New Black Widow 8x8 Unveiled at the Bangkok Show

BANGKOK: Following the success of Chaiseri in exporting a vehicle design and collaboration with an ASEAN country, Thailand's defence ministry has unveiled the updated Black Widow 8x8 armoured combat vehicle prototype at the Defense & Security 2015 exhibition. The vehicle was designed and developed by the Defence Technology Institute (DTI) in collaboration with the National Metal and Materials Technology Centre (MTEC). The amphibious vehicle is armed with a 30mm remote control weapons station (RCWS) and can accommodate 12 troops in full combat gear.

The vehicle has been designed by DTI, the Thai ministry of defence's research and development agency over the past several years and currently undergoing advanced development in a programme featuring collaboration across Thailand's land-based defence industry base.

DTI was set up to develop Thailand's defence technology capability and to help build the local defence industry; the Black Widow Spider represents its first major military vehicle programme. A prototype of the vehicle was first displayed at the



same Defense & Security exhibition and conference two years ago. The vehicle has been designed to provide protected firepower and extreme mobility in reconnaissance, command and control and fire support roles with an armoured hull which is in compliance with NATO's STANAG standards.

Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen Prawit Wongsuwon, his deputy Gen Udomdej Sitabutr, defence permanent secretary Gen Preecha Jan-O- Cha and leaders of three armed forces has been updated on the vehicle programme during the Defense & Security 2015 show.

On another matter, Gen Prawit said that he had receives assurances from his Ukrainian counterpart Stepan Poltorak about ongoing bilateral defence cooperation. He also said Ukraine would deliver five Oplot battle tanks to the army at the end of this year and a batch of 40 BTR armed personnel carriers early next years as scheduled.

Defense & Security 2015: A High Impact Showcase

This year's Bangkok Show is a spectacular success with record-breaking number of visitors which consist of the region's military top brass and high-ranking defence officials that made their big presence, and not forgetting the members of the business community. This is despite the fact that the show was held at almost the same time with another big event in the region, which are the ADMM and ADMM Plus meetings. Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen Prawit Wongsuwon however, was on hand at the show despite his busy schedule where he flew to meet his continued on page 10

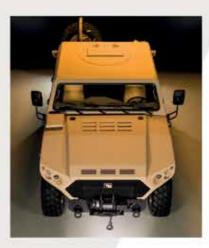


AJBAN 440A

The AJBAN 440A is a protected patrol 4x4 vehicle with a four man cabin armoured against IED, blast and ballistic threats. Fitted for mission communications and self-defence with a roof mounted weapon. Visit our stand to learn more.



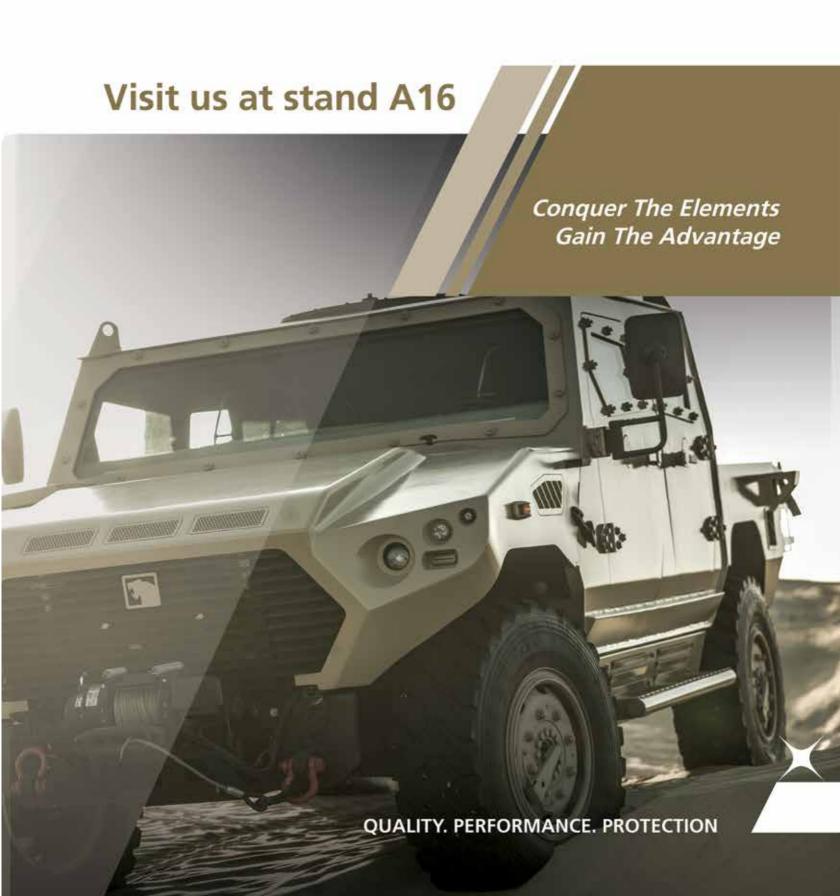




www.nimr.ae







F-16V Maiden Flight



Lockheed Martin successfully completed the maiden flight of the F-16V, the latest and most advanced F-16 on the market today. The October 16 flight marks the first time an F-16 has flown with Northrop Grumman's advanced APG-83 Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) Scalable Agile Beam Radar (SABR), which will deliver a quantum leap in capability for the venerable F-16.

The F-16V "Viper" advanced avionics configuration also includes a new cockpit Centre Pedestal Display, a modernised mission computer, a high-capacity Ethernet data bus, and several other mission systems enhancements that collectively add significant combat capabilities to address the dynamic threat environments emerging in the coming decades.

"This flight marks a historic milestone in the evolution of the F-16," said Rod McLean, vice president and general manager of Lockheed Martin's F-16/F-22 Integrated Fighter Group. "The new F-16V configuration includes numerous enhancements designed to keep the F-16 at the forefront of international security, strengthening its position as the world's foremost combat-proven fourth generation fighter aircraft."

The F-16V, an option for both new production F-16s and F-16 upgrades, is the next generation configuration that leverages a common worldwide sustainment infrastructure and provides significant capability improvements to the world's most affordable, combat-proven multi-role fighter.

Defense & Security 2015 ADJ Today Team

Editorial Team: M Ghazemy Mahmud, Kelvin Fong, Adlinna Abdul Alim, Mohd Daim, Irman Moad, H B Warimann

Production Team: William Chan, Mohd Rezualirwan, Zati Hazirah Abd Rahim

Circulation Team: Ila Ashrap, Haini Aisyah Ghani

Chairman: Tunku Dato' Ya'acob

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief: Dato' Syed Hussain

Executive Publisher: Syed Mohd Fazilla

Associate Publisher: Hans Keller

Editorial Adviser: Adm (retd) Tan Sri Abu Bakar-RMN

Published daily at **Defense & Security 2015** by **SHP Media Sdn Bhd** which is solely responsible for its editorial contents. Copyright by **SHP Media Sdn Bhd**, publisher of **Asian Defence Journal**, 1203, 12th Floor, Block E, Phileo Damansara 1, No 9, Jalan 16/11, Petaling Jaya, MALAYSIA.

No part of *ADJ's* **Defense & Security 2015** *Today* may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means–electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise–without the prior written permission of the publisher. For the duration of the Defense & Security 2015 exhibition, *ADJ's* **Defense & Security 2015** *Today* office at Q13.

Northrop Grumman's APG-83 SABR AESA fire control radar provides fifth generation air-to-air and air-to-ground radar capability. Northrop Grumman also provides AESA radars for the F-22 Raptor and F-35 Lightning II.•

Thales Pushing Forward ForceSHIELD

by Adlinna Abdul Alim

Defence and aerospace giant, Thales made its rounds at the Bangkok show, putting forward its ForceSHIELD air defence system to the fore. Thales Business Development Director, Mick Oliver gave the plus side of the system, and why it is important for the regional militaries' air defence capability.

According to Oliver, due to the complex situation at operational theatres, warfighters and decision makers are often faced with complex situations. However, Thales' understanding of the Critical Decision Chain underpins all innovations and technological development helps militaries to optimise their defence assets, but enable them to make decision fast.

Thales ForceSHIELD advanced air defence system just fulfils this need. "We



continued on page 10



A MEETING OF MINDS

Saab is committed to long-term engagement in Thailand. That's why we partner with local company AVIA Satcom, a leading developer of defence products.

Our products and solutions work seamlessly together to provide true network-centric defence capabilities.



ร่วม

ใจ

Saab มุ่งมั่นในการมีส่วนร่วมในระยะยาวในประเทศไทย นี่คือเหตุผลที่ เราจับมืออกับ Avia Satcom บริษัทในประเทศไทยซึ่งเป็นผู้นำด้านการ พัฒนาผลิตภัณฑ์ด้านการปกป้องดูแลประเทศ

ผลิตภัณฑ์และโซลูชันของเราทำงานร่วมกันได้อย่างราบรื่นเพื่อนำเสนอความ สามารถในการปกป้องดูแลประเทศซึ่งมีศูนย์กลางอยู่ที่เครือข่ายอย่างแท้จริง

👂 เยี่ยมชมเราได้ที่ HALL 8, E1-E8, F1-F8



A Brief Chat with **Dan Enstedt**, President & CEO, Saab Asia-Pacific



ADJ Today: What is Saab's view on the Asian defence and security market?

Enstedt: The Asia-Pacific market is growing with many of the countries in this region doing well economically. This drives most of the countries here to modernise their defence forces. We have offices in seven capital cities in the region and have chosen Thailand to be the headquarters of the Asia-Pacific region. Bangkok is the most suitable because of its central location and the country's importance to Saab.

ADJ Today: What made the Gripen the aircraft of choice for the Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) and what has been the experience so far?

Enstedt: We are very proud of the Gripen. This year it was displayed at the Royal Thai Armed Forces Day, both on ground and in its natural habitat, the air, Any country planning to buy new aircraft or modernise its air force naturally turns towards the Gripen as it is an aircraft with truly multi-role capability and it is very economical to operate over a long term. Especially when seen in light of bigger and twin-engined competitiors. International studies have also supported us. In an international research organisation's study of six aircraft most preferred by the air forces around the world, they found very conclusively that the cost per flight hour of the Swedish Gripen was the lowest at \$4,700.

Gripen is a highly agile true swing role/ multi-role supersonic fighter, which embodies state-of-the-art sensors, data link, sensor fusion and mission computation, giving pilots unrivalled situational awareness in a modern network-centric warfare environment. Combined with the ability to carry and operate a wide range of precision weapons, means that the Gripen has an advantage over most other fighters used today. We are very happy to have received positive feedback from the RTAF, which operates the Gripen fighters at Surat Thani Air Force Base.

ADJ Today: What are the key features of the RTAF air defence system?

Enstedt: Sweden has always been a self-dependent nation, and therefore it has developed its technology to ensure that customers like Thailand will benefit from such technology. Thailand is all set to become self-dependent too and can use the transfer of technology to build its own defence

HTMS Chakri Naruebet.

A a a d d fe ra a A O O T



indigenously and in later times export such capability too. This includes the Gripen weapon system which Saab has committed to Thailand. Saab is transferring over 100 man-years of advanced aerospace technologies to Thailand.

As part of its modernisation process, the RTAF has procured the Gripen and AEW&C aircraft. They have also developed a dedicated and secure Thai Data Link system, thereby allowing the RTAF to be in total control of their data link network at all times. Naval assets have been integrated into the system so that both the Navy and the Air Force are privy to the same information and have the same situational awareness.

ADJ Today: Can you throw light on your partnership with AVIA Satcom?

Enstedt: Saab has been working with AVIA Satcom for more than five years with a view to making the Thai company self-dependent for the future of the Thai defence system. A large part of our collaboration has been to build naval engineering and project management capabilities at AVIA. This partnership saw AVIA launch its own product last year which was the AVIA TIRA Combat Management System. With

this launch, the Gripen and the SAAB 340 AEW aircraft connected successfully with HTMS Chakri Naruebet over data links and shared radar and other information. This is a significant launch, and we hope the Royal Thai Navy will take the opportunity to make use of this resource and develop it to its full potential. Saab and AVIA will be here to assist.

ASEAN Joint Declaration Cancelled as China-US Lock Horns at ADMM Plus Meeting



KUALA LUMPUR: The planned joint declaration signing between defence chiefs at the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) has been scrapped. Malaysia's Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said a consensus could not be reached among the participating nations, but did not elaborate further. He said ASEAN had decided not to come up with the joint declaration, adding that there were other avenues to address issues of contention. Thailand Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen Prawit Wongsuwon were

among the regional defence ministers who attended both meetings. It was reported that the joint declaration was cancelled after the Chinese delegation lobbied to block mention the republic's claim in the South China Sea. Unnamed United States officials were quoted as saying that it would be better to make no joint statement at all rather than issue that omitted mention of the contentious South China Sea issue. The signing of the joint declaration was listed to be held yesterday in the official programme, but has been taken off the schedule released by the

Defence Ministry secretariat. No reason was given for the cancellation. The ADMM is a gathering of the defence ministers from the ten ASEAN nations. The ADMM-Plus sees the ASEAN ministers being joined by the defence chiefs of the bloc's eight dialogue partners – Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia, and the US. The long simmering dispute over the South China Sea sees some ASEAN members (Brunei, the Philippines, and Vietnam), China and Taiwan claim overlapping areas in the sea.

NIMR Launch Elite Class of Military Vehicles

UAE-based military vehicle manufacturer NIMR recently announced a new phase in the company's growth and development plans with the launch of its combat-proven military vehicles into the Asian market. NIMR is a subsidiary of Emirates Defence Industries Company, EDIC, UAE's integrated defence manufacturing and services platform.

NIMR is offering three elite classes of ultra-capable tactical and utility military vehicles, the Ajban, Hafeet and N35, which are purpose-built with design flexibility to address a diverse range of payloads and mission requirements. The 4x4 and 6x6 variants are battle-tested, demonstrating superior durability in even the harshest and most rugged of environments. Both variants are available in armoured or non-armoured configurations, with modular

configurable crew capacity and payload, where protection and mobility is the focus of design.

"NIMR's expansion of our sales footprint into Asia is a new exciting chapter in our history, our modular vehicles are perfectly suited to the challenging terrain and environment in the region and will provide armed forces across the region with a leading-edge in capabilities to handle a wide range of mission requirements." said NIMR chief executive officer Dr Fahad Saif Harhara.

He said NIMR's multi-purpose vehicles have an extensive array of applications ranging from tactical missions in harsh, arid environments to modern urban warfare, deep infiltration missions, reconnaissance, border surveillance, support logistics and riot control. NIMR vehicles can be

employed in different situational scenarios, including as armament carriers, logistics vehicles, ambulances, or as mobile Command and Control Centres.

NIMR also provides full lifecycle management, including Integrated Logistic Support, maintenance, repair, technical support and spares capability to manage the entire fleet and variants deployed in territory.

In September this year, NIMR launched a new design in the N35 Class, a Multi-Role Protected Vehicle in 4x4 and 6x6 variants, preceding the February 2015 launch of an open-top 4x4 reconnaissance vehicle, the Ajban Special Operations Vehicle (SOV). Here at Defense & Security 2015 exhibition, the Ajban Internal Security Vehicle (ISV) made its debut along with non-lethal equipment attached, the Sonic Weapon.













continued from page 4

believe we will be able to offer the suitable solution for the future," said Oliver. "We provide our customers a scalable solution where they can choose an entry level system, and later build up to a sophisticated system. This is the key power that the ForceSHIELD offers," he added. The very short range air defence (VSHORAD) system could cover up to 7 km of range. The system works either at fixed sites or on highly mobile platforms.

The Royal Thai Army like the British Army has an entry-level system which is completely scalable around the ForceSHIELD architecture, said Oliver.

"It is really a sophisticated solution."

The ForceSHIELD solution comes as a number of different components of sensors, effectors, and communication systems. STARSTREAK is a member of the SHIELD family. Apart from that, other components include RAPIDRanger and RAPIDRover mobile fire units, LML field deployable fixed firing units, CM200 integrated radar & C2, and Local weapon coordination from CONTROLView. Oliver said apart from Thailand, regional customers for the ForceSHIELD system are Indonesia and Malaysia.

Thales has been present in Thailand

since the early 1990s and opened its first representative office in Bangkok in 2005. Thales Thailand has numerous programmes and achievements to its name, both in the civil and defence sector.

In addition to being a long-term provider of defence systems serving the Royal Thai Army and Royal Thai Navy, Thales has delivered sophisticated Air Traffic Management Systems supporting the network of Thai airports and equipping air traffic controllers with the latest technology that keep the skies safe•

continued from page 1

counterparts. The Third ADMM-Plus, apart from the ADMM is an important biennial platform for dialogue partners to engage with ASEAN member nations on global, as well as regional security and defence issues.

Even as this piece is bring written, Gen Prawit is in talks with Dr Ashton Carter, US Secretary of Defence at the ADMM-;Plus meeting. However, the Thai defence ministry, under his leadership, was steadfast in the staging of this largest defence and security show in Thailand.

This success of the show also could not be achieved without the effort and support from Thailand's Ministry of Defence, the Royal Thai Armed Forces, various government bodies and law enforcement agencies, and last, but not least, the organisers, GML Exhibition (Thailand) Co Ltd.

Heartfelt Gratitude

Managing Director, GML Exhibition, M Gandhi said Defense & Security offers unmatched networking opportunities and partnerships, at all levels, both big and small. "Since our last exhibition in 2013,

the show has expanded more than 30%, with greater emphasis been placed on networking and business opportunities," he said.

The 2015 event is hosting military officers and security personnel in addition to over 100 official delegations that include the ministers of defence, all the other representatives from Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

Over 60 nations participated at and over 20,000sqm of exhibition space have been taken at IMPACT Exhibition and Conference Centre. More than 340 defence and internal security-related companies are represented. Major exhibitors include some of the world's leading military manufacturers from all the three services—land, sea and air, plus internal security. Many of the exhibiting companies are returning exhibitors for the third, or the fourth time, and some have supported the show from the beginning, back in 2003.

This is a testament of the show's positive result for all parties.

"On behalf of GML Exhibition (Thailand) Co Ltd, the organisers for Defense & Security, I extend our deepest appreciation to the Thai Ministry of Defence, the Royal Thai Armed Forces, military organising committee, delegations, ambassadors, exhibitors, and all who have given their generous support and expertise to help us achieve this success," said M Gandhi.

"I would also like to give my personal gratitude to the hardworking staff of the Ministry of Defence and GML Exhibition (Thailand), and the representatives from ASEAN who were here to make the event successful."

A big round applause should also be directed to all the authorities involved in the show and the organisers' supporting personnel. Asian Defence Journal would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to everyone who has made this show a simply impactful exhibition. And, as always, although there will always be small snags here and there, we will always be on our guard to improve ourselves better in the future.



Thank you to all Defense & Security 2015 advertisers, exhibitors and visitors! We hope to see you again at Singapore Airshow 2016 and DSA 2016.





THE ONLY OFFICIAL SHOW DAILY

Seen and Read by Decision-Makers at the Show



Material deadline: 14 APRIL 2016

To advertise, please contact: Hans Keller keller@shpmedia.com



www.shpmedia.com





and personnel to places other aircraft can't go. And with more than 1.3 million proven flight hours, there's a reason operators around the world still say, "The question isn't what can a Herc do; it's what can't a Herc do." The new C-130J: The best choice for the Royal Thai Armed Forces.

Learn more at lockheedmartin.com/c130j

LOCKHEED MARTIN