Lockheed Martin Awarded Desert Hawk 3 Contract From U.K. Ministry Of Defence

Desert Hawk named as a Core U.K. Equipment Programme; system achieves full operational capability

LONDON, Sept. 17, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- The U.K. Ministry of Defence has awarded Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) a contract to support the Desert Hawk 3 programme and establish the small unmanned aerial system (UAS) as a Core Defence Capability.

"Desert Hawk has served the U.K. military well in providing intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance to tactical warfighters," said Jay McConville, Lockheed Martin director of business development for Unmanned Solutions. "We look forward to continuing this record of success through the award of the Desert Hawk Core Support Programme, and we continue to enhance its capabilities based on user feedback. Desert Hawk's maturity and proven performance, as well as the enhanced capabilities now available, make it a crucial asset on the modern battlefield."

Desert Hawk 3 has flown more than 30,000 hours, mostly under austere conditions, to support critical mission needs such as enhanced situational awareness, security and counter-IED operations, threat detection, route reconnaissance and battle damage assessment.

Defence Minister Philip Dunne said: "Desert Hawk has proved its worth on operations inAfghanistan, providing our Armed Forces with vital intelligence and allowing our commanders to stay one step ahead of the enemy. We recognise that unmanned and remotely-piloted air systems are increasingly important in today's operational environment, and our protected Defence budget and £160 billion investment in equipment has allowed us to bring Desert Hawk into our core programme."

The battery-powered Desert Hawk 3 is designed for portability, ruggedness, rapid employment and reliability. The hand-launched system weighs only 8 lbs. (3.6 kg) and can fly for up to 90 minutes with a 2-lb. (0.91 kg) payload. Recently the U.K. Desert Hawk 3 was upgraded to a digital data link achieving Ministry of Defence Full Operational Capabilty on schedule.

Lockheed Martin recently upgraded Desert Hawk 3 to the Desert Hawk 3.1 configuration by providing simplified launch, deep stall landing, all-environment capability, longer endurance, updated sensor payloads and operation using Lockheed Martin's mobile ground control system. Desert Hawk 3.1 is a modification kit to a Desert Hawk 3 configuration.

With five decades of experience in unmanned and robotic systems for air, land and sea, Lockheed Martin's unmanned systems are engineered to help our military, civil and commercial customers accomplish their most difficult challenges today and in the future.

For additional information, visit our website: http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/products/desert-hawk.html.

About Lockheed Martin
Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 112,000 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 net sales for 2014 were $45.6 billion.

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