

Boeing Australia to Provide Australia's First Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Capability

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Boeing Australia Limited has signed a contract to provide the Commonwealth of Australia its first Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (TUAV) capability under Joint Project (JP) 129.

Boeing Australia, with partner Israel Aircraft Industries' (IAI) MALAT Division, will deliver the I-View 250A TUAV and associated systems to the Australian Army, providing new airborne surveillance, reconnaissance and target acquisition capabilities.

Boeing Australia is the prime contractor and has responsibility for program management, systems engineering and technical management; and integrated logistics support. IAI will deliver the I-View 250A TUAV system.

Boeing Australia Managing Director David Withers said the company is looking forward to introducing a new capability into the Australian Defence Force (ADF) that will put it at the forefront of global TUAV technology.

"The I-View is the first of its type in Australia and one of the most advanced TUAVs in the world, and we are very proud to deliver both a new capability and a new platform to the Australian Defence Force," said Withers.

"The solution that we have developed will leverage Boeing Australia's ability to manage large-scale defence projects and the experience and global success of IAI's UAV family," he continued. "The JP 129 TUAV capability will become an integral part of Australia's network-centric defence framework."

Itzhak Nissan, president and chief executive officer of IAI, said, "IAI regards the ADF to be a most important and esteemed customer. We are proud that the ADF selected the I-View as its TUAV system.

"IAI/MALAT is proud to provide the ADF with a fourth-generation TUAV system based on our more than 30 years of extensive experience with UAV technology. I-View offers not only high performance and flexibility, but also future growth to support the ADF's operational needs."

The I-View 250A TUAV mission system will provide a new level of sophisticated reconnaissance and surveillance capability for the ADF. Its significant endurance and payload capabilities allow it to detect, identify and monitor targets at ranges up to 150 km from its launch site. Other notable features include catapult or conventional runway launch, fully automatic recovery via conventional or powered parafoil and data link equipment based on the U.S. Common Data Link standard to facilitate interoperability with allied forces.

Remote video terminals delivered as part of the mission system will allow all mounted or dismounted Army units to receive the images directly. These deployed units, communicating through radio relay capabilities onboard the TUAVs, will be able to direct the sensors to new areas of interest in near real-time, providing a vital edge to soldiers engaged in an increasingly complex and rapidly evolving battlespace.

IAI's MALAT Division is a world leader in developing and integrating UAV systems. IAI UAVs have accumulated, worldwide, more than 300,000 operational flight hours to date. IAI MALAT UAV systems are operated by 27 customers including the Israeli Defense Forces, U.S. Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Finnish Army, Swiss Army, French Air Force, Belgian Army and Indian Armed Forces.

Israel Aerospace Industries, Ltd., formerly known as Israel Aircraft Industries, is Israel's largest industrial exporter and a globally recognised leader for the defence and commercial markets with estimated sales of \$2.7 billion at the end of 2006. IAI provides unique and cost-effective technological solutions for a broad spectrum of needs in space, air, land, sea and homeland defence.

Boeing Australia Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary that reports to Boeing International Support Systems, is a high-technology aerospace company specialising in installation and support of systems for defense and commercial customers. Headquartered in Brisbane, Boeing Australia Limited has more than 2,000 employees in 15 locations around Australia.

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a \$30.8 billion business. It provides network-centric system solutions to its global military, government, and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems; the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer; the world's largest satellite manufacturer; a foremost developer of advanced concepts and technologies; a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; NASA's largest contractor; and a global leader in sustainment solutions and launch services.

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