The developments that have taken place in Europe over the past decade have significantly lowered the threshold of using force. This development became visible to all in Georgia in August 2008 – when Russian armed forces invaded deep into Georgian sovereign territory – and since then has continued in multiple places in Europe. Several Central and Eastern European (CEE) states – with Poland playing a key role – discerned this development already in 2007 and 2008 and alarmed about its grim consequences. But the threat perception was not imminent to the Alliance as a whole. The "quiet days" between the Alliance and Russia lasted only a few months, although Moscow has never fully delivered on its commitments from the ceasefire agreement struck in 2008.

Essentially one significant actor of the European security architecture has returned to a philosophy based on spheres of influence and a zero sum game, rather than cooperative security and a win-win approach. Its tactics based on intimidation, use of force, and violation of international law, both overt and covert, has re-awakened the ghosts of the past. Times of heightened uncertainty have arrived. When closely analysing the developments, the following years between 2008 and 2014 only exemplified the Russian path to a revanchist state, and finally in the run up to the Wales Summit it became obvious to the entire Alliance that the European security landscape has changed significantly. As a result, NATO has started to adapt to those challenges with some decisions at the Wales Summit, after all.

The assurance and adaptation measures approved at the Summit in Wales, in conjunction with EU and global sanctions, have shown resolve and determination. The transatlantic community has understood that a continuation of permissive policy may lead to a pan-European disaster not unlike that of 1939-1945.

A few concrete steps taken by NATO are of particular importance. Firstly, the enhancement of the NATO Response Forces (NRF) both by a larger size and increased readiness level. Within this element, a Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF) has been created. Secondly, the Multinational Corps North-East (MNC NE) in Szczecin has been upgraded.

From Warsaw to the Brussels Summit

Undersecretary of State Tomasz Szatkowski
Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Poland

The editorial team of ESD Spotlight wishes you a Happy New Year!
We will be back on January 17, 2017.
to high readiness level with significantly strengthened personnel in order to ensure its ability to provide command and control functions for the reformed NRF, if deployed to the region. Noteworthy, since 2014 the number of MNC NE flags has grown from 13 to 24. This is a significant signal of Alliance solidarity.

Thirdly, a network of small command and control cells, known as NATO Force Integration Units, has been set up across the territories of eight allies on the Eastern flank. Increased situational awareness has also been ensured by NATO’s intelligence and surveillance assets. All the above-mentioned measures have considerably increased the ability of NATO to react to any potential threat and, if required, to deploy reinforcements to allies in need.

But the Wales decisions, although a step in the right direction, still lacked some necessary elements that would ensure a proper deterrent posture of the Alliance. It has become clear that even the fastest reinforcement may not be sufficient if the adversary’s attack is snap and concealed in form of a hybrid action, making it difficult to assess the real origin and magnitude of danger.

In light of these developments, the NATO Summit in Warsaw has been crucial for the future security in Europe. The main goal of the Summit was to address this deteriorating security situation in NATO’s eastern and southern neighbourhoods. In order to effectively accomplish that goal, we needed to ensure that the decisions that were about to be taken were concrete, timely and universal. In other words, they were to offer specific, well-tailored solutions for current and foreseeable challenges and they were to address concerns of all allies, regardless of their geographic location. We managed to accomplish that, and simultaneously we manifested strong allied coherence and solidarity.

From Poland’s point of view the key result of the Summit was the decision to strengthen the security of NATO’s eastern flank. The Alliance agreed to establish an enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) of multinational NATO forces in Poland and the Baltic States. Four battle groups will be deployed with Canada, Germany, Great Britain and the United States as framework nations. The U.S. declared to be a framework nation for the battle group to be positioned in Poland. We welcome the British, Romanian and potentially other nations’ declarations to additionally strengthen our security by deploying their troops to Poland as well.

Although the security challenges on the Eastern flank are of vital importance to us, Poland perceives its security interests in a wider perspective. We value the decisions concerning strengthening NATO’s posture on its southern flank and we are determined to contribute to the current and future allied activities in that strategic direction. Hence, in the spirit of solidarity with other allies, we took a decision to participate in the allied operation in the Aegean Sea. By conducting reconnaissance, monitoring and surveillance, the mission is set to support efforts to tackle the refugee and migrant crisis. Simultaneously, we have strengthened our efforts in the C-ISIL coalition by deploying for the first time in Poland’s history our F-16 aircraft and providing SOF training and advice in theatre. We also made significant efforts to support Jordan in its C-ISIL endeavours.

The new, reinforced allied presence will be larger and more deterrent in nature. In this respect, we particularly welcome the U.S. decision to deploy to CEE an Armoured Brigade Combat Team (ABCT), starting from January 2017. The ABCT elements and headquarters will be deployed to Poland, which will serve as a hub for the ABCT, from where it is to move to other places in CEE. Together with our American ally we aim to fully use the potential created by the US European Reassurance Initiative, including,
but not limited to, the ABCT. We continue our cooperation in missile defence via the construction of the BMD site in Redzikowo which commenced in May 2016, but also advance our air force training through the Aviation Detachment and deepen the cooperation of our special operations forces. All these endeavours are a visible proof of constantly growing Polish-U.S. defence cooperation which, in light of the current security challenges in Europe, gains even more meaning. Steadily, while Poland is becoming a centre of gravity for U.S. reinforcements in CEE, we are bringing the mil-to-mil cooperation to a higher and mutually beneficial level.

Given the Warsaw decisions, we now expect nothing less but solid engagement from the allies in order to properly implement the decisions taken at the Summit. We actively take part in the political process and await decisions to be transferred into concrete military mechanisms as soon as possible. The NATO Brussels Summit in 2017 should constitute a milestone in this regard. In short, following the announcements, the Alliance now needs to walk the walk.

There are, however, other issues to be addressed in the foreseeable future. The three essential core tasks of NATO: collective defence, crisis management and cooperative security, should be properly redefined, according to the new security environment. The discussion will help to better identify our priority defence policy goals, including the direction of the dialogue with Russia.

Another important process that needs to be managed is the assessment of the effectiveness of the NATO Command Structure (NCS). Similarly to the Strategic Concept, the NCS was laid out to operate in the former security environment. However, since 2014 the NCS has been given a multitude of new tasks. This altogether creates significant challenges for its effectiveness. A bottom-up analysis viewing both the NATO Force Structure (NFS) with its Corps HQs and the NCS is needed in order to determine a suitable fit for purpose NCS meeting the military requirements in the new realities.

The evolving security environment has also shown a need for an organised and coherent regional situational awareness centre. Poland is willing and capable of establishing an entity in order to provide robust intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance for the eastern flank. We also strive to strengthen maritime cooperation in the Baltic Sea by establishing a Baltic Maritime Force HQ. In this respect we envision that these two projects will be developed in a multinational format. Hence, in the latter two cases we count especially on close cooperation with our neighbours.

Poland, along with the United States, Great Britain, Greece and Estonia, is currently among a group of five NATO members fulfilling the allied Defence Investment Pledge (DIP) of 2% GDP expenditures on defence. If international circumstances require, we are ready to consider even further increases in defence spending. Noteworthy, along with six other allies we devote the recommended 20% of our budget on modernisation. Luckily, there are already some hambingers announcing an upward trend and soon the list of NATO allies meeting the DIP is to grow. Naturally, we are cognizant of the essence of the NATO Treaties’ self-help clause (Article 3) requiring Allies to develop their own defensive capabilities. Therefore, Poland systematically develops its own defence forces and capacity to resist armed attack. Additionally, we are looking at bilateral ties and mechanisms to further enhance the security and defensive fabric of our country and region.

In retrospect, the deteriorating security situation has an obvious impact on the structure and posture of the armed forces. We are in the process of forming a robust Territorial Defence (TD) force, which is becoming an entirely new service. It will complement the already existing regular Armed Forces. The first three of a number of planned TD brigades are to be established and positioned in North-Eastern and Central Poland by the end of 2016. A more detailed layout and posture of those brigades will follow after the publication of the SDR. Overall, we have an ambitious plan to raise the number of troops from the current level of around 100,000 to a number well above that in the near future. Again, a thorough analysis ensuing from the SDR should specify the scope of this enlargement – predominantly of the TD Forces – of our force layout.

In sum, the adaptation of NATO is a work in progress. In order to make the 2017 Brussels Summit another realistic step forward, Allies need to show continuous political, financial and military commitment. In this respect, Poland’s ambition is to be an example to be looked up to. Also, while stepping up to the plate, we are ready to actively contribute to the shaping of NATO’s future.
Defence

Frontex starts rapid reaction pool with 1,500 border guards

(df) Since December 7 Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, is able to deploy as many as 1,500 border guards at short notice to assist member states in emergency situations at the EU’s external borders. The creation of the rapid reaction pool is a significant milestone in the development of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, which was launched in October. The rapid reaction pool includes border surveillance officers, registration and finger scanning experts, advanced-level document officers and nationality screening experts. It will be an addition to the regular deployment of officers in Frontex operations at Europe’s external borders.

“Today we have gained a powerful tool that will allow Frontex to assist member states and together deal with emergencies at the EU’s external borders much more quickly and efficiently,” said Frontex Executive Director Fabrice Leggeri. “We continue to move forward with the development of a truly European Border and Coast Guard Agency.” The rapid reaction pool is made of 1,500 officers committed by EU member states and Schengen associated countries. In a crisis situation, they will be put at the immediate disposal of Frontex, which can deploy them within five working days.

Member states have also agreed to make available the necessary technical equipment that can be used in rapid intervention operations, including vehicles, vessels and aircraft. Frontex currently has some 1,200 deployed at the EU’s external borders to assist member states with tasks such as border surveillance, registration and identification of migrants.

www.frontex.europa.eu

United States and EU sign agreement on common logistics

(df) The U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini signed a U.S.-EU Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) on December 7. This agreement fulfills a 2014 U.S.-EU Summit pledge to enhance practical security and crisis response management cooperation. In the scope of the agreement ACSA will facilitate reciprocal provision of reimbursable logistics support, supplies, and services between the partners during military deployments and operations.

“The signing of the ACSA marks a major milestone in U.S.-EU military cooperation in enabling crisis response and promoting security around the world,” the U.S. Department of State announced. “U.S. and EU personnel and forces continue to work hand-in-hand to address crises in international security, particularly in Africa. The ACSA will also help to reinforce the strategic partnership between NATO and the EU as they work together to strengthen defence and security in Europe and project stability among neighbours and partners.”

www.state.gov

Kevin J. Scheid designated General Manager of the NCI Agency

Kevin J. Scheid (United States) has been appointed as the next General Manager of the NATO Communications and Information (NCI) Agency. He will succeed the current General Manager, MG1N (ret) Koen Gijsbers, on July 1, 2017.

“It’s truly an honour to be selected by the 28 NATO Nations to serve as the next General Manager of the NCI Agency,” said Scheid. “I look forward to joining and leading the talented and committed team of civilian and military professionals of the Agency next July.” Scheid is a US Department of Defense (DoD) senior executive who has served in a number of positions within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. For the past two years, he has been on a special assignment from the US DoD with the MITRE Corporation where he served as the Special Advisor to the President and CEO. He previously served as Deputy Controller of the US DoD and acted as Deputy Chief Management Officer.

Prior to joining the Department of Defense, Scheid served in the US Intelligence Community supporting the Director of Central Intelligence with budget and programmatic analysis of the Community’s funding and resources. He began his professional career at the White House Office of Management and Budget where he oversaw the programmes of the Department of Commerce, the Intelligence Community and the Department of Defense.

www.ncia.nato.int
Technology

Guarani amphibious personal carrier

(gwh) With a new contract the Brazilian Army’s Logistics Command (CoLog) ordered additional 1,580 VBTP-MR Guarani (Viatura Blindada Transporte de Pessoal – Média de Rodas, protected personnel carrier vehicle – medium wheeled) valued at €1.65 billion. In 2009 the Brazilian Government and Iveco agreed to purchase 2,044 VBTP. For the time being Iveco has already delivered 203 Guarani 6x6.

The new batch comes in five variants: troop transport, communications, command post, ambulance, and 120 mm mortar vehicles and will be delivered from now until 2035. The contract includes logistic support as well as the equipment of a part of the vehicles with protected weapon stations both manned and remote controlled.

The driveline comprises a 383 hp Cursor 9F2C diesel-engine by Iveco, an automatic 6HP602S transmission by ZF, A2FM80 water propellers by Bosch Rexroth and the Hutchinson runflat system. Protection is provided by a mine and ballistic protection suite and can be upgraded demand-actuated by add-on armour.

www.iveco.com

Weaponised UGV

(gwh) Milrem, the Estonian solutions provider, and ST Kinetics, the Asian land systems company, jointly developed the first weaponised fully modular unmanned ground vehicle (UGV), the THeMIS ADDER (Tracked Hybrid Modular Infantry System). In November they performed successfully first live fire test with the cooperation and supervision of the Estonian Defence Forces.

The THeMIS ADDER features the first fully modular hybrid unmanned ground vehicle in the world the THeMIS and the ADDER remote weapon station from ST Kinetics. The UGV was equipped with a CIS 50MG but can be outfitted with smaller and larger calibre weapons as well.

The THeMIS has a payload of 750-1,000 kg, speed of 24km/h and up to ten hours operation time.

www.milrem.ee
www.stengg.com

Reconditioned Stryker ICV for Peru

(gwh) The State Department has made a determination approving a possible foreign military sale to Peru for reconditioned Stryker infantry carrier vehicles and related support, equipment, and training. The estimated cost is €723 million.

The Government of Peru has requested a possible sale of 178 reconditioned Stryker infantry carrier vehicles including M2 Flex .50 Cal machine guns and remote weapon stations (RWS) for each of them. The vehicles will be completed by a comprehensive set of additional equipment, special tools, spare parts, training for crew and maintenance personnel, manuals and technical support.

The prime contractor for this programme is General Dynamics Land Systems.

www.dsca.mil

Lithuania gets M577 APC

(gwh) Germany sells 168 M577 armoured personnel carrier from the inventory of the Army to the Lithuanian land forces. The M577 is based on the widespread M113 but features a rear cabin with headroom and an auxiliary power unit. A crew of maximum five soldiers operates the vehicle and its mission kits. Lithuania will use the vehicles for command, indirect fire support, medical evacuation and training purposes. The €1.6 million-contract includes spare parts, maintenance tools and other equipment. Delivery of the M577s will start 2017 through to 2018.

www.kam.lt
Cyber defence contracts awarded to Raytheon

(df) The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has awarded Raytheon multiple contracts to research and develop technologies that will detect and respond to cyber attacks on the U.S. power grid infrastructure. The contracts, which total €8.4 million, were awarded under DARPA’s Rapid Attack Detection, Isolation and Characterization Systems programme.

“During the last two decades, industrial control systems have evolved so that most are now connected to the Internet, making them vulnerable to cyber attack,” said Jason Redi, Vice President Raytheon BBN Technologies Networking and Communications unit. “A significant power disruption would have profound economic and human costs in the U.S, so our goals are to prevent attacks and to reduce the time required to restore power after an attack.”

Under the terms of the contract Raytheon will create technologies to provide early warning of an impending attack and detecting adversary spoofing of power grid data collection and communication. This will also maintain situational awareness in the immediate aftermath of an attack.

The company will also examine methods to maintain secure emergency communication networks in the aftermath of an attack. Raytheon’s approach seeks to isolate affected organisations from the Internet and establish a secure emergency network.

www.darpa.mil
www.raytheon.com

Major GPS upgrade

(df) Lockheed Martin has completed a major upgrade to modernise the current ground control system of the U.S. Air Force’s Global Positioning System (GPS) satellite constellation. The Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Upgrade #2 (CUP2) project is the latest step in the Air Force’s multi-year plan to refresh technology and transform the legacy Operational Control Segment – known as the Architecture Evolution Plan (AEP) — into a modern, high-performance command and control system. On October 15, CUP2 began managing the 31 GPS IIR, IIR-M and IIF satellites that make up today’s GPS constellation.

The Global Positioning Systems Directorate at the U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center contracted the CUP2 upgrade. Air Force Space Command’s 2nd Space Operations Squadron (2SOPS) manages and operates the GPS constellation for both civil and military users.

www.lockheedmartin.com

G/ATOR components for the U.S. Marine Corps

(df) Saab has been awarded a contract from Northrop Grumman for the AN/TPS-80 Ground/Air Task Oriented Radar (G/ATOR) system, that is in use with the U.S. Marine Corps.

G/ATOR will provide the U.S. Marine Corps with a single radar type that performs air surveillance, air defence, ground weapon locating and air traffic control missions. The contract covers the delivery of major subsystems and assemblies, as well as software, for the next nine Low Rate Initial Production (LRIP) units.

The Saab developed and built assemblies will be integrated by Northrop Grumman into the Lots 3-5 G/ATOR systems which will be delivered to the U.S. Marine Corps starting in 2018. In 2016 Saab successfully completed delivery of the first six systems under a prior contract for LRIP Lots 1 and 2.

www.saabgroup.com

Rheinmetall at I/ITSEC

(df) “Train to perform – Land, Air, Sea, Joint”, was the motto of Rheinmetall’ presentation during the I/ITSEC 2016 in Orlando, where the company showed their competence and solutions in the field of simulation and training.

Premiering at the show was the world’s first driving simulator that combined Rheinmetall’s simulation technology with commercial visualisation software. This demonstrator simulates complex traffic flows and situations in an urban environment.

Another highlight was the area of live simulation with the company’s Legatus being the heart of the solutions on display. Of interest were also the tailored to systems simulation technology, for example for the Embraer KC390 transport plane, the Cargo Hold Trainer Enhanced (CHT-E) for the A400M transport aircraft, and advanced combat and gunnery simulators for the Leopard 2 main battle tank.

www.rheinmetall-defence.com
The Netherlands to upgrade their F-16 ECM pods

(df) Northrop Grumman has been awarded a contract by the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAF) to upgrade the AN/ALQ-131 electronic countermeasure (ECM) pods for its F-16 aircraft fleet. The upgrade includes new threat detection and jamming capabilities to allow the aircraft to operate safely in the modern threat environment.

“The digital technology in the AN/ALQ-131 upgrade provides a significant leap in capability for electronic countermeasures, giving RNLAF aviators a superior level of protection wherever their missions take them,” said Dr. Robert Fleming, Vice President, Programs at Northrop Grumman.

Air-to-ground capability of IRIS-T

(df) Diehl Defence announced the extension of its proven state-of-the-art short-range air-to-air missile IRIS-T (Infra Red Imaging System Tail/Thrust Vector-Controlled), that has already been selected for the combat jets Eurofighter/Typhoon, F-16, EF-18, Tornado and Gripen. Now the missile is also usable in air-to-ground engagements, a capability that has been tested successfully by the Norwegian Air Force.

After its initial optimization for air-to-air use, it has already been procured for short-range (IRIS-T SLS) ground-based air defence. Now the functionality has been enhanced with an air-to-surface engagement capability. This basic air-to-ground capability provides the ability to acquire, track and engage individual ground targets like boats/ships, small buildings and vehicles and has been successfully verified in a test firing from a Norwegian F-16. As part of full aircraft integration, IRIS-T supports a configuration with various sensor systems including radar and Helmet Mounted Cueing Systems (HMCS) ready to use in existing aircraft systems.

Bell and IAR team for Romanian helicopter

(df) Bell Helicopter announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Romanian IAR - Gimbav Brasov Group. This MoU aims to enhance the already existing close ties between Bell Helicopter and IAR just for the case that Romania might choose to purchase the AH-1Z Viper attack helicopter, one of the most advanced anti-tank attack helicopter. It is designed in partnership with the United States Marine Corps and carries a wide range of precision weapons and advanced sensors. The Viper has a combat radius greater than 240km when carrying 16 Hellfire missiles, 2 AIM-9’s, and 650 20mm rounds.

“The potential for the AH-1Z Viper in Romania is exciting, and the AH-1Z should be a very strong candidate in addressing the Romanian government’s need for an advanced, reliable platform for security and defence.” said Lisa Atherton, Bell Helicopter Executive Vice President of Military Business.

A400M global support service contract

(gwh) Airbus Defence and Space has signed a long-term Global Support Service contract for the A400M new generation airlifter with the UK, France and Spain. The new agreement, effective December 1, runs as a first step for two years and follows previously signed contracts which provided support for France and UK in their early years of operation of the A400M. It additionally forms the basis of support for Spain which accepted its first aircraft on December 1.

This first phase of the agreement paves the way for many other OCCAR nations to join later and then also benefit from this package as well as additional new services which are currently under development.

The contract was awarded by the national armaments offices through the OCCAR international programme management organisation.
Further contracts awarded for the Type 26 Programme

(df) “Backed by Britain’s rising defence budget, the Type 26 Programme will deliver a new generation of cutting-edge warships for our Royal Navy,” the British Minister for Defence Procurement, Harriett Baldwin, said on the importance of this initiative. Just now BAE Systems has awarded further manufacturing equipment contracts to six companies for the Type 26 Global Combat Ship, bringing the total investment to date in the Type 26 supply chain to more than €446 million.

The new contracts include key items such as steering systems, doors, davit system and mooring equipment for the first three ships and have been awarded to: Rolls-Royce for the steering gears and stabilisers, with manufacturing to take place at its Dunfermline facility; Johnsons Controls Ltd, based in Basildon, for the chilled water plants; Marine Systems Technology Ltd for gastight, weathertight and watertight doors, hatches and scuttles and the Hangar XY crane, that will be supplied from its base in Middlewich; Salt Separation Services, based in Rochdale, for the reverse osmosis desalination plants; Detegasa, a Spanish-based company, for the membrane sewage treatment plants and oily water separators; MEP – Pellegrini Marine Equipments S.r.l., based in Italy, for the anchor handling and mooring equipment, boat davit, and radar cross section screen closures.

In total eight Type 26 Global Combat Ships are planned to supply the Royal Navy with a world-class anti-submarine warfare ship and to replace the Type 23 frigates. Globally deployable, it will be capable of undertaking a wide range of roles from high intensity warfare to humanitarian assistance, either operating independently or as part of a task group.

www.baesystems.com

Sharp images with SharpEye

(jh) At the recent Euronaval exhibition in Paris, France, Kelvin Hughes of the UK drew attention to their SharpEye naval surface radar technology, developed to see, identify and observe small targets at large distances in cluttered environments. According to Kelvin Hughes, radar systems with the SharpEye technology implemented support earlier warning of the presence of small targets such as submarine periscopes and RHIBs while increasing the user’s ability to detect targets in clutter.

SharpEye uses the Doppler effect to determine target radial velocities. This is achieved by processing echoes into velocity bands, thus enabling the separation of genuine targets from clutter. Extracting the relative motion of targets by measuring the phase of the received echo relative to the phase of the transmission enables the radial velocity to be determined. The technology is available in L- (X-) and E/F-band (S-band) as a fully coherent radar transceiver. SharpEye L-band (X-band) are the first in their class to employ GaN (Gallium Nitride) power transistor technology. Among others, sensor systems from Kelvin Hughes support the TIDE Class Royal Fleet auxiliary tankers, the Royal Navy’s OPVs, the fleet-wide retrofit programme, Type 23 frigates, the MCMV fleet and the submarine flotilla.

www.kelvinhughes.com

Kongsberg wins contract for the FRIDTJOF NANSEN frigates

(df) Kongsberg has won the order of the Norwegian Defence Material Agency (NDMA) to update the combat management system and the active sonar system of the FRIDTJOF NANSEN class frigates. The value is €2.8 billion and will be delivered over the next four years.

“Kongsberg is pleased to be part of the upgrade programme extending the lifetime of the systems on board the FRIDTJOF NANSEN class,” said Eirik Lie, Acting President of Kongsberg Defence Systems. “Kongsberg is a leading combat system supplier for ships and submarines delivered to eleven nations around the world, and this contract confirms our strong position.”

Kongsberg has supplied the anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare systems based on the company’s combat management system architecture and integrated with the Aegis combat system. Kongsberg has also conducted update and maintenance activities regularly since the class was introduced.

www.kongsberg.com
Excellent opportunities for Navantia

Interview with Gonzalo Mateo-Guerrero, Commercial Director Navantia

ESD: How many people do you employ at how many facilities and what major programmes are you currently working on?

Mateo-Guerrero: Navantia has at present more than 5,400 employees distributed in different locations in Spain and Australia. Navantia’s engineering and production facilities are located in several coastal areas of Spain: Ría de Ferrol (with facilities in Ferrol and Fene), Bay of Cadiz (with centres in Cadiz, Puerto Real and San Fernando) and in Cartagena. Navantia Australia has four centres throughout the country: Adelaide, Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne.

Navantia develops different lines of activity that are distributed in the different centres:
• Shipbuilding in Cartagena, Fene, Ferrol, Puerto Real and San Fernando;
• Ship repairs in Cartagena, Cádiz, Fene, Ferrol and San Fernando;
• Systems in Cartagena (Control Systems) and San Fernando (Combat Systems);
• Propulsion and Energy in Cartagena (Diesel Engines and Generators) and Ferrol (Gearboxes and Steam Turbines); and
• Through Life Support (TLS) which we undertake directly with the customer.

Navantia continues to work very closely with the Spanish Navy both in new build products (BAM, F-110) and in the TLS, Systems and Propulsion and Energy business areas.

Regarding the international naval market I would like to highlight the following programmes that we are currently developing: AWD, LHD and AOR in Australia, SCORPENE submarine in India, OPVs in Venezuela, corvette combat system modernisation in Indonesia, TLS of Norwegian frigates and transfer of technology (ToT) for the new Turkish LHD.

The most important opportunities in the naval field that Navantia is currently pursuing are the SEA 5000 in Australia, corvettes and OPVs in the Middle East, frigates and OPVs in South America, frigates in Canada and LHDs in India.

In the civil market, Navantia also enjoys the trust of its clients in both the domestic and international markets, for example: four Suezmax tankers for the Spanish Ibaizabal Group, and an offshore support vessel for the Mexican state-owned company Pemex are being built. And more recently Navantia has ventured into the offshore wind sector and has signed contracts for the construction of jackets and substations for different wind farms in different European countries.

ESD: There are 13 technology projects in several technology sectors associated with the F-110 programme for the Spanish Navy. Can you elaborate on those and the role of Navantia?

Mateo-Guerrero: Technological Projects are initiatives promoted by the Spanish Navy that allow incorporating the innovative character to the ship. They are essential in developing sensors (radars, electronic warfare, electro-optical systems, etc.), the combat system and the integrated mast of the future F-110 Frigate.

In this sense, one of the Technological Projects includes the development by Navantia of an evolved SCOMBA version that includes the operational integration of F-110 new development sensors. With this Technological Project Navantia, keeping the same line followed in previous constructions for the Spanish Navy, plays a key role ensuring the functional and physical integration of the combat system on board.

It is important to mention that Navantia, supported by Indra, will complete the design and construction of a Combat System Shore Integration Facility in one of the Technological Projects, which will include all the real systems developed in the remaining programmes.

ESD: According to an earlier statement of a Spanish Government official frigates based on the F-110 design could replace about 65 frigates and corvettes on the international market until 2035. Do you share this opinion and, if so, which are the markets to be addressed?

Mateo-Guerrero: The demand in the international market in this segment, frigates and corvettes, for the next years is focused on products that could be adapted for blue and littoral water operation with a multi-mission capability, that provides enough flexibility to support from low intensity to medium-high intensity scenarios. From the combat system perspective, a combat suit covering all warfare areas including AAW area defence, complete ASW sensor suite, land attack missile capability, electronic warfare operations and asymmetric defence is a key requirement. Furthermore, another relevant requirement will be low operating costs.

The new F-110 frigate for the Spanish Navy is designed according to these needs and will therefore be an excellent candidate for future programmes in the international market.

Navantia has the clear objective to increase its presence in the international market and the F-110 project is an excellent opportunity to achieve this objective.
Industry & Trade

FLIR acquires Prox Dynamics

(gwh) FLIR Systems has acquired the Norwegian Prox Dynamics AS, the developer and manufacturer of nano-class unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for military and para-military intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance applications, for approximately €125 million in cash. Prox Dynamics develops, manufactures, and distributes aerial sensors that are revolutionarily small, light, and covert surveillance systems like the Black Hornet, a system that is pocket sized and hand-launched by a soldier in the field. The Black Hornet aerial sensor utilises among others FLIR’s Lepton micro thermal camera. The addition of the Prox Dynamics business will augment FLIR’s Surveillance segment by extending FLIR’s Airborne sensor product line and fully leveraging Lepton technology. The business will become FLIR’s Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) line of business operating within the Surveillance segment.

www.flir.com
www.proxdynamics.com

Dov Sella becomes new CEO of Rada Electronic Industries

(df) RADA Electronic Industries has announced the appointment of Dov Sella as the company’s new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Sella will be replacing Zvi Alon, who decided to step down, following ten years as CEO. Sella joined RADA in January 2003 and has served as COO between April 2003 and July 2007, at which point he was appointed the company’s Chief Business Development Officer. Prior to RADA, between 1982 and 1997, Sella worked at Israel’s largest publicly traded defence company, Elbit Systems, where he worked in a number of managerial roles including Director of Programs, Director of Avionic Engineering and Director of Business Development. Between 1997 and 2000, he served as VP of Business Development and VP of R&D of a medical devices start-up, UltraGuide Ltd. The three years prior to joining RADA, Sella was the president of NeuroVision Inc., a medical technology start-up.

www.rada.com

New central management for Thales Deutschland

(df) Two changes took place in the central management of Thales Deutschland: Oliver Dörre became new Vice President Sales & Marketing and Elke Vollrath new Director Political Affairs.

As the new Vice President Sales & Marketing with responsibility for sales and marketing activities of Thales Deutschland and for key account management, Oliver Dörre succeeds Thomas Vorwerk who left the company. Dörre reports to Dr. Christoph Hoppe, the chairman of Thales Deutschland. Prior to joining Thales the graduate computer scientist from the Military University in Munich worked for the Frequentis AG, where he held various management positions since 2010. As Defense Business Unit Manager he has been responsible for international military sales, project and product management.

Elke Vollrath initially worked as administrative clerk in the office of the Federal Chancellery (chancellor’s office) in Bonn. She studied law in Bonn and Berlin and then worked as office administrator and member of the scientific staff for several members of the German parliament. In addition to office administration, her work focused on content support for the parliamentary activities of the respective members of parliament.

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