

The biweekly newsletter on developments in the international defence & security environment

European
 **Security & Defence**



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ESD Spotlight

Email newsletter of the bimonthly magazine „European Security & Defence“ (ESD)

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Layout: davis creativ media GmbH, Bonn, Germany



Published by

Mittler Report Verlag GmbH
 A company of Tamm Media Group

Mittler Report Verlag GmbH

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District Court of Bonn – HRB 18658

Identification number DE 811 223 089

Advent of a winning combination

This is the very first edition of our new newsletter “ESD Spotlight”, that will be published from now on every two weeks. It is our offer to you, to get the most important information in the security and defence sector directly to your mail account. But if you do not wish to receive this newsletter please send an email with “Unsubscribe” in the reference line to [“esd.spotlight@mittler-report.de”](mailto:esd.spotlight@mittler-report.de).

If you like the selection of news and coverage of technology please feel free to forward this newsletter to your colleagues and business-partners, who might also be interested. Any additional reader is most welcome.

Each newsletter will have the chapters:

- Defence, focussing on news from the NATO and European armed forces.
- Technology, covering new systems, upgrades or research programmes with the subcategories army, air force and navy.
- Industry, with changes or acquisitions in defence and security companies with a focus on NATO countries and Europe.

This newsletter is therefore an addition to our magazine “European Security & Defence”, that is published bi-monthly. The magazine’s objective is to describe, explain and interpret European security policy – which extends far beyond conventional defence with military forces – in all its complex and sophisticated correlations. “European Security & Defence” analyses the implications behind the stories and forecasts the consequences of current affairs from an unbiased point of view. As

an independent periodical “European Security & Defence” provides answers to questions about international affairs, business, technology and defence matters. Opinions are considered in analytical comments, which are based on neutral and in-depth investigation.

Even though the coverage of themes in the magazine is very wide, we still felt that we have to offer some breaking and current news to our readers, faster than a bi-monthly magazine could. So the idea of this newsletter, free to all readers was born.

This first issue is the result of the idea and we are very pleased to be able to cover (almost) every single European and NATO country with our editorial team, giving you the best possible selection of news and technology trends, totally free directly to your mail account. But we would also like to engage with you, so any comments, remarks or improvement suggestions would be welcomed. Please contact me through:

esd.spotlight@mittler-report.de



*Dr. Peter Bossdorf,
 Editor-in-Chief,
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Defence

U.S. F-35 squadron to Lakenheath

(df) The U.S. Department of Defense has announced that Royal Air Force (RAF) Lakenheath will become home to the first two U.S. F-35 squadrons in Europe with the first aircraft due to arrive in 2020. The announcement is part of the U.S. Government's review of the American military footprint across Europe.

The basing of U.S. F-35s at RAF Lakenheath confirms the American military presence in the U.K. for the foreseeable future. It also means that for the first time in decades the

U.S. Air Force and the RAF will have operated the same type of aircraft from a U.K. base.



(Photo: U.S. Department of Defense)

The U.S. has also decided to end its presence at nearby RAF Mildenhall. Additionally, the U.S. facilities at Alconbury and Molesworth will be returned to the U.K. MoD, with associated U.S. roles and missions being completed within a single facility at RAF Croughton. The precise timing for their final withdrawal has still to be determined, but it is expected to correspond with the period in which the U.S. plans to increase its presence at the adjacent RAF Lakenheath.

www.gov.uk

Handover NATO Baltic Air Policing

(df) In a ceremony held at Šiauliai Air Base, Lithuania, on 31 December 2014, the Portuguese Air Force handed over the responsibility of Baltic Air Policing to the Italian Air Force.

Four Portuguese F-16 aircraft, augmented by four Canadian CF-188 fighters, policed the skies over Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania since September 2014. Together with the two other augmenting Allies – Germany with Eurofighter aircraft out of Ämari Air Base, Estonia, and the Netherlands with F-16 jets out of Malbork, Poland – the

NATO fighters conducted about 70 intercepts over the Baltic Sea.

As of 01 January, Italy is at the helm of Baltic Air Policing with four Eurofighter jets. Spanish Eurofighters arrived at Ämari, Estonia on 30th December to take over from the German Eurofighters, and Belgian F-16s relieved the Dutch F-16s at Malbork. On 5th January 2015, Polish MiG-29 fighter aircraft arrived once again at Šiauliai to augment the NATO mission that will last until the end of April. The Polish Air Force was the lead nation for the fifth time from May to September 2014.

For Italy this is their first participation in this NATO mission, which started in 2004 when Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania joined NATO.

www.nato.int



(Photo: NATO)

Tenth anniversary of the EDA

(df) The European Defence Agency (EDA) celebrated its 10th anniversary in Brussels at the end of December. "We decided to have an academic session because we wanted not only to celebrate, but also to debate about how we see the role of EDA and the development of European defence capabilities in the future", EDA Chief Executive Claude-France Arnould underlined in her opening remarks. Tim Rowntree, OC-CAR Director, provided examples of tangible cooperation programmes at EU-level and pointed out that the organisation stood "ready to bring to support the collaborative programmes of tomorrow". Mean-

while, Arnould made the case for increased cooperation through the European Defence Agency: "Cooperation through EDA is not a threat to sovereignty", she stressed, "and the Agency has been specifically designed to allow cooperation from two Member States upwards".

The event attended by over 150 partici-



(Photo: EDA)

pants was also the roll-out for the book published by the Agency to commemorate EDA's 10-year anniversary. "This is the result of several months of archive research, interviews with key actors from inside and outside the Agency, as well as external contributions from various high-level European defence experts", Arnould said.

Titled "10 Years of Working Together", the book is divided into three main sections covering the history of the Agency, its main success stories and independent viewpoints from key government, military and industry leaders. The download is free on the EDA website.

www.eda.europa.eu

Technology

32-ton VBCI

(df) The French defence procurement agency (DGA) qualified a 32-ton version of the armoured infantry combat vehicle (Véhicule Blindé de Combat d'Infanterie, VBCI). The French Army introduced the VBCI in 2008, development extending back to the 1990s.

The additional three tons combat weight of the newly qualified version shall improve the protection against mines, IEDs (improvi-

sed explosive devices) and missiles through passive and active protection systems. They also create growth opportunities for future



(Photo: DGA)

military requirements. After 18 months of tests, sometimes in extreme climatic conditions, series production is now approved. Nexter will deliver the first 32 VBCI in the 32-ton version within 2015.

Overall, France has ordered 630 VBCI, of which 500 have been delivered. The rest will follow in 2015 and 2016. Since 2010 the VBCI has also been deployed on several missions such as Afghanistan and Mali.

www.nexter-group.fr/en

Swiss procure Leguan

(df) The Swiss Defence Procurement Agency, armasuisse, and Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW) signed a contract for the purchase of twelve Leguan bridge layers on a Leopard 2 chassis together with the associated peripherals and training equipment. This brings the number of countries using the Leguan system to 16. As a major initiator of the Leopard 2 chassis variant, the Swiss Army is now one of four to be using

these bridge layers. Using a tank as chassis the system can lay and load bridges whilst



(Photo: KMW)

protected. The entire protection profits from a pressure-proof partition wall with a hatch, separating the space for the crew (commander and driver seats) from the hydraulics and technical compartment.

The Leguan bridge layer can configure one bridge of 26 metres length or two of 14 metres length. The width of the obstacles to be overcome can be up to 12 or 24 metres correspondingly.

www.kmweg.com

AMPV for the U.S. Army

(df) The U.S. Army has awarded BAE Systems a contract for the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle (AMPV), which will replace the conceptually over 70 years old M113. The new family of vehicles based on the M2/M3 Bradley will be produced in five variants for use in the Armored Brigade Combat Team (ABCT): personnel and cargo

transport (522 vehicles), medical evacuation (790), mobile medical vehicle (216), mortar carrier (386) and command vehicle (993). In the first engineering, manufacturing and development (EMD) phase 29 AMPV of all variants will be produced in preparation for the series. The first 289 vehicles might then follow as an option. The €1 billion contract is to be fulfilled by

2019 including the option. The requirements for the U.S. Army total 2,907 AMPV.

www.baesystems.com



(Graphic: BAE Systems)

French Scorpion programme

(df) The French Minister of Defence, Jean-Yves Le Drian, signed the EBMR (Armoured Multi-Role Vehicle) contract with CEOs of the GME temporary consortium formed by the French companies Nexter Systems, Renault Trucks Défense and Thales. Prepared by the Armament Procurement Agency (DGA), this consortium will be responsible for the development, manufacturing and

support of the EBMR of the Scorpion programme.

Under the EBMR contract, the Multi-Role



(Graphic: Nexter/Renault/Thales)

Armoured Vehicle Griffon and Reconnaissance and Combat Armoured Vehicle Jaguar will replace on the one hand the VAB, and on the other hand, the AMX10RC, the ERC Sagaie and the VAB Hot, produced in the 70s and 80s.

Almost 2,000 vehicles, and all associated logistical support equipment, will be delivered to forces from 2018.

www.renault-trucks-defense-group.eu

Upgrade to the ATACMS

(df) Lockheed Martin received a €66 million contract from the U.S. Army for upgrades to the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS).

The programme will take hardware from early-production ATACMS Block 1 missiles and develop an enhanced and affordable weapon system capable of eliminating targets without the risk of unexploded ordnance, which meets the U.S. Army's long-range precision strike requirement.

The programme's first phase will include flight tests, followed by production beginning in 2016. As the U.S. Army's only

tactical long-range precision strike surface-to-surface weapon, ATACMS provides critical military capability.

More than 560 ATACMS missiles have been fired in combat and the system has demonstrated extremely high rates of accuracy and reliability. Each ATACMS missile is packaged in a Guided Missile Launch Assembly pod and is fired from the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) family of launchers.

Lockheed Martin has produced more than 3,700 ATACMS missiles in over 20 years of on-time deliveries.

www.lockheedmartin.com



(Photo: Lockheed Martin)

Babcock wins maintenance in UK

(df) The U.K. Ministry of Defence (MoD) has awarded Babcock International a €1.17 billion 10-year contract for the maintenance of the Army's land vehicles. From April 2015 on, Babcock will deliver and transform the services currently provided to the Army by the Defence Support Group (DSG) land business.

This will generate total savings to the Army of around €650 million over the life of the contract, the U.K. MoD stated. The contract also has the potential to grow to

around €2.6 billion as a result of plans, subject to value for money, to optimise a broader scope of services.



(Photo: Cpl Dan Bardsley RLC/MOD)

“This contract is excellent news and puts DSG on a sustainable long-term footing to support maintenance and availability of land platforms for the army, in a similar manner to existing contracts for support of platforms for the other services”, the Minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology, Philip Dunne, said.

All DSG land business staff will transfer to Babcock with their terms and conditions protected, the MoD said. No MoD sites will close on sale.

www.babcockinternational.com

Netherlands buys Amarok

(df) The Netherlands Defence organisation took symbolic delivery of 1,667 new vehicles when the keys of the newly acquired Volkswagen Amaroks were handed over. They are set to replace several Mercedes Benz types, which are now reaching the end of their working life. One new aspect included in the procurement contract is that mainten-

ance of the vehicles will be carried out by the supplier. The Royal Netherlands Army will take 1,138 Amaroks into service. Among these, there will be a specialised type of Amarok for use by the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal Service. In all, 14 different types of the vehicle have been selected for use in the Netherlands armed forces.

www.defensie.nl



(Photo: Volkswagen)

Iveco wins in Lebanon

(df) Iveco won the €30 million contract to sell 80 vehicles to the Lebanese military and police, mostly unarmoured military trucks.

But among the ordered vehicles are also ten VBTP-MR armoured personnel carrier,

which were developed in close cooperation between Iveco and the Ministry of Defence of Brazil. The other vehicles are 25 light armoured vehicles and six mine protected armoured vehicles, which will be produced in Italy.

www.iveco.com



(Photo: Iveco)

Multirole Tanker Transport fleet

(df) The Netherlands, Poland and Norway have decided to prepare negotiations with Airbus Defence & Space for the acquisition of a fleet of A330 MRTT multirole transport and air-to-air refuelling aircraft. This initiative, facilitated by the European Defence Agency (EDA), consists of the pooled acquisition and operation of a common fleet of aircraft by the three

nations. Other nations will also be able to contribute to the overall programme through joining the acquisition phase



(Photo: Outisism)

and/or in-service phase and therefore save money through the shared capabilities. An initial operating capability is expected in 2019.

A single configuration has been selected for this common fleet of aircraft, which should all be equipped with a rigid boom as well as underwing pods, thus allowing them to refuel a large variety of receivers.

www.eda.europa.eu

DIRCM for German A400M

(df) The Federal Office of Bundeswehr Equipment, Information Technology and In-Service Support (BAAINBw) has tasked Diehl BGT Defence with setting up a laser protection system for countering guided missiles for the A400M. In close cooperation with the industry partner Elbit, the initial DIRCM (Directed Infrared Counter Measure) study envisages linking three J-MUSIC (Multi-Spectral Infrared Countermeasure) type system units of the Israeli

manufacturer to a complete system ensuring comprehensive 360° protection for the new German military transport aircraft Airbus A400M.

Background for DIRCM is the critical threat deriving from missiles. Especially man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS) with missiles using infrared seekers, like Stinger, have a high potential of destroying military aircraft. DIRCM will detect the approaching missile and then mislead or even destroy it. The A400M will

get three DIRCM, two at the front and one at the rear.

www.diehl.com/en/diehl-defence.html



(Photo: Diehl BGT Defence)

F-35 Engine maintenance

(df) The U.S. Department of Defense confirmed that future European engine maintenance for the F-35 will be performed by three partner nations: Turkey, Norway and the Netherlands. This means that the Norwegian state owned enterprise, AIM Norway, has succeeded as one of three businesses that will be performing maintenance for the F-35, which is expected to remain in service until well after 2050. Maintenance of the F-35 will differ significantly from that of its predecessor, the

F-16, with the aircraft itself rarely leaving its main operating base for maintenance. When a part of the F-35 requires maintenance, it will be taken out of the aircraft and sent to a central workshop, while the aircraft in the meantime receives a new part and is able to continue its regular operations.

Required heavy maintenance of the aircraft itself will take place at a facility in Italy, supported as needed by British workshops. The overall purpose of this model is to allow the partnership to collectively opera-

te the F-35 fleet in the most efficient way possible.

www.aimnorway.com



(Photo: U.S. Navy)

Gripen E



(Graphic: Saab)

Development Gripen E

(df) The Swedish defence and security company Saab has received a development order for Gripen E from the Swedish Defence Materiel Administration. The order is part of the Gripen E framework agreement from 2013 and is valued at €41 million.

“The work on Gripen E goes according to schedule and budget. The order is part of

the high-tech development of the next generation Gripen system for Sweden”, said Ulf Nilsson, Head of Business Unit Gripen within Saab’s Aeronautics business area. Gripen E has significant performance improvements, including a more powerful engine, longer range, more weapons, new AESA radar and more advanced avionics.

www.saabgroup.com

Drafts of the MKS 180

(df) The two proposed solutions by the German Procurement Agency (BAAINBw) for a "Future Modular Maritime Capability Platform" (MKS 180) for the German Navy have been presented to the Chief of Staff, Bundeswehr, for a decision. The analysis phase will end with the selection and approval of one of the proposals and the design and

construction of the ship may begin. The decision of the Chief of Staff, Bundes-



Graphic: MTG Marinetechnik

wehr, is expected in the first quarter of 2015. The design and procurement process with the evaluation of the designs and finally a contract will take about two years. The stated goal is to enter procurement contract discussions in 2017, with a first ship to be commissioned by the end of 2023.

www.baainbw.de

Fifth FREMM frigate delivered

(df) At the end of 2014 the fifth of ten Multimission European Frigates (FREMM), the ITS Alpino, was launched. This class of frigates is a cooperation-programme between France and Italy, the ships were designed by DCNS/Armaris and Fincantieri. The first ship was commissioned by the French Navy in November 2012. It was the Aquitaine and therefore these frigates are named the Aquitaine-class in France. The first Italian ship was the Bergamini, so it is called the Bergamini-class in the Italian Navy. In Italy these units will

replace the former Lupo and Maestrale class frigates.

The Chief of Italian Navy, Admiral Giuseppe De Giorgi, said that these versatile units will also be built at Riva Trigoso, and that a renovation programme of the Italian fleet

is imperative. A further €5.4 billion investment provided for by the stability law, spread over the next 19 years, will allow the Italian Navy to become fully operative.

The frigates measure: 144 metres length, 20 metres beam and 6,700 tons displacement. The new FREMM will be delivered to the Italian Navy in early 2016. Italy is buying two versions, a general purpose frigate and an anti-submarine variant with the last two Italian FREMMs having AAW-ATBM-Land Attack capabilities. France is heading for an additional air-defence variant.

www.marina.difesa.it



(Photo: Italian Ministry of Defence)

SM-6 for the Aegis fleet

(df) The U.S. Navy has authorised ships in the Aegis Combat Weapon System baselines 5.3 and 3.A.0 series to carry the Standard Missile 6 (SM-6). The authorisation expands the missile's use from five to more than 35 ships.

SM-6 is a surface-to-air supersonic missile capable of successfully engaging manned and unmanned aerial vehicles and fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft. It also defends

against land-attack and anti-ship cruise missiles in flight.

To achieve best target discrimination results the SM-6 uses both active and semi-active guidance modes and advanced fuzing techniques.

Raytheon has delivered more than 130 missiles to the U.S. Navy so far, which deployed SM-6 for the first time in December 2013.

www.raytheon.com



(Photo: U.S. Navy)

Damen builds in South Africa

(df) Damen Shipyards Cape Town (DSCT) has completed the build of two FCS 5009 Patrol vessels, the first of their type to be built in South Africa. Another of the same class is already in operation with the Cape Verdean Coast Guard.

DSCT has prepared the vessels for outfitting with Sea Rogue weaponry: a system that includes a 20mm cannon forward of the

wheelhouse and two 12.7mm Browning guns fitted respectively port and starboard of the wheelhouse. The Sea Rogue can be operated by a hand controller and has an accurate target-tracking feature. Working with manufacturer Reutech, DSCT can install the weaponry in a matter of days.

FCS 5009 is deliverable in two formats, fast crew supply ship or security patrol vessel.

www.damen.com



(Photo: Damen Shipyards)

Industry

KMW acquires DLS

(df) Diehl Defence and Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (KMW) have concluded a contract on the acquisition of Diehl Defence Land System's GmbH (DLS) operative business by a subsidiary of KMW. The contract is subject to approval by the antitrust authorities.

Diehl Defence Land Systems is among the market leaders in the fields of tank tracks and suspension, equipping all the Bundeswehr's tracked vehicles. Latest new products include the light-weight tracks for the

German Puma infantry combat vehicle as well as segmented rubber band tracks. In the past decades, the company has acquired an international reputation as a service provider regarding maintenance, repair



(Photo: Diehl Defence)

and modernisation of military vehicles. The company achieves sales of €56 million with approximately 370 employees.

With the transfer of its vehicle business, Diehl will focus on its core business comprising guided weapons, intelligent ammunition as well as impact and protection, the company stated. For KMW, the acquisition adds a strategic range of products and services to the existing portfolio.

www.kmweg.com

www.diehl.com/en/diehl-defence.html

Big growth in cyber security

(df) Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has defined cyber security as a strategic domain and one of the company's core areas of activity. To achieve this, IAI developed advanced cyber solutions for intelligence, protection, monitoring identification and accessibility. The necessary technologies were developed by IAI's research, development and excellence centres. Cyber-solution contracts reached "tens of

millions of dollars in 2014" and therefore were among the biggest growth areas in the company's turnover, IAI stated.

"The cyber arena requires a reliable, strong and experienced solutions provider to allow appropriate, constant managing of the threat," said Esti Peshin, director of cyber programmes at IAI. "We have harnessed the best minds and technologies to create a new approach, enabling our customers to manage today's and to-

morrow's cyber challenges in an optimal fashion."

www.iai.co.il



(Photo: Thorben Wengert/pixelio.de)

RUAG buys Patria's Space unit

(df) Patria and RUAG have announced an agreement for the sale of Patria's Space unit to become part of RUAG's Space division. The transaction includes the business operations and assets. The 32 employees currently working in Patria's Space unit in Tampere will be employed in the newly founded company RUAG Space Finland.

Patria's Space activities are currently part of the Finnish company's Systems Business Unit. The key product areas are spacecraft

control electronics, electrical power subsystems, electronic units and related test equipment.

The company has been successful and active in various Satellite programmes of the European Space Agency (ESA), such as the Earth observation satellites Sentinel-2, Earthcare and Swarm and the Gaia space telescope. Currently on-going for ESA's solar probe Solar Orbiter, where Patria is responsible for the spacecraft Electrical Power Subsystem, can be seen as a successful

continuation from Rosetta power electronics equipment deliveries over the last ten years.

www.ruag.com



(Photo: DLR)

Teaming of Kongsberg and Patria in Middle East

(df) Kongsberg and Patria have announced a teaming agreement to pursue together a major combat vehicle and weapon system programme in the Middle East region. Both

the Patria AMV 8x8 wheeled armoured vehicle and Nemo 120 mm turreted mortar are already in use in the Middle East.

Patria AMV 8x8 is currently in service with seven nations in wide range of environments. The vehicle is combat-proven.

Kongsberg offers products and systems for remotely controlled weapon systems, command and control, weapons guidance, communications solutions and missiles.

www.kongsberg.com

www.patria.fi

European Security & Defence

Magazine
Preview
01/2015

The International Market for Frigates and Surface Combatants

Globally, procurement efforts for the acquisition of frigates over the next 20 years are forecasted at some \$126 billion, with a major share of \$40 billion in the Asia-Paci-



fic region. Europe and the United States are expected to spend some \$25 billion each on frigates during that period. This article contains a market analysis and survey of ongoing and forthcoming procurement efforts.

Logistic Land Vehicles

The variety of logistic vehicles currently in global service and on offer is huge, and the same is true for the different concepts applied to the propulsion systems and

protection of wheeled vehicles in different weight classes. The article looks at international programmes, concepts, design features and the requirements of European armies.



RPV Reconnaissance in Ukraine

In the scope of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) unmanned and unarmed aerial vehicles have been deployed for monitoring the gene-

ral security situation, reconnaissance and surveillance missions. With the Camcopter the range of reconnaissance has been increased to an interesting extend. Experiences and results.



NATO's IT Projects in 2015

The NATO Cloud (including FMN) and the harmonisation of the Alliance's nations' C³I systems are among the top priority efforts for 2015. Authors from the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA) provide a survey of ongoing programmes.

Life Cycle Management in NATO

Terms like Life Cycle Management (LCM), Integrated Logistic Support (ILS), Life Cycle Integration (LCI) and Continuous Acquisition and Life Cycle Support (CALs) constitute NATO's



permanent efforts to implement new and topical approaches for the cost-effective, reliable and especially in-time management of international armament programmes. Players, structures and efforts.

IWA / ENFORCETAC Focus

Renowned international weapons expert Dr. Jan-Phillipp Weisswange presents an exclusive new assessment of "Products v. Requirements" in the realm of modern military and security forces' weapons, both in-service and in development. Leading

contenders from around the world are assessed within a select range of handguns, long guns, automatics and semi-autos, assault weapons and associated sensors and munitions, against a background of current and impending military/security acquisition programmes around the world.



Country Focus: Defence and Security in Denmark



This issue will feature the first in a series of country portraits of European nations, in

the scope of which the Kingdom of Denmark's

- Defence Policy and Role in NATO
- Armed Forces
- Defence Procurement Structures and Programmes and

- Defence Industrial Base will be introduced in articles and interviews. Denmark's requirements for new combat aircraft and armoured vehicles have moved the country's procurement efforts in the focus of international attention.