

Rome, 9 June 2010

## **SELEX Sistemi Integrati wins Forza NEC contract worth EUR 238 million**

---

SELEX Sistemi Integrati, a Finmeccanica company, has signed a contract worth EUR 238 million with the Land Armaments General Directorate - Italian Ministry of Defence to supply the Italian armed forces with a digitised system known as Forza NEC (Network Enabled Capability).

The aim of the Forza NEC programme is to modernise the armed forces using technology that will make it possible to exchange the maximum amount of operational, tactical and logistical information from each vehicle or individual deployed in the field.

SELEX Sistemi Integrati signed the five-year contract in its role as main supplier, system integrator and lead company in the definition of the overall system architecture.

The programme will also involve other Finmeccanica companies such as SELEX Communications, SELEX Galileo, Elsag Datamat, Oto Melara, AgustaWestland and MBDA Italia. Other members of the industrial alliance include Elettronica, Iveco, Engineering Ingegneria Informatica, the Iveco-Oto Melara consortium and the temporary consortium Soldato Futuro.

The contract covers the manufacture and integration of command posts in shelters and vehicles, communication, command and control devices for soldiers (under the Soldato Futuro programme), unmanned vehicles equipped with sensors, and systems offering full interoperability between the Italian armed forces and the forces of other countries. A test laboratory consisting of numerous military centres connected in a network will also be constructed and delivered.

The Forza NEC project responds to the demand for a flexible military tool where each component is harmonised and which allows integration with allied forces across the full range of national, multinational, NATO and EU operations. Forza NEC enables the creation of network-centric armed forces capable of exchanging information, knowing the exact position of allied forces and identifying potential threats as they arise.

The adoption of Forza NEC will allow the Italian armed forces to increase their operational capacity by using cutting-edge technology that offers particular advantages for operations abroad.