

DSA 2008: Collation of Defence Technologies



Top Brass and Defence Planners Converge

Some 200 VVIP visitors comprising defence ministers, military top brass, planners and procurement specialists from 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe and the United States were in Kuala Lumpur for the exhibition and conference to view and discuss the latest

The 11th edition of the Defence Services Asia series, better known as DSA lived up to its name as the key military and security equipment fair in the region attracting hundreds of top brass and with several deals and agreement being inked.

Opening the 11th Defence Services Asia Exhibition & Conference in a ceremony on the night of Apr 20, 2008, Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak said that Malaysia, like many countries in the region, must be prepared to face multi-faceted threats despite the current stable environment in the Asia-Pacific. "We are today witnessing a fairly peaceful security situation in the Asia-Pacific region. This might prompt some to think that we do not require acquisition of defence assets and other related security systems...but I take a long view of things," he said.

Mohd Najib, who is also Defence Minister, said that the current security situation offers both challenges and opportunities because there are still uncertainties. "Although the possibility of large scale conventional wars are



too remote, small scale conventional wars cannot be totally ignored. Sources of conflict in the form of unsettled territorial disputes and scramble for resources do remain."

"With the ever evolving security environment and changing nature of warfare demands, I am positive that DSA will continue to provide sourcing arena for the latest defence related and security technology," he added.

cutting-edge technology and equipment options available from the world's leading players. The four-day defence and security exhibition showcased the most comprehensive range of cutting-edge technology for the army, navy, air force as well as the security and homeland enforcement agencies.

continued on page 36



Innovative vessel designs from DCNS.



AgustaWestland's range of helicopters.

Tan Sri Asmat Kamaludin, Chairman of DSA Exhibition and Conference Sdn Bhd said, "DSA 2008 is the most comprehensive of our 11 shows to date, 25% bigger than our last and spread over 42,000 square metres of exhibition space at the Putra World Trade Centre and will feature technology from 712 companies from 49 countries. There will be 27 country group pavilions from the world's major defence technology producing nations including the United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France and Germany."

According to Asmat, the Asia-Pacific region is the second largest market in the defence industry with global military expenditure in 2007 exceeding \$1.3 trillion and this figure according to industry estimates is expected to continue growing in the coming years. He added that DSA also offered national defence and security industry players to meet and explore outsourcing opportunities with the global arms industry giants.

Over 40 UK companies are represented within the demonstration and the UK Group, which has been coordinated by the Defence Manufacturers Association. The presence of senior officials from the UK Government, UK companies which include Allen Vanguard, Ametek Aircontrol Technologies, Avon Protection, BAE Systems, DESO UK MOD, General Dynamics UK, Smith Detection including the demonstration area reflects the UK's firm commitment to this major exhibition. The US made their presence felt with the participation of some of their major companies such as AM General, Ametek Aerospace & Defence, Armor USA Inc, Association of the United States Army (AUSA), Camelbak Hydration, ESS (Eye Safety Systems Inc), FLIR Systems, General Dynamic, Gerber Legendary Blades, Raytheon, Ruger & Co, Thales-Raytheon Systems Co, Trijicon, US Ordnance Inc among others. The South African Pavilion consists of AAD, Africa Aerospace and Defence, Armsco Pavillion, Denel, EDH, Fieldswear, Force Products, Fuchs

Electronics, Imperial Armour, Ivema, Night Vision Optics South Africa, RDI Communications, Reutech Radar Systems and Truvelo Manufacturers. China made a comeback with the participation of CETC International Co, China National Precision Machinery Corporation, China North Industries J Corporation, China Shaanxi Baoji Special Vehicles Manufacturing, China Shipbuilding Trading Company, Comm of Science, Technology & Industry for National Defence, Shanghai China Best Industrial Development Co and Wuhan Huazhong Numerical control Co. Turkey was also one of biggest pavilion at DSA 2008. Under the Turkish banner were ALP Aviation, Anel Group, Aselsan, BMC Sanayi Ve Ticaret, Elektroland, FNSS Defense Systems Inc, GIGRA, Girsan, Global Technologi, Havelsan, Hema Teknolojileri, Selcom, STM, Trabzon Silah Sanayii AS (TISAS) and TSKGV including others.

Pakistan's defence industry had one of the biggest presence in the Defence Services Asia introducing a wide variety of defence products. Among them are infantry weapons, personal defence weapons, artillery ammunition, tank and anti-tank ammunition, aircraft and anti-aircraft ammunition, hand grenades, small arms ammunition, pyrotechnics and demolition store and propellants and explosives.

Russian defence products of more than 490 types were put on display as a common exhibition representing 17 enterprises, among them such world-known arms manufacturers as the Almaz-Antei missile developer, the Oboronnye Sistemy (Defence Systems), Uralvagonzavod, and Izhmash. The Russian delegation was led by Mikhail Petukhov, Deputy Director of the Federal Service for Military and Technical Cooperation.

Colonel-General Nikolai Dimidyuk, Director for Special Commissions of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise (FGUP) Rosoboronexport, said: "We have put on view here a broad spectrum of products of military purpose for all arms and services, including the latest products of development studies in the field of land military vehicles: the missile and gun tank T-90S, the armoured repair and recovery vehicle BREM-1M and highly mobile versatile GAZ-39371 Vodnik designed to install functional modules for the transportation of people and loads in heavy-going areas."

On view were also systems that have no analogues in the world, such as the anti-aircraft missile systems Buk-M2E, Tor-M2E, Pantsir-S1, Tunguska-M1, Iгла-S and others, Dimidyuk specified. Rosoboronexport also presents a wide range of aviation, including helicopters and naval hardware.

continued on page 38



An array of air-to-air missiles.



Above: UK showcases their expertise in battlefield healthcare. Above right: Mercedes Benz Unimog.



A new feature of DSA 2008 was the Battlefield Medical Live Demonstrations, the first of its kind in any worldwide show, which will cover all aspects of Battlefield Healthcare for Land, Air, Sea and Security. Another new feature was the Training and Simulation Section, which is vital for the enhancement of skills in the armed forces, given that increased urbanisation and environmental concerns over the effects of military weapons and equipment used in training have contributed to limited training areas.

Some of the top officials that attended the exhibition including Britain's Minister for Defence Equipment and Support, Baroness Ann Taylor; Commander of Royal Brunei Land Forces, Colonel Pengiran Dato Paduka Hj Rosli; Commander of the Royal Cambodian Army, General Meas Sophea; Chief of the New Zealand Army, Major General Louis Joseph

Gardiner; Commander of the Royal Army of the Sultanate of Oman, Major General Said Nasser Bin Sulaiman Al Salmi; Director General Defence Export Promotion Organisation (DG DEPO), Major General Muhammad Farooq; Chief of Republic of Singapore Defence Force, Lieutenant General Desmond Kuek and British DESO Senior Military Adviser, Air Vice Marshal Gavin Mackay.

Mortars, Tactical Vehicles and More ACVs for Malaysia

DSA saw several signing of agreements concerning the procurement, acceptance and possible purchases of defence equipment and systems for the Malaysian Armed Forces. A total of 14 contracts including one letter of acceptance (LOA), one letter of intent (LOI), and three memorandums of understanding (MOU) were inked between the Ministry of

Defence (Mindef) and local and international suppliers worth RM1,129,803,598 (about \$360 million). Among the companies involved in the event were DRB Hicom Technologies (Deftech), SME Ordnance, Lockheed Aeronautic Service International, Master Defence Malaysia, Defence Services, Mesra Melia, High Point Worldwide, CTRM, Comlenia, Boustead Naval Shipyard, TDA Armaments SAS, and AgustaWestland.

Among the key deals was the long awaited decision on the bid to supply 120mm mortars to the army. Inked was the LOI for the supply and delivery of eight units 120mm 2R2M Mortar Systems from TDA Armaments SAS. It was not indicated whether this is an initial purchase or there would be further orders for the system in the near future. Apart from the 120mm mortar, another agreement signed was for the supply and delivery of 81mm long-range mortars for the Malaysian Army.

EXHIBITIONNEWS

The sixth Defence Technology Asia 2008 (DTA 2008) International Conference and Exhibition will be held on May 22-23, 2008 at the Raffles Hotel in Singapore. The guest of honour will be Rear Admiral Chew Men Leong, Chief of Navy, Republic of Singapore Navy. Designed with the professional in mind, it brings together experts from around the world and creates a unique environment that allows industry and end-users to exchange know-how and share experiences, in application(s) of current leading-edge technology, planning and operations, procurement and logistics in the field of defence and national security.

Customised to reflect the specific requirements of the users in the region and beyond, DTA 2008's content will reflect a fully integrated event, representing the very latest in capabilities and technologies spanning every aspect of a nation's defence and security needs.

DTA 2008—New Format, New Focus

The event will host two major conferences under one roof:

- Maritime & Naval Domain Asia 2008.
- Unmanned Vehicles and Systems Asia 2008.

As part of the event, there will be an exhibition to provide a unique platform showcasing the latest technologies in equipment and operational systems from the world's leading defence industries.

Some of the papers that will be presented are:

- Concept of Dutch OPV's Integrated Masts;
- Use of USVs for ASW operations;
- ALISTER AUV;
- Networked Submarine Warfare;
- The Hard-Kill for the Surface Ship Anti-torpedo defence: Progress & Evolutions;
- ASW Role for Unmanned Surface Vehicle (USV): Operational Evolutions;

- The Role of Classification in a Safety Case Regime;
- Classification of Submarines: The First Experience;
- Remote Multi-Mission Vehicle (RMMV) Littoral Warfare Applications;
- Sustained Submarine Action: Consequences for nuclear and conventional submarines;
- How to Insure the Highest Level of Shipboard Availability;
- Through Life Support: From Supportability to Availability;
- Acoustic Communication in Warm Shallow Water Environments;
- Single Crystal Underwater Devices;
- Studies and Planning on Future Aircraft and UAV SAR; and
- Overview on the present status of SAR Satellites in General with an Outlook on the Next 10 Years. ■

To beef up the army's high mobility capability, an agreement for an initial batch of 60 Spanish VAMTAC high mobility tactical vehicles configured as support weapons carrier and another 25 units of the same vehicles configured as Iglu carriers has been inked. The VAMTAC vehicles powered by 3.2-litre 6 in-line turbo diesel engine is one of the latest European advancement of the ubiquitous battle proven Hummvee.

The other major procurement is for the supply and delivery of 48 units of armoured combat vehicle (ACV-300) known as the Adnan in Malaysian service. In 2000, the Malaysian government has signed a contract to procure 211 units of ACV-300 manufactured by FNSS. Out of 211 units, 34 units were manufactured and assembled in Turkey while the balance was assembled in Malaysia by Deftech. By 2004, all of these vehicles have been supplied to the Malaysian Army. The acquisition of 48 units of Adnan is the continuation of the above project to fulfil the requirement of the Mechanised Brigade. The new Adnan will perform both conventional and peacekeeping combat operations.

A local company, Deftech, also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the government of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste. This is a continuation of the previous

relationship between the company and the government of Timor-Leste, which was first established during its independence. On the light transport end of things, Mindef awarded a contract for the supply and delivery of 200 units of Korea made Ssangyong utility vehicles that will be assembled locally.

An agreement was signed for the supply, delivery and maintenance of three units of AW129 medium helicopter from AgustaWestland to beef up air wing of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA).

The show also saw manufacturers that are participating in several ongoing procurement exercises going out in full force in displaying their products. Among them were the participants of the ongoing medium range Anti-Tank Guided Weapon (ATGW) tender. Also present were the participants for the medium lift, Nuri replacement, helicopter tender. It is safe to say that everyone is keen in grabbing a piece of the defence procurement pie despite the tough competition.

An Unfortunate Incident

Iran had been barred from DSA 2008 for breaching United Nations sanctions, Deputy Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Razak confirmed during the show after it was noticed that the

Iranian pavilion was "walled-up". The expulsion was not because of complaints filed by the United States and United Kingdom, both of which have a significant presence at the DSA as initially reported. The United Nations Security Council resolutions ban Iranian arms exports and forbid countries from providing Iran with technical and financial assistance that could contribute to its alleged nuclear weapons programme. "It is sad that they went against this," Najib said on the final day of the DSA.

Iran was represented by nine companies through Iran Aviation Industries Organisation and Iran Electronics Industries at the DSA, held at the Putra World Trade Centre. It was reported in local news that Iran had been kicked out of the defence show. Najib said the ministry had taken steps to ensure that Iran's participation at the DSA complied with UN resolutions. "Unfortunately, when we inspected their stand, they displayed equipment that contravened the resolutions."

Since Iran had crossed the line, the organisers had no option but to terminate its participation. The Defence Ministry had informed Iran's ambassador to Malaysia on the decision. "We had no option since Malaysia is committed to respecting and adhering to UN resolutions." He said Iran was informed on Apr 22 that it was barred from the DSA. ■

ATEV-29 Drag Chute for MiG-29 Aircraft



The ATEV 29 is a locally manufactured drag chute for the RMAF MiG 29 aircraft designed by ATSC in collaboration with RMAF Central Aerospace And Engineering Services Establishment (CAESE) and East Vertex Sdn Bhd.

This drag chute type has successfully undergone static and dynamic tests. During the dynamic trials, prototype drag chutes were subjected to stability tests followed by deployment during fast taxi and full operational deployment tests. The drag chute is modular in design which facilitates replacement of each individual module during maintenance.



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