, Canada, with manufacturing, engineering & R&D, sales & marketing, all under the same roof.

SEI is perhapes best known as the manufacturer of the legendary Bambi Bucket which has become synonymous with aerial firefighting. Since its initial introduction over 40 years ago, the Bambi Bucket is now used in over 115 countries globally by more than 1,000 helicopter operators.

The iconic orange Bambi Bucket was the breakthrough product in early development of helicopter-slung water loads. It is a cost-effective water delivery system that makes transport to fire sites by helicopter safe and reliable.

Firefighting customers can choose from numerous custom options when purchasing Bambi Buckets. They range in size from 72 to 2,590 gallons (270 to 9,800 liters), which at the top end is just under ten tons of water. Then there are options to add pumps that allow the bucket to be filled without submerging it, fire suppressing foam injection systems, and even floatation devices in case the bucket must be jettisoned in the water.

With the growing threat of extreme fire seasons SEI is driven to introduce new innovations to continue being the leader in the next generation of firefighting buckets.

Mentor Ltd, is our exclusive representative for Greece.
mentorltd@otenet.gr
www.mentor-ltd.gr
Mobile: (+30) 6946132301

ATESE S.A. is among the foremost growing companies in Greece

"A.T.E.S.E. Engineering Commercial & Consulting company" is a 100% Greek interest, since 1998.

The company operates dynamically in the following sectors:

- Consulting & High-Tech projects,
- Real estate development, exploitation & utilization
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Public & private participation co-financed projects.
- Defense and Security Systems
- Facility management and maintenance

The experience acquired by our outstanding performance in such activities, assisted by our capable infrastructure, human and material resources, tested in a wide range of projects and contracts, grands us the potential to address the most demanding needs in the areas of Defense & Security Systems and High-Tech projects by providing consulting services, high level of expertise and excellent results.

ATESE SA focus and prime directives revolve around the people, the environment and customer satisfaction, merging use, form and function of the desired product to best suit the needs of the project.

Aiming high, we meet and exceed the highest standards in assessment, construction and property management, according to modern requirements and specifications of public and private technical projects ensuring excellent quality results.

In our more recent environmental projects, ATESE S.A. in cooperation with affiliated software companies, has developed the Disaster Management Framework Software (DMF), a dynamic tool for prediction, detection and management of large-scale disasters.

ATESE S.A.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (DMF)

"Cooperation in dealing with Disasters"

The "Disaster Management Framework" is a multitenant cloud system, open to citizens, private and public organizations and volunteers, for the anticipation, prevention and response to natural and technological disasters. It is an open architecture system with integrated state-of-the-art technologies, AI and machine learning, compatible with a wide array of information input, providing constant information and instant notification, without the need for direct human monitoring.

Its main functions include Disaster and Hazards identification, Handling and Recording, Infrastructure Cataloging, Organization and Diversion of Resources, Operations Planning and Mapping, and Citizen Notification.

It is an easy to implement and operate tool, with a wide variety of uses, that aims in the timely prevention and management of major incidents, by making the most out of the available resources of any organization or institution.

Its tools include:

- Wildfire & Smoke Detection.
- Wildfire Simulation.
- Satellite Wildfire Detection
- Flood Simulation.
- Full Motion Video Overlay on Map
- Live Video Overlay
- Weather Data
- Fire hazard Calculation.
- View from Point
- Routes
- IoT Sensors
- Person & Vehicle Tracking System
- Notification System
- GIS (Vector, Raster, DEM Map Algebra)

Introducing BONPET: Revolutionizing Wildfire Suppression

Join the forefront of fire safety with BONPET, a groundbreaking extinguishing material that promises unparalleled effectiveness in combating forest fires. In a recent study from Hephaestus Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, School of Science, Kavala with scientific leader the Ass. Professor Michail Chalaris, Research Director on Risk, Hazards, Crises, and Safety, comparing BONPET to pure water, the results were clear: **BONPET outperformed water, reducing temperatures at the burning area more rapidly and achieving an astounding 80% water saving and 60% faster extinguishing with just a 6% BONPET solution.**

But what sets BONPET apart? BONPET's exceptional performance stems from its innovative composition, which not only enhances extinguishing capabilities but also mitigates collateral damage. Unlike traditional extinguishing agents that dissipate upon application, BONPET's components remain intact on the surface even after the fire is extinguished. This persistence ensures continued protection by disintegrating and facilitating surface cooling if temperatures rise again, effectively preventing reignition and minimizing the risk of secondary fires. This unique feature sets BONPET apart as a reliable and sustainable solution for fire suppression, providing peace of mind to firefighters and communities alike.

In the realm of fire safety science, understanding the complexities of combustion and the nuances of extinguishing theory is paramount. BONPET embodies this knowledge, offering a versatile solution that meets the diverse needs of fire suppression professionals.

In the realm of fire safety science, understanding the complexities of combustion and the nuances of extinguishing theory is paramount. BONPET embodies this knowledge, offering a versatile solution that meets the diverse needs of fire suppression professionals.

Fire safety extends beyond mere chemistry—it encompasses a broad spectrum of disciplines, from material science to risk assessment. BONPET integrates seamlessly into this multifaceted landscape, delivering exceptional performance while upholding stringent safety and environmental standards.

Moreover, BONPET's innovative design reflects a commitment to sustainability and eco-conscious practices. With its eco-friendly formulation, BONPET poses no risk to wildlife or plant life, ensuring responsible fire management without compromising environmental integrity.

In a world where wildfires pose an increasing threat to communities and ecosystems, BONPET stands as a beacon of hope. Its rapid extinguishing capabilities, cost-effectiveness, and eco-friendly profile make it an indispensable tool in the fight against wildfires.

Join us in ushering in a new era of fire safety with BONPET. Together, let's make a difference in protecting lives, properties, and the planet.

Detect

Locate

Communicate

Artemis system has been operational in SAR roles from the Arctic mountains to the deserts of the Middle East. It's been cited as a game changer by many users including the Royal Norwegian Airforce, Norway's Search and Rescue operator.

Why do we think Artemis has an application with fighters of wildfires?

The features of Detect, Locate and Communicate are all very relevant in a firefighting scenario. Particularly given that this is a situation where other sensors, such as EO/IR, & VIDAR struggle to provide meaningful information. ARTEMIS can detect if there is anyone in an area of concern, either unknown personnel, or even ground based firefighters. We can locate them and display all of them on a map, additionally we can broadcast a text message to everyone in the area or send a text/make a call to a specific phone.

Artemis provides situational awareness. Displaying the positions of ground teams along with people you might be searching for, or who were unknown up to the point of detection.

If there is no local service. Artemis acts like your own cell tower, so out of service phones will find you. You can be looking for specific phones or any phones in the area, depending on your mission.

Artemis can be used to broadcast a text message to phones in the area, warning of a change of wind direction, or a retardant drop, or asking if people need assistance, medical or otherwise. Simultaneously ARTEMIS can display hundreds of located phones. It can even be used as a backup for comms with ground assets, with Texts or calls.

Although Artemis is a sophisticated avionics system, is it easily fitted as an upgrade. The hardware itself is available in several different configurations. The T-U is around the size of a hard backed book and weighs around 3lb (1.4kg) The T-A which in addition to Cellular functions also has an AIS receiver along with PLB receive capability, weighs just over 9lb (4.2kg) Both systems only require two antennas, mounted on the belly of the aircraft.

Artemis is controlled from a web browser; this could be from an existing screen or an electronic knee pad, so doesn't need a dedicated screen. It even be possible to operate the system from the ground if there was a reasonable Air to Ground IP connection.

smith myers

Artemis can operate standalone using its own integral mapping, or integrated with third party mission systems such as:Carte Nav, Shotover, Euronav, Fly Sight, Trakka, Rapid Imaging etc. We also have an interface to ATAK.

Artemis has been designed by Smith Myers for this application. With 37 years of expertise no compromises need to be made. Our receiver design has proprietary techniques to derive distance estimations more accurately than any other DF system. Our expertise permits us to have a very compact design only requiring two antennas, achieving class leading performance in range and speed and accuracy. Our superior design complies with DO 160 G and Mil Std 810 G ensuring we don't generate any spurious noise and we aren't affected by exterior noise from onboard avionics. These standards include testing for ruggedness: vibration, shock, dust, water etc. All this adds up to a superior location system that is smaller, faster, and more comprehensive than any other system and can withstand the extreme environments that operators must endure.

Aerial Fire Fighting:

"Rate of Quantity Drop" is the key parameter

By Nick Bitsianis, Integrated Systems & Services Director, EFA VENTURES

EFA VENTURES is a company registered and based in Greece operating for more than 30 years. Its core business mainly consists of the support of Prime contractors and their Subcontractors as well as Governments around the world. The company's client base includes most of the prominent Aerospace, Defense & Security (AD&S) companies around the world, as well as national and supranational organizations and agencies related to the AD&S sector. The experience in the implementation of complex projects and a wide international network of partners, operating in more than 40 countries, allow EFA Ventures to support its customers by offering a wide range of specialized services, with focus on the provision of integrated services and systems and the delivery of project design and implementation, supply chain management, operations, and contract management. Powered by a highly experienced team of experts, with significant accumulated experience in aviation-related services, and being a valid certificate holder of ISO 9001, ISO 14001 management systems and ISO 27001 with regards to management of information security, EFA Ventures ensures the delivery of high quality of services and successful implementation of complex programs. One of the key areas of interest in which the company has invested significantly, for more than 7 years, is the provision of services in the **civil protection sector**.

In this sector, EFA VENTURES has provided with great success aerial firefighting services, including the airborne assets, the air crew and the maintenance personnel as well as the necessary ground support.

This engagement has yielded tangible results for countries such as Greece and Cyprus.

Actively engaging with the Ministry of Climate Crisis and Civil Protection in Greece and the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment in Cyprus, the company has executed more than 2,000 flights of firefighting operations, performed more than 17,000 drops and delivered more than 68 million liters of water in various firefighting operations.

EFA VENTURES has provided its services under the most extreme conditions supporting the operations during the recent megafires in Greece. This experience gathered during the firefighting operations, made the company evaluate the provided services on a basis of the most critical Key Performance Indicator, which is the **Rate of Quantity Drop**; that is the quantity of extinguishing medium that can be dropped in the unit of time.

The actual rate, that each aerial asset can deliver in the fire front, is affected by a variety of conditions, however, it is the asset's capability and capacity, coupled with crew experience, that can define the actual rate and determine the outcome of continuous operations. Besides, it is widely accepted that the initial phase of a fire is a critical issue and therefore agencies worldwide focus on a speedy initial attack. However, quick initial attack may not be that efficient, if the rate of quantity drop, is subsequently reduced due to asset's operating limitations. **Minimizing out-of-operations time and operating an aircraft with significant extinguishing medium capacity, is the winning combination**.

New technologies introduced in operations, such as but not limited to hot refueling, efficient aerial coordination and more efficient aerial means can significantly maximize the rate of quantity drop and ensure effective operations. This results in employing aerial assets significantly faster at maximum payload, with increased payload capacity and minimum operating restrictions.

Consequently, it is time to consider a change in the design criteria for the most adequate solution to cover the operational needs of firefighting. New technological features and operational doctrines shall focus on the efficiency parameters rather than the number of aerial means to engage during the firefighting period. In this way, the available funds will be used in the best possible way achieving greater performance at affordable cost.

www.efagroup.eu

EARLY FIRE DETECTION, PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT IN FOREST AND INDUSTRIAL ENVIRONMENTS

SR7 is an Engineering company founded in 1993, with a marked technological nature, with 2 main business lines: Security and Defense & Early Fire Detection (EFD) In both lines, we design and develop our own solutions in HW & SW.

Our EFD proposal is based in our own SR7 fire detection technology, using Long Wave InfraRed (LWIR 7-14um) sensors. In order to provide the operator with visual support, SR7 supplies a high-resolution CCTV camera with optical zoom alongside the thermal camera, both aligned and mounted on a pan and tilt motor, which allows us to cover bigger areas by moving among these presets automatically.

All the images are sent to a Control Center where, thanks to our SR7 Fire Software platform, in case of an event of detection, the server will display visible and audio alerts as well as emails and push notifications with the alarm details and pictures of the detections.

The SR7 Fire Software platform is simple and intuitive, easy to handle, works in a GIS environment, where we can add or exclude regions of interest, view the image of all cameras, view event recordings, play them, move systems and change parameters, point directly at a site using a panorama, point at some point in the cartography, schedule for armed and unarmed, see the terrain profile, measure distances, calculate areas, add new GIS layers, such as populations or emergency teams, which can be mobilized and which can be charted the best route to a particular point.

Optionally we can also integrate weather stations and the ground fuel layer, so we can better predict the fire behavior. We also have a complementary CCTV smoke solution.

SR7®

Distances: When talking about fire detection ranges, it's important to remark which size is the target, normally a standard of 1m2. For this fire area size, we can detect overheat up to 10km. Bigger sizes will be detected further.

Comparisons: The concept behind thermal technology is related to energy heat sources, and not temperature measuring (thermography), which involves a higher false alarm ratio, shorter range detection, etc. Thermography is not for outdoor. CCTV cameras cannot work at night or in bad conditions. Other technologies are not so efficient and very expensive.

After 30 years of experience, it has been proven thermal technology is the best for early fire detection. Our main references are located in Spain, but you can also find our solution in countries like France, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Israel, Colombia, South Africa, Cyprus.

SR7 Fire Solution Highlights

- Quick response time.
- Early detection. It can detect overheat.
- Detection at night and even in bad weather conditions
- Location of alerts on the map in real time, with precise calculation of its position and indication of its coordinates, without the need of GPS or triangulation equipment.
- 24/7/365 with minimal number of false positives
- Simultaneous detection of multiple alerts
- Video verification and continuous recording.
- Fully configurable, upgradeable, and remotely controllable.
- Automatic and / or manual operation
- Intuitive software, user-friendly and programmable.
- Intelligent response for each event.
- Large areas protected at low cost.
- Technological support through the project life.
- Completely scalable and adaptable.
- Communication with Alarm monitoring stations and external devices
- SR7 Experience©

THE FUTURE OF FIREFIGHTING

Have you ever wondered how easily a wildfire can start and how fast it can spread, causing a disaster?

The past has taught us a lot.

It's time for firefighting to turn the page!

The innovative fire extinguishing system "Typhoon" brings innovation to firefighting, changing a history of 1400 years.

Respecting human life, the environment and economy, the robotic firefighting system is now a fact!

The main feature of the Typhoon system:

Water is atomised into droplets, using a powerful centrifugal fan, forming a high-speed spray.

The system focuses on two directions:

1st. Fast response time with a self-propelled, mobile unit, equipped with an articulated robotic arm. The spray direction can be controlled with 6 degrees of freedom.

2nd. Efficient fire suppression: the water spray extinguishes the fire, while at the same time the large volume of air reduces temperatures and prevents fire from spreading.

Firefighting performance

- Fully automated fire extinguishing system, carrying thermal cameraand analyzing thermal loads.
- Immediate clearing of smoke from indoor spaces, due to forced air
- circulation
- The powerful air jet removes fire heat loads, providing safe conditions
- for evacuation.
- Protective shield for people at risk or the firemen operating inside
- buildings.
- Prevents fire from spreading to adjacent areas.
- Possibility to adapt flexible hose to direct the jet further indoors.

Technical specifications

- Model performance from 100 up to 600hp.
- Amount of water from 100 up to 5,000 lt per minute
- Long range exceeding 50 m
- Produces large air flow rate, 6-15m3/s, air speeds up to 600km/h
- Controlled air speed
- Uniform air flow
- Controlled amount of water
- Water surface coverage up to 4lt/cm2
- Adjustable spray range and spreading angle
- Capable of spraying firefighting foam or water
- Articulated arm that allows precise control of spray direction, facilitating efficient firefighting
- Live video streaming to the operation center
- Can be remote controlled

GREECE – F-35 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER CONVENTIONAL TAKE OFF AND LANDING (CTOL) AIRCRAFT

On 26 January 2024, the State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Greece of F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Conventional Take Off and Landing (CTOL) aircraft and related equipment for an estimated cost of $8.6 billion. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale.

The Government of Greece has requested to buy up to forty (40) F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Conventional Take Off and Landing (CTOL) aircraft; and forty-two (42) Pratt & Whitney F135-PW-100 engines (40 installed, 2 spares). Also included are AN/PYQ-10 Simple Key Loaders; KGV-135A embedded secure communications devices; Cartridge Actuated Devices/Propellant Actuated Devices (CAD/PAD); impulse cartridges, chaff, and flares; Full Mission Simulators and system trainers; electronic warfare systems and Reprogramming Lab support; logistics management and support systems; threat detection, tracking, and targeting systems; Contractor Logistics Support (CLS); classified software and software development, delivery and integration support; transportation, ferry, and refueling support; weapons containers; aircraft and software and software development, delivery and integration support; transportation, ferry, and refueling support; weapons containers; aircraft and munitions support and support equipment; integration and test support and equipment; aircraft engine component improvement program (CIP) support; secure communications, precision navigation, and cryptographic systems and equipment; Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) equipment; spare and repair parts, consumables, and accessories, and repair and return support; minor modifications, maintenance, and maintenance support; personnel training and training equipment; classified and unclassified publications and technical documents; warranties; and U.S. Government and engineering, technical, and logistics support services, studies, and surveys; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $8.6 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security of the United States by improving the air capabilities and interoperability of a NATO Ally that is a force for political and economic stability in Europe. The proposed sale will allow Greece to modernize its air force and improve Greece's ability to provide for the defense of its airspace, contribute to NATO missions to preserve regional security and defend NATO Allies, and maintain interoperability with U.S. and NATO forces. The F-35 will offset the increasing obsolescence of other Hellenic Air Force aircraft such as the F-4 and Mirage 2000. Greece will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region. The principal contractors will be Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company, Fort Worth, TX, and Pratt & Whitney Military Engines, East Hartford, CT. The purchaser typically requests offsets. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

"Armed Forces Digital Transformation in the Age of Artificial Intelligence War"

5TH Athens C4ISR International Conference

19-20 November 2024, War Museum, Athens, Greece

Joint All-Domain Command and Control, leaders are beginning to think about how this networked system must be protected from digital threats. JADC2 to connect all sensors on the battlefield to warfighters, enabling faster, real-time transfer of data, information, intelligence and communications across platforms and services. It is part of a more holistic joint approach for a new way of war under the umbrella of Joint All-Domain Operations.

Organized by

DBDC
International Events
& Special Publications

Greek Defence News

GREECE – UH-60M BLACK HAWK HELICOPTERS

On 15 December 2023, the State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to the Government of Greece of UH-60M Black Hawk Helicopters and related equipment for an estimated cost of $1.95 billion. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress of this possible sale The Government of Greece has requested to buy thirty-five (35) UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters; eighty (80) T700-GE 701D engines (70 installed, 10 spares); forty-four (44) AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (35 installed, 9 spares); eighty-five (85) H-764U Embedded Global Position Systems with Inertial Navigation (EGI) and country unique selective availability anti-spoofing module (SAASM) (or future replacement) (70 installed, 15 spares); and eighty-five (85) AN/ARC-231A VHF/UHF/LOS SATCOM radio systems. Also included are AN/ARC-231 Receivers/Transmitters RT-1808A (or future replacement); VHF/UHF/LOS SATCOM radios; APR-39C(V)1/4 Radar Warning Receivers; AVR-2B Laser Detecting Sets; APX-123A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) Transponders; ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) radios with KY-100M; VRC-100 Ground Stations; AN/PYQ-10 Simple Key Loaders (SKLs); KIV-77 Common IFF Applique Crypto Computers; COMSEC Encryption devices; AN/ARN-147(V) Very High Frequency Omni-Directional Range (VOR)/Instrument Landing System (ILS) Receiver Radios; AN/ARN-149(V) Low Frequency (LF)/Automatic Direction Finder (ADF) Radio Receivers; AN/ARN-153 Tactical Air Navigation System (TACAN) Receiver Transmitters; AN/APN-209 Radar Altimeters; AN/ARC-210 radios; EBC-406HM Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs); Encrypted Aircraft Wireless Intercommunications Systems (EAWIS); Improved Heads Up Displays (IHUD); Signal Data Converters for IHUD; Color Weather Radars; MX-0D EO/IR with Laser Designators; EO/IR Cabin Monitoring Systems; EO/IR Digital Video Recorders; AN/ARC-201D RT-1478D radios; Engine Inlet Barrier Filters (EIBF); Ballistic Armor Protection Systems (BAPS); Internal Auxiliary Fuel Tank Systems (IAFTS); Fast Rope Insertion Extraction Systems (FRIES); External Rescue Hoists (ERH); Rescue Hoist Equipment Sets; Dual Patient Litter System (DPLS) Sets; Martin Baker Palletized Crew Chief/Gunner Seats with crashworthy floor structural modifications; External Stores Support System (ESSS); Integrated Tow Plates Production Assets; Universal Software Loading Kits; 60kVA Generator Kits; Instrument Panels; DF-500 Personal Location Systems; Trakkabeam Searchlights; External Gun Mount Systems; M-134 Mini Gun Systems; M-240 machine guns; 7.62mm Cartridges; 2.75” Rockets; Flare IR Countermeasure M206; Decoy Flare CM M211; CTG Impulse BBU-35/B; CTG, 25.4mm, Decoy, Chaff, M839/RR170/ Series; M255A2 MK-66 Night Reliability Indicator (NRI); Cartridge, Aircraft Fire Extinguisher; Cartridge, Impulse; Thruster Control

Unit (TCU) -3/A; Cartridge, Aircraft; Black Hawk Aircrew Trainer (BAT); Black Hawk Maintenance Trainer (BHMT-M); Black Hawk Avionics Trainer; Maintenance Blended Reconfigurable Avionics Trainer (MBRAT); CAPT-E-Visual & Control System (CAPT-E VCS); training devices; helmets; transportation; organizational equipment; spare and repair parts; support equipment; tools and test equipment; technical data and publications; personnel training and training equipment; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is $1.95 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO Ally, which is an important partner for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will replace Greece's current multi-role helicopter fleet with a more reliable and proven system that will allow Greece to maintain the appropriate level of readiness to conduct combined operations. The UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter will improve the Hellenic Army's ability to deploy combat power to secure Greece's borders, deter actions against its interests, and, when required, respond with credible force. Greece will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin Company, Stratford, CT. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately fifteen (15) U.S. Government and/or fifteen (15) contractor representatives to travel to Greece for an extended period for equipment de-processing/fielding, system checkout, training, and technical and logistics support.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

The description and dollar value are for the highest estimated quantity and dollar value based on initial requirements. Actual dollar value will be lower depending on final requirements, budget authority, and signed sales agreement(s), if and when concluded.

© Lockheed Martin

FSAF-PAAMS AMENDMENT 14 CONTRACT SIGNATURE

OCCAR-EA Director Joachim Sucker and Eurosam Managing Director Anne Diaz De Tuesta signed the 14th Contract Amendment for the FSAF-PAAMS Sustainment & Enhancement (S&E) Contract, which covers the production of Aster 30 B1 ground, Aster 30 B1NT ground and naval for the Italian Participating State in consistency with the global order of Aster munitions contracted by OCCAR-EA for France and Italy in December 2022.

This amendment also saw the launch of SAMP/T NG ground systems production activities. Through this amendment Eurosam and its members MBDA and Thales will produce four SAMP/T NG sections for the Italian Army, and supplementary activities for France with the aim to secure the future launch of the full serial production of SAMP/T NG sections for the French Air Force. This is an additional step towards the renewal of this European Medium-Range Air-Defence Ground capabilities, following the SAMP/T NG development launched by the two Nations in 2021, the production of pre-serial systems beginning 2023 and the joining of the SAMP/T and Aster community by the Italian Air Force with the procurement of five SAMPT NG sections last July 2023.

© EUROSAM

Furthermore, this contractual change includes the supplementary procurement of additional equipment for the United Kingdom for the Mid-Life Update Aster production. The MLU Aster production is ongoing since 2021 for the three Nations, and OCCAR and Industry met the first deliveries for France and Italy in December 2023. This amendment, in fact, is a further catalyst that promotes and reinforces the existing cooperation amongst the three Nations. OCCAR-EA and Eurosam will therefore continue to lead the way for the benefit of the French and Italian Air Forces, Italian Army and the three Navies in this particular global context which demonstrates the importance to provide upgraded Air-Defence systems to face more and more challenging threats.

MBDA SIGNS TWO PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN GREECE

MBDA signs two partnership agreements for development projects in Greece MBDA signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with Greek companies MILTECH and ALTUS as part of its “R&D Booster” initiative in Greece on 6 February 2024. MBDA’s “R&D Booster” is a component of the strategic partnership agreement between France and Greece signed in 2021 and aims to develop long-term co-operations in Europe. Together with MILTECH and ALTUS, MBDA will collaborate on projects to develop systems based on the AKERON MP missile. The first stage of the partnership with MILTECH concerns the development of an AKERON MP launch kit, which MBDA is now offering on the global market as an option for light automatic turrets fitted with low-calibre guns. By joining forces with ALTUS, under the second partnership agreement, MBDA is seeking to develop a range of tactical drones equipped with AKERON MP missiles. This co-operation will begin by validating the integration of AKERON MP missiles on ALTUS’s new ATLAS 8 HEAVY LIFTER UAV. Eric Béranger, CEO of MBDA, said:

“These two new partnership agreements, signed in the framework of the strategic partnership between France and Greece, aim at developing long-term activities with the Hellenic defence industry. They cement the long-lasting relationship that exists between MBDA and Greece. They also demonstrate MBDA’s ability to foster, support and strengthen industrial co-operation in Europe, a value that is at the very core of MBDA’s DNA.” These development projects complement existing cooperation initiatives in the fields of production, services and R&D. The aim of all of these projects and contracts is to strengthen ties between MBDA and the Hellenic Defence Industrial Base.

EUROSATORY

PROTECT YOUR FUTURE

17·21
JUNE 2024

PARIS

Book your stand »

THE GLOBAL EVENT FOR DEFENCE & SECURITY

1,750+
Exhibiting companies
from 62 countries

250+
Official delegations from 150 countries
Decision makers from governements and supranational organisation

62,000+
International trade visitors

EUROSATORY.COM

organised by COGES EVENTS

a subsidiary of GICAT

a member of CIDEF

Operational environment, mission need, and the future fight

An F-35 fighter jet flies through the air with a backdrop of blue sky and puffy white clouds. A digital overlay on the aircraft represents electronic warfare capabilities.

Outpacing and outmatching the threat

Almost 1,000 F-35s have been delivered around the world to date. Each F-35 is equipped with an integrated electronic warfare (EW) system that provides 360-degree, full-spectrum situational awareness and rapid-response capabilities, allowing the aircraft to evade, engage, counter, and jam threats, and reach well-defended targets. The F-35 is expected to stay in service until 2070, and was designed for continual upgrades to help it outpace emerging threats throughout its six-decade service life. As part of a broader strategy focused on whole-life mission effectiveness, the U.S. Department of Defense entrusted BAE Systems to design and manufacture the next-generation “Block 4” version of the AN/ASQ-239 EW system. The company’s engineers, manufacturers, and program teams are hard at work keeping F-35s relevant against evolving electromagnetic threats.

Operational environment

The fight is changing. The environment in which F-35s must operate is contested, meaning that pilots cannot expect the freedom to conduct their missions without opposition. From an EW perspective, this means the presence of electromagnetic threats that have the ability to detect aircraft and counter and jam electromagnetic signals (the waves of energy used for communication, navigation, and targeting).

The electromagnetic environment is also congested, packed with civilian, commercial, and friendly military signals that make it difficult to isolate and identify threat signals. At the same time, advanced threat systems attempt to avoid detection by various means, including the use of networked signal emitters, complex pulse patterns, and adaptive waveforms. As the number of simultaneous threats increases, the complexity of the battlespace increases.

The ability to communicate, navigate, and target via electromagnetic energy allows armed forces to identify, track, and engage targets. EW is focused on enabling the ability to engage targets while denying adversaries the same capability. In the most challenging environments, F-35 pilots will face well-equipped near-peer adversaries with advanced EW capabilities, and in order to survive and execute their missions, they need stealth (i.e., low observability to radars) and situational awareness (i.e., identification and geolocation of air defense systems, enemy aircraft, and inbound missiles). When survivability, and mission success all depend on how well you can operate in the electromagnetic spectrum, possessing cutting-edge EW capabilities is critical.

© BAE SYSTEMS

One of the most important aspects of the AN/ASQ-239 system is its ability to detect a broad spectrum of electromagnetic signals in a 360-degree sphere around the F-35 at long range. It detects signals passively without emitting energy, making the F-35 itself less observable to adversaries. The systems' "staring" sensors are embedded throughout the aircraft, allowing immediate detection of electromagnetic signals, giving pilots critical situational awareness and allowing them to act first. By delivering long-range, all-aspect (360-degree) broad-spectrum EW capabilities, the F-35's EW system also increases the probability of signal intercept.

Mission need – rapid response

"Block 4 AN/ASQ-239 is designed to detect every relevant threat pulse as soon as it happens," said Lisa Aucoin, vice president of F-35 Solutions at BAE Systems. "We're focused on delivering unprecedented situational awareness that enables rapid responses to multiple simultaneous threats."

In combat, situational awareness is often the enabler for making it back to base. In today's world of contested and congested airspace, it is critical to detect the enemy's electromagnetic activity from as far away as possible, regardless of its orientation, wavelength, or however carefully it tries to obscure itself. The key to survivability is the rapid response to those signals – exactly what Block 4 AN/ASQ-239 is designed to do.

The future fight – outpace and outmatch the evolving threat

BAE Systems' Block 4 EW systems will include significantly upgraded hardware and software that improves sensing and signal-processing capabilities. New, high-performance sensors will boost the system's ability to detect difficult-to-observe threats and more threats simultaneously.

The F-35's EW system was designed to provide dominance over the electromagnetic spectrum, but it is also a force multiplier. The situational awareness it provides can be shared with friendly forces.

As the company advances Block 4 capabilities for the F-35, it is also advancing its Eagle Passive Active Warning Survivability System (EPAWSS) for F-15 fighter jets.

At the heart of its systems is the platform-agnostic Storm EW™ spectrum warfare suite with proven, common modules that enable the accelerated delivery of EW capabilities through software and firmware upgrades broadly across fleets, reducing engineering and life cycle costs.

BAE Systems teams are working to ensure that the U.S. and its allies dominate the spectrum and have EW capabilities at the speed of need.

Nexter qualifies the new SHARD 120mm APFSDS tank ammunition

- Nexter, company of KNDS achieved late 2023 the qualification of its new generation 120mm APFSDS ammunition SHARD.
- SHARD is the solution for all NATO 120mm tanks to defeat modern MBT and future threats thanks to an increased firepower (+15% penetration).
- This unprecedented performance is the result of an innovative design that offers excellent accuracy and reduces barrel wear by 25% at the same time.

A leap-ahead in performance

SHARD was designed by KNDS to bring 120mm APFSDS tungsten alloy ammunition to the next level of performance against all modern MBT and armoured threats in the present and future battlefields. Its capacities are unprecedented for this kind of ammunition:

- Penetration is increased by 15% while ensuring a low level of dispersion.
- Barrel wear is reduced by 25%, thus reducing maintenance cycles and costs.
- A muzzle velocity of 1720 m/s with the Leclerc L52 gun and 1734 m/s with the Leopard 2 L55 gun.

Our historical know-how in the design of state-of-the-art tank ammunition was gathered to make SHARD with:

- A numerically optimized design and a lighter aluminum sabot.
- An elongated penetrator in a new high-performance tungsten alloy has been designed with Plansee to defeat protection of latest generation MBTs.
- A proven and REACH compliant propulsion system that ensures the excellent velocity of the ammunition.

An ammunition already available for all NATO tanks

SHARD is a fully ITAR-free solution compatible with all NATO smoothbore 120mm tanks including Leclerc, Leopard 2, M1 Abrams, Ariete and Centauro 2. It has been designed according to the Stanag 4583 and Interface Control Document 120 (ICD120) standards. Thus, it offers significant operational, logistic and economic advantages to users: only one APFSDS ammunition for all gun systems.

A demonstration for Leclerc and Leopard 2 users was organized late 2023 in Alcochete, Portugal. Its 15% performance increase was demonstrated with successful firing tests performed on semi-infinite RHA targets. Demonstrations and contract negotiations for various countries in Europe, Middle-East and Asia are ongoing. SHARD is now ready for mass production.

DBDC

International Defence Publications & Events

www.dbdcgroup.com

© ARQUUS

123 GRIFFON and 22 JAGUAR: 2023 DGA scheduled delivery successfully completed by Nexter, a KNDS company, Arquus and Thales

- **The temporary company grouping (*Groupement Momentané d'Entreprises, GME*) multi-role armoured vehicle (*engin blindé multi rôles, EBMR*), including Nexter, a KNDS company, Thales and Arquus, delivered, this year, 123 GRIFFON and 22 JAGUAR vehicles to the Directorate General of Armaments (Direction *générale de l'armement*, DGA), the French Defence Procurement Agency.**
- **GME EBMR once again achieves annual delivery targets.**

Ongoing JAGUAR and GRIFFON deliveries and qualifications

As defined in the 2019-2025 military programming law, Nexter, a KNDS company, Thales and Arquus fulfilled all GRIFFON and JAGUAR DGA orders scheduled for 2023. These 2019 beginning supplies expended the global hand over to 575 GRIFFON and 60 JAGUAR.

In 2023, the EBMR company grouping introduced the first "Sanitaire" (SAN) GRIFFONs for the French Army Health Service (*Système de santé des armées, SSA*). This model, which was qualified in 2022, will be delivered to the Forces in early 2024.

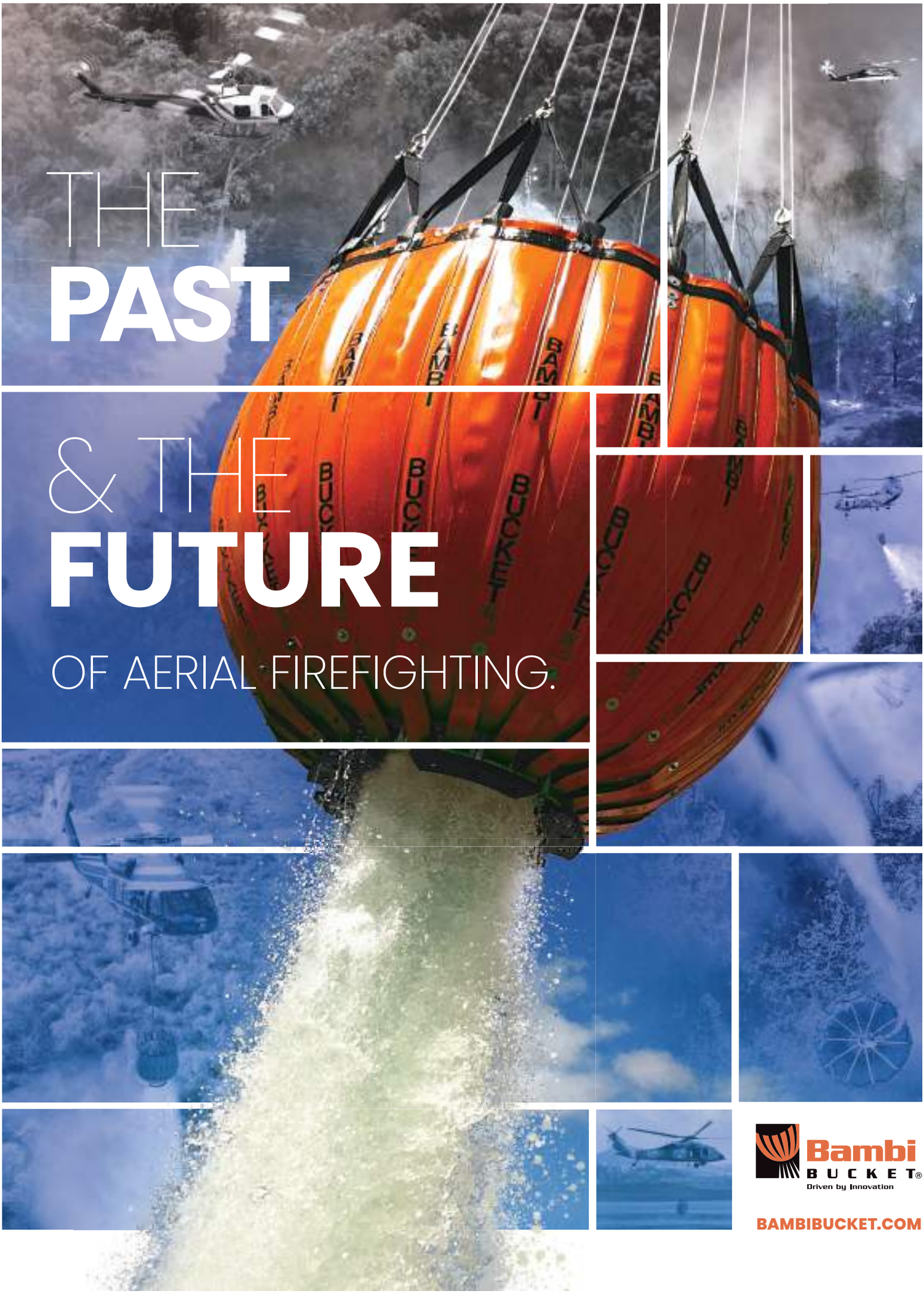
Furthermore, on June 16, 2023, the DGA probated a VOA («Véhicule d'Observation d'Artillerie ») version of the GRIFFON and the 3rd Marine Artillery Regiment (3e RAMa) welcomed its first examples. The GRIFFON VOA replaces the VAB OBS. Originally designed to be integrated into the ATLAS artillery fire management chain, this vehicle present a retractable optronic observation mast, equipped with innovative technology availing surveillance, telemetry, pointing and laser designation in order to target and to guide artillery fire. It allows in addition MURIN tactical surveillance radar incorporation.

SCORPION, a program to transform the French Army

With other resources as SERVAL light VBMR vehicles, the JAGUAR armored reconnaissance and combat vehicle (EBRC) and the GRIFFON armored multi-role vehicle (VBMR) take part in the SCORPION program led by the DGA. They execute by design the SCORPION combat information system (SICS). The SICS allows collaborative combat among soldiers thanks to real-time communication between different units and battlefield digitisation. By the end of 2023, in order to test and articulate these new combat capabilities, the 6th Light Armored Brigade (6e BLB) will constitute the first SCORPION Joint Armored Brigade (BIA). The JAGUAR is a 25-tonne armored reconnaissance and combat vehicle (EBRC), equipped with a 40mm telescoped ammunition cannon (CTA) and the MMP missile.
The JAGUAR is a unique vehicle in several ways:

- Its turret combines three state-of-the-art weapon systems: the Nexter 40mm CTA gun, two MBDA medium-range missiles (MMP) and the T3 Hornet remotely operated turret;
- Its SCORPION vetronics, developed by Thales, include next-generation optronics (IR/TV, missile departure detectors, laser warning detectors, etc.) and on-board tactical training capability;
- Its new-generation Arquus chassis, six driving wheels, innovative suspension and 400hp, 25-tonne, engine provide exceptional tactical, operational and strategic mobility.

The GRIFFON is a 24-tonne multi-role armored vehicle. Its variations enable it to carry out a wide range of missions: troop transport, command post, communication relays, artillery observation and 120mm mortar (MEPAC). Deployed in the Sahel from 2021 by the land forces, the GRIFFON presents recognised operational qualities, maintenance facilities and mobility. Other SCORPION vehicles integrate similar devices, such as vetronics and Hornet remotely operated turrets.

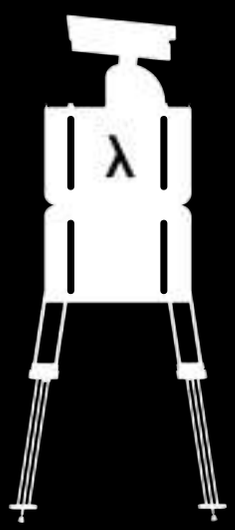

THE
PAST
& THE
FUTURE
OF AERIAL FIREFIGHTING.
Bambi
BUCKET®
Driven by Innovation
BAMBIBUCKET.COM

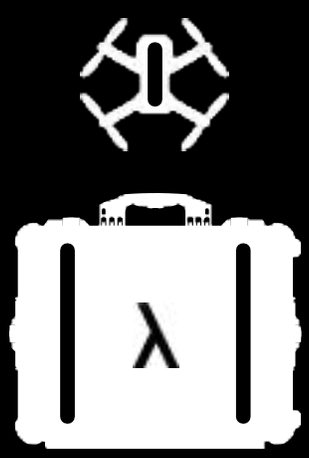
λ AUTOMATA

autonomous systems

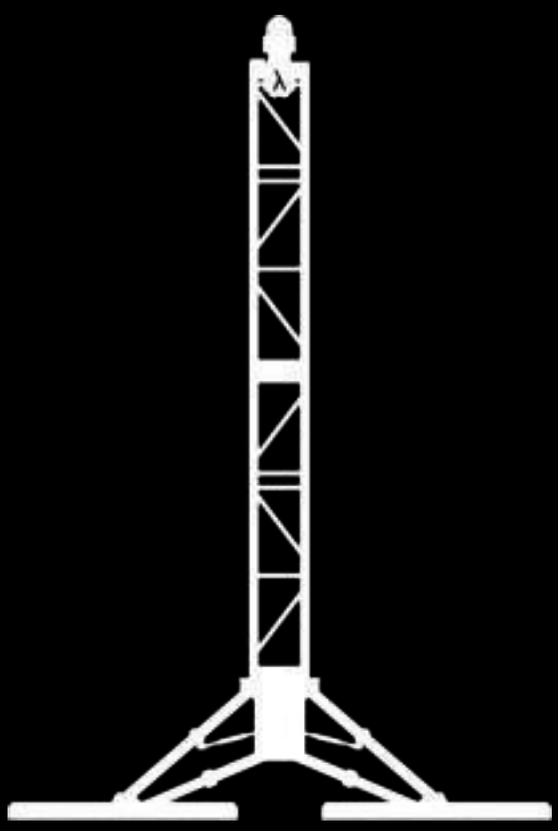
detect | track | classify | geolocate

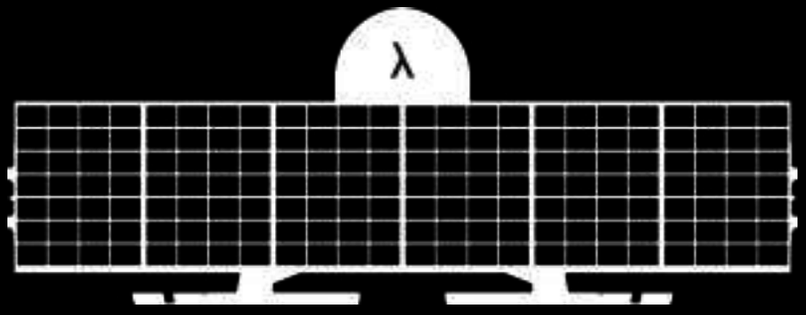
Man Portable Series





Static Ground Series





info@lambda-automata.eu