



ALL LMS FROM CHINA

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...See page 3



NGPC DELIVERIES BY DEC '19

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...See page 3

LEONARDO BAGS HELO ORDER

Malaysian rotorcraft operator Weststar Aviation Services, placed orders for three AW169 and two AW139 helicopters valued at around 50 million euros marking one of the first major orders at the show. ...See page 3

EXCLUSIVE

SCRIPTING A SUCCESS STORY



Turkey, which has the largest country pavilion at LIMA, has inked numerous agreements at the show and considers them as a stepping stone for future business. "We are looking to have a strong presence here in Malaysia and have a partnership model here," says **Dr Ismail Demir, President of Defence Industries** of Turkey in an exclusive chat with **Jay Menon** and **Atul Chandra** of **Daily News**.

...See page 4



Turkey is making a strong push for defence exports to Malaysia under the stewardship of Her Excellency **Dr. Merve KAVAKCI, Ambassador of Turkey to Malaysia**. Dr. KAVAKCI, a political appointee by Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, particularly to take the collaboration between Ankara and Kuala Lumpur to the next level, says, "We want to embrace Malaysia as an equal partner to create win-win situations."

...See page 5



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NEW GEN PATROL CRAFT DELIVERIES BY END 2019

Malaysian shipyard Destini Shipbuilding will complete deliveries of a 2016 order for six 44.25 m New Generation Patrol Crafts to the Malaysian maritime agency by the end of this year. German shipbuilder FASSMER Defence is providing the design license agreement for the manufacture of the advanced patrol crafts in Malaysia and Destini Shipbuilding has already delivered three vessels to the Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA).

The first vessel KM Bagan Datuk was commissioned in March 2017 and the vessels undertake missions such as search and rescue, firefighting, fishery protection, law enforcement, disaster relief, training, pollution control and EEZ (Economic Exclusion Zone) duties.

Each NGPC has a range of 2,000 nautical miles and is capable of speeds up to 24 knots. The vessel is armed with an Aselsan 30mm remote controlled naval gun and a Thales UAV.



German Shipyard FASSMER Defence won THE contract to provide the engineering and material support packages for six NGPCs for the MMEA. FASSMER has grown rapidly and did not export maritime products until a decade ago. Over the last 50 years, the company has designed 50 different patrol vessels. The company is also showcasing a new patrol vessel called the 'Flex Patrol Vessel' for the 1st time at the ongoing LIMA. The new vessel entered the market in 2018 and is now available for export. ■



All LMS To Be Made in China

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Malaysia has now decided to build all four Littoral Mission Ships (LMSs) in China revising an earlier contract to build two at home. As part of the revision, Malaysian shipbuilder Boustead Naval Shipyard (BNS) will no longer build two of the vessels for the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) as originally negotiated for in 2017.

The contract price has also been revised from MYR1.17 billion (USD286.1 million) to MYR1.05 billion, said a senior official at the Boustead Heavy Industries Corporation (BHIC). The LMS is a new class that will

join the RMN Fleet under the 15 to 5 Fleet Transformation Program. In April 2017, in a first ever naval ship deal with China, the then Malaysian government signed a contract for four LMSs with China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC).

The keel for the first vessel was laid down by China's Wuchang Shipbuilding in October 2018, while steel for the second-of-class was cut on the same day.

The first ship is expected to be delivered to the RMN on Dec 31, 2019 and the second ship on March 31, 2020 as planned. ■



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LEONARDO BAGS HELO ORDER

Malaysian rotorcraft operator Weststar Aviation Services placed orders for three AW169 and two AW139 helicopters valued at around 50 million euros marking one of the first major orders at the show.

The new order adds to Leonardo's rotorcraft successes in Malaysia, where it now has delivered over 60 helicopters. The new helicopters will be used for Weststar's operations in West Africa and the Middle East. Weststar Aviation Services operates a total of 33 AW139, AW169 and AW189 helicopters out of its bases in Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia. ■



BOOSTING EXPORTS OUR MAIN TASK

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Turkey, which has the largest country pavilion at LIMA, has inked numerous agreements at the show and considers them as a stepping stone for future business.

“WE ARE LOOKING TO HAVE A STRONG PRESENCE HERE IN MALAYSIA AND HAVE A PARTNERSHIP MODEL HERE. WE HAVE OBSERVED SERIOUS INTENTION HERE FROM THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS THE COMPANIES THAT THEY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING SERIOUSLY TO MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER,” says Dr İsmail DEMİR, President of Defence Industries of Turkey in an exclusive chat with Jay Menon and Atul Chandra of Daily News, on the sidelines of the ongoing LIMA.

On Growth of Turkish Defence Industry

The Turkish defence industry structure is based on a different approach. This means that the defence industry, management is given to our authority ‘Presidency of Defence Industries’, where we oversee developing the entire defence industrial

base, private sector as well as government sector companies and improving the export opportunities is one of the duties given to us by law.

This structure has been very supportive for the growth of our defence industries and has been supported by our Government for a long time, which has been a driver for our growth in the defence sector.

On Effort to Boost Exports

As part of the effort to boost our exports we look to participate and have a strong show presence at different defence exhibitions worldwide. Turkey was earlier not well known as an exporter of defence equipment. Today with our current developments and technological capabilities and products that we have developed for our armed forces, we believe that we are now a strong contender in the global defence market for defence products.

One of the important target regions for us in terms of defence exports is South East Asia. Therefore, we are showcasing our products here in Malaysia with whom we have very good friendly relations. In fact, we have very good relations with several countries in the region. We are very aware of the aspirations of countries in the region to achieve technological excellence in the defence industry.

Our’s is not Just a Buyer Seller Relationship

We have had many LOA’s, MoU’s and agreements signed at LIMA 2019. This is very important for us. In this field, you may not expect to come to some exhibitions and make a big sale. It is a stage by stage process and hence we consider these agreements as stepping stones to future business.

We are looking to have a strong presence here in Malaysia and have a partnership model here. We have observed serious intention here from the Malaysian Government, as well as the companies that they have been considering to seriously move forward together. We have signed more than 10 different protocols, MOU’s and agreements and we will follow the next steps for each of these agreements. We want to follow up and overcome any obstacles that may emerge.

Importance of Self Reliance

I use the term ‘developing technology together’ based on your current level and both partners try to use their advantages to increase their capability and grow to the next level together. We have a long experience of being a consumer of defence products imported from abroad and we are aware of the handicaps and difficulties that come with these products, where we must depend on others not only in the short term but also for the long term. There is a very high material cost and human resource cost associated with such programmes. Hence in this region, we are offering the benefits of the experience that we have been through ourselves and in our products, we are removing those negative experiences, that we have gone through and that some of our friends in the region have gone through.

On IDEF 2019

The International Defence Industry Fair, which begins on April 30th is a very important to us for two reasons; It is a showcase of Turkish defence industry at home. While we are going around the world to showcase our defence technologies, only our larger companies can afford to attend these shows. So, at IDEF, our smaller companies and SME’s get an opportunity to showcase their capabilities. The other part is that the other companies from around the world come to Turkey to see what we have and so it becomes a breeding ground for future opportunities, as we are also open to share our activities and have joint activities in Turkey. ■

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CREATING A WIN-WIN SITUATION

Turkey is making a strong push for defence exports to Malaysia under the stewardship of Her Excellency Dr. Merve KAVAKCI, Ambassador of Turkey to Malaysia. Dr. KAVAKCI, a political appointee by Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, particularly to take the collaboration between Ankara and Kuala Lumpur to the next level, says,

"WE WANT TO EMBRACE MALAYSIA AS AN EQUAL PARTNER TO CREATE WIN-WIN SITUATIONS AND HELP IN ANY WAY WE CAN FROM OUR OWN EXPERIENCE."

Turkey stands out as a country that has jumped out in the last decade and a half, with its achievements in the defence industry, has come to a level to be able to produce 5th generation defence platforms, in addition to other countries such as Russia and China.

Perfect Ally

We have been able to hone our skills and develop the necessary knowledge to develop 5th generation war equipment. Of course, our achievements have not gone unnoticed by Malaysia and indeed, almost every other country on the globe. With this now, we are extending a friendly hand to Malaysia, for the 1st time in defence industry history, to go beyond purchase and sale of defence equipment and technology but rather produce and transfer technology together.

This will help create jobs for both sides in order to assist Malaysia and receive



Strategic Partners

Firstly, we are both regional powers, though geographically, we are far from one another. Strategically, we are important not only in our respective regions but also in the globe. Politically, we are two countries with leaderships who do not bend down, when they face challenges in the international community and who persevere to stand for the truth and the underdogs, those who are disenfranchised and victimised. Economically, these are two countries that are their own success stories, specifically during Tun Mahathir's 1st term in the 1980's to the millennium and under President Erdogan, from the start of the new millennium until now. So, in here, there is a similarity.

assistance from Malaysia, to produce "Our Own", "Indigenous", "Homemade" defence industry. We want to embrace Malaysia as an equal partner to create win-win situations and help in any way we can from our own experience, so far proven; to have Malaysia have the capability to write its own success story as far as 100 percent 'Made in Malaysia' is concerned. Because, we want, what we want for ourselves for our brothers and sisters in Malaysia.

We have done it ourselves and brought it up to 77 percent indigenous defence equipment in 15 years, which is a very short span of time, when it comes to the larger scheme of things, for an industry like defence. ■

TURKISH 5TH GEN FIGHTER ON TRACK

Turkey is continuing with its ambitious programme to develop a 5th generation fighter aircraft. The new development effort marks a major leap for Turkey, which till now has license produced fighter aircraft to meet the needs of its air force.

A model of the 5th generation aircraft called Turkish Fighter (TF) is on display at the ongoing airshow. Turkish Aerospace has been tasked with developing the new aircraft, which is seen as critical to Turkish ambitions to emerge as a major player in the defence arena in the coming decades.

The TF will carry its weapons in an internal weapons bay and will feature new generation weapons, developed by Turkish companies such as Roketsan. Specifications that have been released peg the performance ceiling for the TF at 55,000 feet and a climb rate (at sea level) of 60,000 fpm.

The aircraft will have a max payload of 10 tonne. Powered by two engines delivering 25,000 lbs of thrust, the TF will have a combat radius in excess of 500 NM with 4XBVR + 2WVR missiles and internal fuel. ■

CHINA PAVILION ATTRACTS KEEN INTEREST

Chinese defence companies are attracting the attention of Malaysian authorities at the ongoing 15th Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition. Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad visited the Chinese Pavilion and the display area for several of the Chinese participating companies. Among those representing this year are China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC), China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation (CATIC), China Shipbuilding & Offshore International Co., Ltd. (CSOC) and China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation (CSIC). According to Xinhua news agency, Deputy director of CSOC military trade department Ren Pengfei briefed Mahathir as he looked at the company's products including surface vessels, submarine products and torpedoes.

Ren told the media that he also had briefed Mahathir on the on-going Littoral Mission Ship (LMS) project, of which four are being built for the Malaysian Navy, with the first set to launch on April 15, with the remainder scheduled for 2020 and 2021. The LMS is a class of large patrol vessel with a length of 69 meters and displacing 780 tons for patrol, anti-terrorism, rescue and protection of fishery activities. The contract was signed in 2017 as the first large military equipment order between China and Malaysia, Xinhua reported. Under the contract, China will design and build four LMS for the Malaysian Navy. The building of the second LMS for Malaysia started in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, last October.

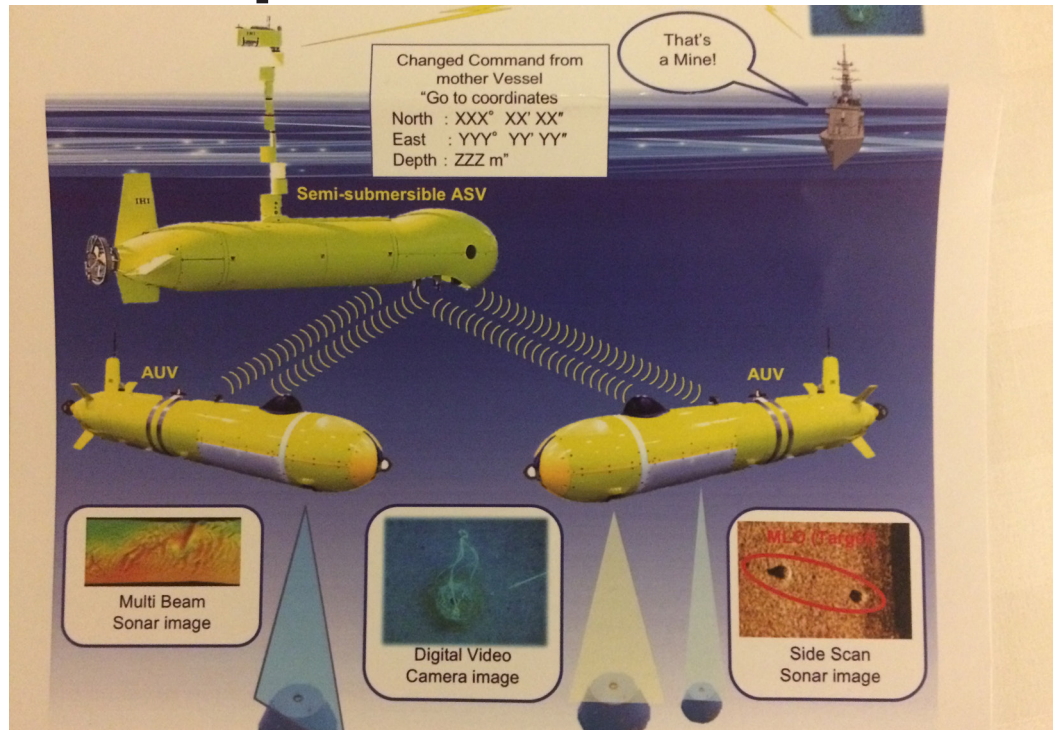
"Then we introduced him about some other products such as the mrss (multi role support ship) and also the frigate, corvettes and patrol vessels, not only for the Malaysian navy, also for the Malaysian maritime enforcement agency and also we introduced him about some torpedoes, underwater weapons and civilian equipment for the armed forces," said Ren.

Mahathir also took time to view a barrage anti-missile system, an area defense system combining a multiple rocket launch system with an integrated optical electronic tracking system offered by CSIC.

"There are many attractive things in the Chinese section of the exhibition," the Malaysian prime minister told a press conference. "Of course China has made great progress and we are looking at the Chinese products." Among the items on display are models of Long-Range Surveillance Radar and the Airborne Warning and Control System, both manufactured by CETC. Chengdu Aircraft Industry Group's Wing Loong II drone is also being displayed at the show. ■



Japanese IHI Wants to Export AUUVS



Japanese IHI Corporation (IHI) is looking for an export market for its Autonomous Underwater Vehicle System (AUUVS), that informs of the underwater situation in real time. Explaining the system, Tomoyuki Kuwata, President and Chief Executive officer told Daily News that various AUVs can acquire, process and classify data, including image, location and depth information, and send it classified as a mine-like object to the mother ship by way of a semi-submersible ASV.

"Essentially, the mother ship sends the command to the AUV to obtain information necessary for mine identification for a certain target area. AUV then observes

the target area in detail through an optical video camera, while keeping its position parallel to the tide, and then sends the optical image of the object to the mother ship by way of the semi-submersible ASV, allowing the mother ship to identify mines in the sea," Kuwata informs.

The Semi-submersible ASV can simultaneously control multiple AUV (maximum 4), so they are able to efficiently acquire underwater data for a wide area. The system, developed in 2013 is currently operational with the Japanese Navy and Coast Guard. "Now we are looking at export opportunities to countries in this region and beyond," he says. ■



ECA Showcases Innovative Ship Designs

ECA Group is showcasing its skills in integrating robotic systems aboard naval platforms with its range of mothership designs OCTOPODA. The French company is highlighting their OCTOPODA range--OCTOPODA 500 and OCTOPODA 300 at the ongoing LIMA2019.

To meet the increasing demand from navies and other professional maritime operators, ECA Group and MAURIC have combined their respective areas of expertise to develop innovative ship designs able to carry, deploy and recover drones systems, says a company official. The OCTOPODA 500 is an Offshore Patrol Vessel dedicated to the deployment of naval drones for surveillance and protection or MCM missions. It can integrate a Unmanned Maritime Integrated System (UMISTM) from ECA Group or any typical configuration of naval drones (UAV, USV, AUV). Ready to be built and based on a sea-proven hull form it has ideal seaworthiness by high sea state in cruising speed or for UxV launch and recovery, the official informs.

While the OCTOPODA 300 is a compact solution of patrol vessel dedicated to the deployment of unmanned vehicles and naval drones for surveillance and protection or even MCM missions. It can integrate a UMISTM system from ECA GROUP or any other light configuration of naval drones. Ready to be built in GRP or aluminium and based on sea-proven hull form it has ideal seaworthiness in cruising speed or for UxV

launch and recovery. In addition to supplying robotic systems, ECA Group offers a wide number of Systems & Equipment for both Submarines and Surface Ships. These range from platform management to command & control systems as well as propulsion & energy systems.

“UNDERWATER ACOUSTIC AND ELECTROMAGNETIC SIGNATURES EXPOSE NAVAL FORCES TO DETECTION, CLASSIFICATION AND LOCALIZATION THREATS. IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO HAVE A SIGNATURE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO REDUCE THOSE RISKS WHEN OPERATING IN POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS AREAS. ECA GROUP HAS DEVELOPED MODULAR RANGING SYSTEMS MEETING MCM AND ASW REQUIREMENTS. THESE SOLUTIONS INCLUDE MAGNETIC SIGNATURE REDUCTION SYSTEMS AND MULTI-INFLUENCE RANGES,” a company official says.

ECA Group is also showcasing its UMISTM - a turnkey solution for the use of air and naval drones such as AUVs, ROVs, UAVs and USVs as well as a comprehensive software suite UMISOFTTM. All ECA Group drones are optimized to successfully perform missions in areas of Mine Counter Measures, Homeland Security, Oceanography and Hydrography and are already used by several Navies. ■

Dassault Expands Falcon Presence in Malaysia

Dassault Aviation says it is acquiring ExecuJet's maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) business at Subang Airport to help reinforce its aftermarket support capability in Southeast Asia. ExecuJet Malaysia is part of ExecuJet's global MRO network, which Dassault agreed to purchase earlier this year. The network includes operations in Africa, Europe and the Middle East as well as the Asia Pacific region. The 64,000-square-foot Subang facility is the largest business aviation MRO in Malaysia and supports aircraft from several different manufacturers, based both within and outside the region. Following its acquisition by Dassault the facility is in the process of adding Falcons to its list of supported models.

“MALAYSIA IS AN IMPORTANT CENTER FOR BUSINESS AVIATION AND IS OUR LARGEST SOUTHEAST ASIAN MARKET. IT IS EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE FURTHER GROWTH,” says Dassault Aviation Asia Pacific President Jean-Michel Jacob. **“TO ANTICIPATE THIS GROWTH, DASSAULT AVIATION DECIDED IT WAS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A FACTORY-OWNED SERVICE CENTRE IN THE REGION.”** ■





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