

Spanish Air Force to receive air-to-ground system Taurus

- SENER of Spain awards subcontract to Taurus Systems GmbH
- Spanish order for Taurus opens up further export opportunities

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TAURUS Systems GmbH (TSG) received the contract for series production of the Taurus missiles destined for the Spanish Armed Forces. The order has come from SENER, the Spanish company which in its capacity as prime contractor concluded the procurement contract with the Spanish Air Force in mid-September. The procurement contract covers 43 operational missiles, including mission planning and support to A/C integration. These air-to-ground missile systems are planned as armament for the Spanish F-18 and Eurofighter aircraft. The contract award was based on the decision taken by the Spanish Council of Ministers in June 2005 to procure Taurus KEPD 350 for the Spanish Air Force.

"The contract for the Spanish Air Force is of extreme economic and strategic importance for the Taurus programme and the guided missiles industry," said Stefan Zoller, CEO of the EADS Defence & Security Systems Division. "With its deployment on the Spanish F-18 and Eurofighter Typhoon, Taurus is establishing itself as a successful product in the market for modern standoff weapons."

"Being the first export customer, Spain is of enormous strategic importance to us because through the integration of Taurus KEPD 350 onto the Spanish F-18s chances open up for us to export the system to further user nations such as Finland and Canada. Furthermore, Spain will thus become Germany's partner in the task of integrating Taurus KEPD 350 onto Eurofighter," added Werner Kaltenecker, Head of the EADS/LFK Business Unit and Managing Director of LFK-Lenkflugkörpersysteme GmbH.

Dr. Wolfgang Blaschke, Managing Director of TAURUS Systems GmbH, commented on this, saying: "We are delighted to receiving the order for Taurus KEPD 350 from Spain and are proud to have earned the Spanish Airforce's trust with our cost-effective and technologically convincing product."

The Taurus KEPD 350 guided missile system is planned as armament for the German Tornados and later Eurofighter in its air-to-ground role. The system enables the precise engagement of high-value, stationary military point targets, thus enabling air forces to combat heavily defended targets without exposing their aircraft and crews to enemy air defences.

TAURUS Systems GmbH, with registered offices in Schrobenhausen, is a joint venture between EADS/LFK-Lenkflugkörpersysteme (two thirds) and SAAB Bofors Dynamics (one third) set up for the development, production and global marketing of Taurus precision standoff guided missile systems. EADS/LFK develops and manufactures guided missile systems and is an integrated part of the EADS Defence & Security Systems Division (DS).

EADS Defence & Security Systems, with revenues of about €5.4 billion in 2004 and roughly 23,000 employees across ten nations, forms the defence pole within EADS. It offers integrated systems solutions to the new challenges confronting armed forces and homeland security units. It is active in the areas of military aircraft, missile systems, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) systems with manned and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), battlefield management systems, defence electronics, sensors and avionics, and related services.

EADS is a global leader in aerospace, defence and related services. In 2004, EADS

generated revenues of €31.8 billion and employed a workforce of about 110,000.

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