



Armed Forces of Malta award contract for new maritime patrol aircraft



A historic aviation milestone today for the Armed Forces of Malta (AFM): the signing of the contract for the provision of a new maritime patrol aircraft, funded from the 2009 External Borders Fund (EBF).

This is the third contract signing utilising funding from the EU's EBF framework. The project is co-financed with 75% of the funds being sourced from the EBF and remaining 25% being allocated from the Maltese Government. The global sum allocated to this project was that of €9.696 million.

Amongst today's demanding challenges, those like blue border control are hard to keep up with. This required a major AFM aircraft fleet modernization so as to augment its current fixed wing fleet by enhancing its capabilities. Modern, cost effective and technology-based air capability is the main aim of this modernization, so assets can be effectively deployed on border control missions, often reaching beyond Maltese territorial seas and the contiguous zone.

The new AFM-operated aircraft will perform a major role in the protection of the Southern external borders of the EU, through missions which include detection, identification and coordination operations. The Maltese islands are at a critical location in the Mediterranean Sea to perform this role. In a secondary role, the aircraft will perform Search and Rescue (SAR) service in the Mediterranean Sea.

"Drawing up the technical specification for the project was not an easy task: compiling such a complex specification required quite a lot of lateral thinking," said Major Clinton O'Neill, Project Manager for the procurement of the AFM fixed wing maritime patrol aircraft.

A total of six international companies responded to the call for a competitive EU tender, all submitting their bids within the allocated timeframe. All bidders were European companies. Of the six bidders only two were found to be technical compliant to AFM requirements. One of the two, Aerodata AG, was selected to supply the AFM with a complete integrated system, training and the provision of a service and support package.

Aerodata has teamed up with Hawker Beechcraft Corporation as the provider of the fixed wing aircraft. Hawker Beechcraft is one of the leading aircraft manufacturing companies in what is categorised as 'Special Mission Aircraft'. Aerodata, as the prime contractor for this program, will handle the complete process chain to provide a fully equipped new KingAir B200 aircraft (+ one optional). The specialised mission system equipment, sourced from Europe and America, integrates a Telephonics RDR 1700B 360° belly mounted search radar, a Wescam MX 15i Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) system, SAR direction finder plus a number of other sensors and communication equipment. The mission system handles all sensors and selects data to be provided through a high speed INMARSAT data link

with a bandwidth of 128 kBit/s to the coordination center on the ground.

The development of the solution and the integration of these systems as offered by Aerodata clearly reflects their strength as experts in the aviation industry. Undoubtedly, through the new asset, the AFM will be at the forefront when participating in joint border control operations, and substantially enhance its contribution to the EU agency FRONTEX's activities.

As prime contractor, Aerodata will also design all modifications to the KingAir B200 aircraft to achieve an EASA STC. Furthermore, Aerodata will modify the aircraft at its facility at Braunschweig airport. As a supplement to the electronic equipment on the aircraft, bubble windows and a drop hatch will be fitted to achieve high performance for the SAR mission.

Recently, Aerodata has been approved as Service Center for all KingAir models by Hawker Beechcraft. Thus, Aerodata as a prime contractor is able to provide all aircraft and mission system warranty and maintenance work. In addition, Aerodata will provide training for pilots, aircraft mechanics and mission systems operators.

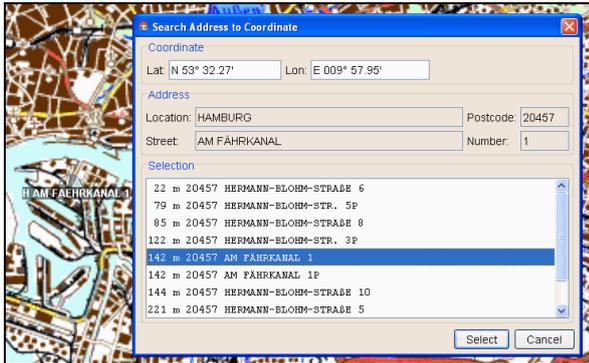
Delivery of Mission Systems for Police Helicopters completed

Aerodata has completed the delivery of 19 mission systems for German Federal Police under a contract of NAMSA (NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency). The contract – awarded in September 2007 – included also the development of STC's for the EC 135 and EC 155. Further, the mission systems can be installed into Super Puma helicopters without any modification. In the meantime, the mission systems are in full operation and have successfully contributed to German Federal Police missions.



Workstation installed in EC135

AeroMission – Aerodata's advanced mission system – integrates various sensors and systems on the helicopter, e.g. the electro-optical system and a video transmission system. The AeroMission capabilities have been optimized in close cooperation with German Federal Police. Features have been added to enable determination of street addresses through the intensive use of data bases.



Data Base Function of AeroMission

Full sensor control through the software of the mission system enables flexible planning and execution of police tactical missions.

Flight Inspection Aircraft and System Deliveries

Second KingAir B300 for FCS

In August Aerodata has delivered the second of two flight inspection aircraft B300 for the FCS, Flight Calibration Services, Germany.

Beside the integration of the fully automatic flight inspection system AeroFIS Aerodata has integrated a Cockpit Information Display (CID) in the factory new flight inspection aircraft Super KingAir 350.

The new CID minimizes the work load and provides more guidance information during flight inspection. Furthermore a GNLU, Collins Multimode receiver has been integrated for the calibration of GBAS ground stations. Besides full integration for flight inspection, GLS is available as navigation source in the cockpit. Thus, the pilot may fly and evaluate GLS approaches either manually or with autopilot. This is the first Beech King Air worldwide being able to fly GLS approaches!



AeroFIS installed in new Super King Air 350

New Flight Inspection Aircraft for Cobham

End of August Aerodata has delivered a new flight inspection aircraft for Cobham Flight Inspection, UK. Be-

side the primary modification of the aircraft including all the EU Ops 1 modifications as ELT, TCAS II, FDR, Radar altimeter and UNS 1 F and INS installation all flight inspection related modifications have been performed and the new flight inspection system AeroFIS has been installed.



Modification of Beech KingAir B300

New FIS Contracts

In an international tender process Aerodata AG was awarded a contract by Fuji Heavy Industries (FHI, Japan) for the delivery of one AeroFIS® including integration into a flight inspection aircraft Raytheon U125. The system, especially tailored to the needs of the Japanese Air Force (JASDF), will be installed together with FHI and replaces the old SDS Flight Inspection System.

As a result of another international tender process Aerodata AG was awarded a contract by Korean Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) for the delivery of one AeroFIS® including integration into a Bombardier Challenger 601-3R. The system will replace the old Litton Flight Inspection System.

After a competitive international tender process Aerodata AG was recently awarded a contract by the PT LEN Indonesia for the delivery of one new AeroFIS® including integration into a factory new Beechcraft KingAir B200GT for the Civil Aviation Authority (DGCA) of Indonesia.

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Exhibitions 2010

Singapore Air Show, Singapore, February 2-7, 2010.

FIDAE, Santiago de Chile, March 23-28, 2010.

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IQPC Coastal Surveillance Conference

Aerodata will exhibit at the IQPC Coastal Surveillance Conference at Amara Sanctuary Resort Hotel, Singapore from November 3-4, 2009.