

Lockheed Martin Delivers Tactical Hardware For MEADS Intra-Fire Unit Communications

ORLANDO, Fla., June 15, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) recently delivered the first intra-fire unit communications kit qualified for use with the tri-national [Medium Extended Air Defense System \(MEADS\)](#). This kit, also known as the [MEADS Internal Communications Subsystem \(MICS\)](#) Message Routing Subsystem, will support MEADS launcher integration, test and qualification.

MICS provides secure tactical communications between the MEADS sensors, launchers and tactical operations centers across a high-speed internet protocol network. With MICS, those MEADS elements can be tactically positioned for maximum lethality and survivability while maintaining clear, rapid and efficient communication.

MICS provides plug-and-fight technology for streamlined data exchange. Its self-forming network eliminates the need for a fixed network infrastructure, while its self-healing properties allow MEADS major end items to enter and exit the network without operator intervention.

"This delivery provides an unprecedented capability for the battlefield," said Rich Russell, director of Sensors, Data Links and Advanced Programs at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. "The MICS Message Routing Subsystem will increase combat readiness with reliable high-speed, secure data communications and interconnectivity for combat operations."

Lockheed Martin has successfully demonstrated the ability to provide internet protocol-based communications between widely dispersed sensors, launchers and tactical operations centers. This information sharing capability will play a significant role in future integrated air defense operations. Ground units equipped with the MICS technology can exchange command, control and status data over a secure network to maintain situational awareness and combat superiority.

MEADS was designed to meet the challenging new requirements not addressed by any previous or planned Air and Missile Defense system. MEADS provides greater firepower with less manpower than current systems, producing dramatic operation and support cost savings.

MEADS International, a multinational joint venture headquartered in Orlando, Fla., is the prime contractor for the MEADS system. Major subcontractors and joint venture partners are MBDA in Italy, LFK in Germany and Lockheed Martin in the United States.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., Lockheed Martin is a global security company that employs about 126,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services. The Corporation's 2010 sales from continuing operations were \$45.8 billion.

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