

ADJ TODAY⁴



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ADJ

Enter the Hunter, the Multi-Domain Fast Response Frigate

Royal Australian Navy



The Hunter-class frigate built for Australia is a truly versatile and adaptable naval vessel in the face of unforeseeable and fast changing geopolitical crises.

BAE Systems Australia CEO Ben Hudson describes the ship as more than just a vessel, referring to it as a “submarine that floats” due to its stealth capabilities, which are pivotal in ensuring the vessel’s ability to engage, survive and triumph in the Asia Pacific region — where half the world’s submarines are predicted to operate by 2030.

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MBDA Seals Deal to Support PGZ-NAREW Air Defence Programme

MBDA has finalised an agreement with Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa S.A. (PGZ) for MBDA's support for PGZ's delivery of the NAREW air defence programme for the Polish Armed Forces.

NAREW will provide Poland with a highly advanced mobile air defence system capable of dealing with modern and future threats out to ranges beyond 40 km, utilising the CAMM-ER missile developed in cooperation between the United Kingdom and Italy. The PGZ-NAREW Consortium was awarded the executive contracts for NAREW in September from the Polish Armament Agency.

The agreement made on Nov 7 enables PGZ to implement these executive contracts, valued in excess of £4 billion, by concluding the terms of MBDA's unprecedented transfer of key technologies and knowledge to PGZ. It enables the PGZ-NAREW Consortium to make more than 1,000 CAMM-ER air defence missiles and over 100 launchers for the NAREW programme in Poland.

NAREW highlights the growing relationship between MBDA and PGZ and provides further evidence of the success of the Strategic Co-operation Agreement signed



between the companies in 2017. The technology transfer in NAREW, and associated growth across Polish industries, is unique in the UK-Poland defence partnership and paves the way for deep ties on complex weapons with Poland.

MBDA CEO Eric Béranger said: "The scale and ambition of NAREW is truly im-

pressive – building a Polish air defence shield using our CAMM family missiles and iLaunchers that will protect the entirety of Poland's skies. The transfer of technology in NAREW will be transformative for Poland's sovereign complex weapons capabilities, and

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The company's Australian engineers have been developing a new variant of the Hunter frigate since 2022, aiming to significantly enhance its air and surface warfare capabilities. The intention is to adapt to the changing nature of warfare, ensuring that the vessel remains highly relevant.

"Key defining capabilities of Hunter are its world-leading anti-submarine warfare suite and its multi-domain capabilities; Hunter is a proverbial maritime Swiss Army Knife.

"It will be able to switch roles rapidly from hunting submarines to conducting high-intensity air or surface warfare with its world-

leading Australian CEAFAAR radar, AEGIS combat system and the versatile MK41 missile vertical launch system," Hudson said.

This configuration allows customers to equip the ship with a mix of evolved Sea Sparrow missiles, Tomahawk land attack missiles, SM-2 and SM-6 anti-air warfare missiles, or other effectors integrated into the MK41 system.

The new frigate, based on the stealthy Hunter design, trims some anti-submarine gear, reduces the mission bay, and retains key features like the Seahawk helicopter, CEA radar, AEGIS combat system, and MK45 gun.

Plus, it bolsters firepower by adding 64 more MK41 missile cells. This version

boasts a total of 96 MK41 launchers, offering flexibility to load various missiles, from evolved Sea Sparrow to Tomahawk land attack, SM-2, SM-6, and other compatible munitions.

Hudson said the development of this new variant is relatively cost-effective, as much of the engineering effort can be leveraged from the existing Hunter configuration.

Furthermore, this new variant offers significant benefits in terms of lifecycle cost and training, thanks to the shared hull, propulsion and combat systems.

BAE Systems has a track record of supplying ships to countries like Malaysia and Thailand through joint ventures or direct sales. ▲



BAE Systems

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we are deeply proud of the trust placed in us by Poland and excited for the future of our partnership with the eleven members of the PGZ-NAREW Consortium."

NAREW is the latest in a series of air defence projects utilising the CAMM missile family that MBDA and PGZ have been jointly contracted for in Poland. It follows from the Mała Narew urgent operational requirement contract placed in 2022 and now in service, the PILICA+ short-range air defence system contracted earlier in 2023, work on the MIECZNIK frigate programme, and studies for the future joint development of CAMM-MR.

In addition MBDA and PGZ are also co-operating for the OTTOKAR BRZOZA tank destroyer project.

The CAMM-ER offers a high rate of fire against multiple simultaneous targets, soft vertical launch technology for minimum launch signature and high performance; and has compact missile allowing for multiple weapons fit in limited spaces.

Compatible with any surveillance sensor for targeting, with a vertical launch enabling 360-degree coverage in all launch sectors, it requires minimal logistics support and maintenance.

From the CAMM family of next generation air defence missiles, the CAMM-ER has an active RF seeker that provides true

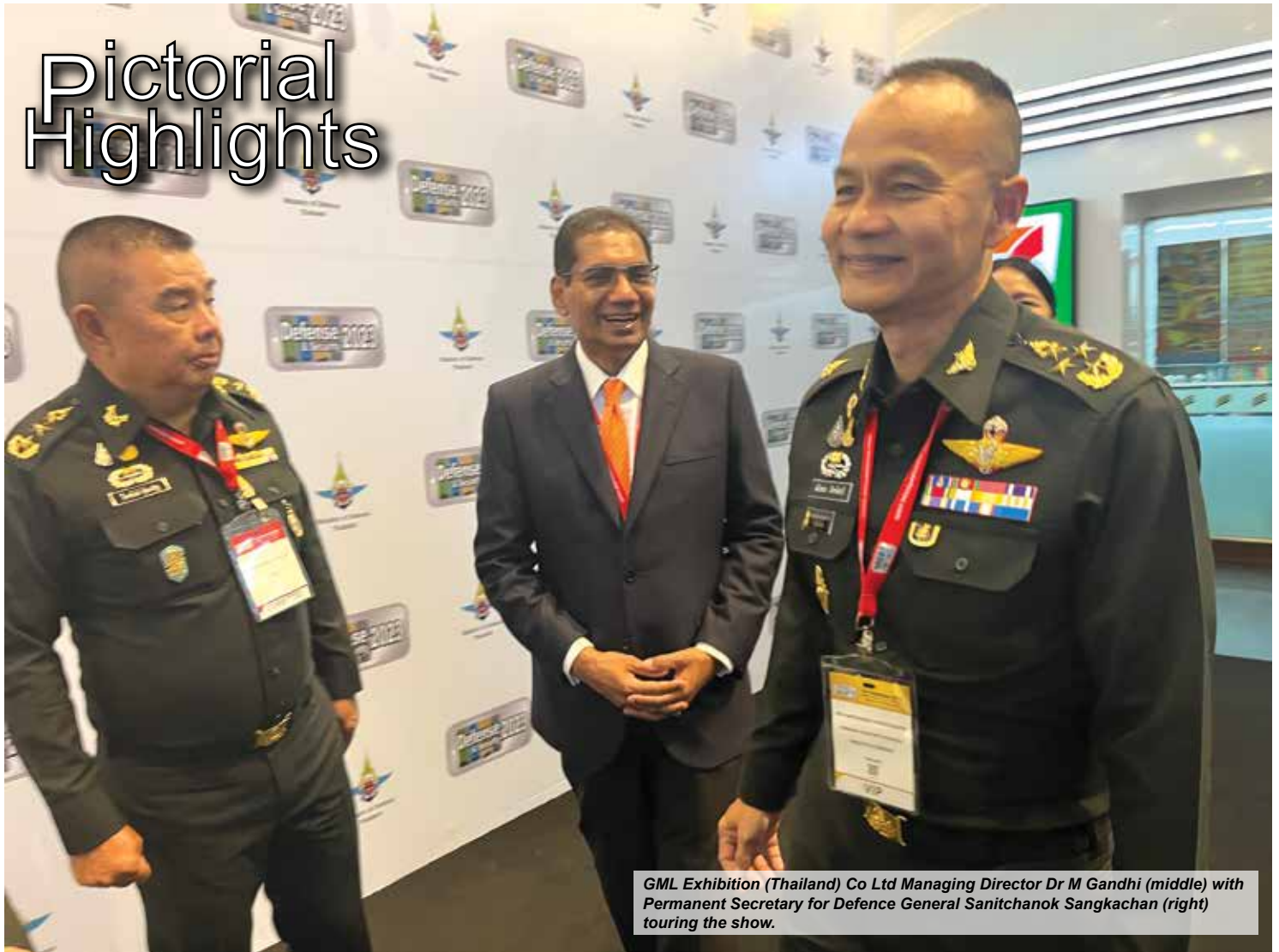
all-weather performance with excellent clutter rejection capabilities. There is no need for dedicated complex and high-cost fire control/illumination radars.

CAMM-ER offers land-based forces a highly effective and easily deployable, medium-range air defence system, as part of the Enhanced Modular Air Defence Solutions (EMADS), capable of operating as either a standalone unit or integrated within a battlespace network.

The use of third party target information from the wider battlespace network allows the system to engage targets that are non line-of-sight from the local launcher or sensors. ▲



Pictorial Highlights



GML Exhibition (Thailand) Co Ltd Managing Director Dr M Gandhi (middle) with Permanent Secretary for Defence General Sanitchanok Sangkachan (right) touring the show.



Robotic platforms for military and security applications.





Training and simulation is all in a day's work for military personnel.



A delegate being briefed on the attributes of a missile launcher.



Air defence systems on display.



Know more about ‘Made in Vietnam’ from Viettel



A Vietnamese delegation led by Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People’s Army Senior Lieutenant General

Phung Si Tan attended the Defence & Security 2023 show that opened in Bangkok on Nov 6.

The Vietnamese pavilion, manned by military-run

telecommunications provider Viettel, covers nearly 100 square metre and displays 60 product categories in the form of models and videos, including communications, electronic warfare, simulation models, optoelectronics, radar, command and control, unmanned aerial vehicles and 5G private network.

Viettel High Tech Gewneral Director Nguyen Vu Ha stated: “We have taken the opportunity to represent Vietnamese defense industry companies in this event due to the immense potential in this field.”

Sharing his aspirations, he stated: “Our primary objective is to secure contracts and expand our product exports.”

Viettel stated that the event serves as a “remarkable platform to showcase the continuous advancements made by Vietnam’s defense industry”, while also promoting defense products proudly labeled as “Made in Vietnam.” ▲

New High Mobility Light Weapon Carrier Vehicle by MILDEF



MILDEF has announced that it will be producing a new High Mobility Light Weapon Carrier Vehicle with a protection level that can be added on up to Stanag Level 3.

The four-wheel-driven vehicle is designed with an intergrated solution using the monocoque, a single structural technique and a rolling chasiss structure as well as an independent suspension system that allows each wheel on the same axle to move vertically-independent of the others.

It can carry up to 1,000kg of weaponry and 5,000kg of unloaded weight.

The vehicle measures 5.8m x 2.4m x 3.4m and is shod with 335/80 R20 tyres on a 3.4m

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wheelbase to give a ground clearance of 350mm with a 40-degree approach and departure angle.

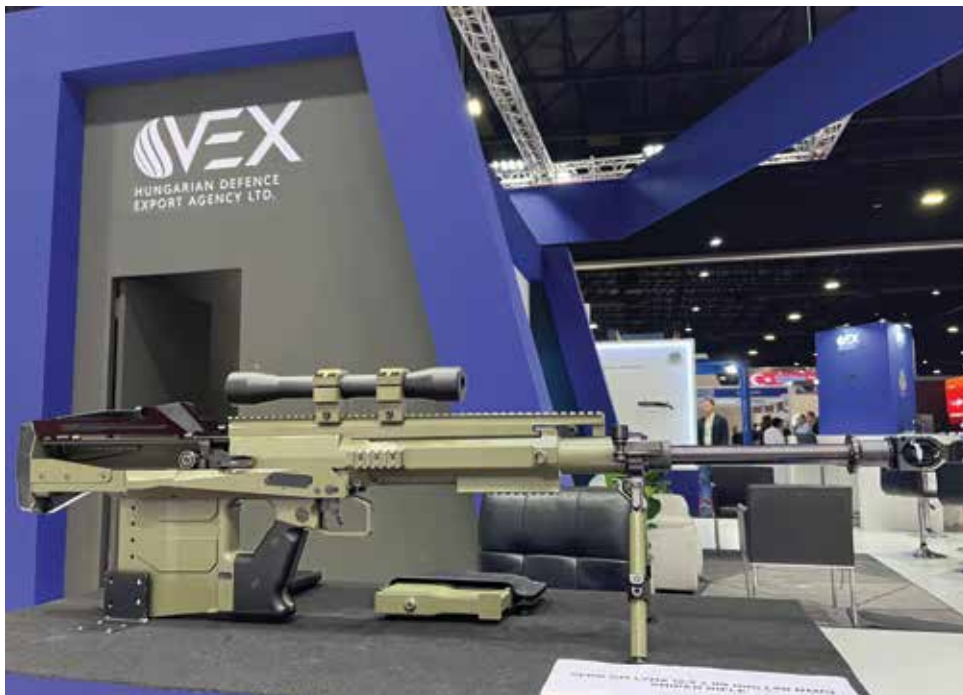
Its maximum gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 6,000kg is hauled by a 250hp (at 2,500rpm) engine, boasting a maximum torque of 800Nm at 1,500rpm.

The vehicle has a six-speed automatic transmission and a 41hp/ton power-to-

weight ratio.

It can reach up to 110km/h top speed, with a maximum climbing grade of 60%, a 30% maximum side slope, 300mm vertical step, 500mm trench crossing, 1,000mm fording depth and a 600km road range. ▲

Sero's GM6 Lynx Sniper, Combat and Anti-Materiel Weapon



a feature unrivalled by weapons in this range.

According to Sero, the GM6's trigger has two special memory settings, in which the rifle can be fired rapidly in a similar fashion to handguns with a short trigger reset rather than a full reset. Similarly, if the operator pulls the trigger but decides to disengage before the round is fired, the subsequent trigger pull engages at the last pull point.

With a capacity of five rounds in the magazine, the rifle's combat weight comes to about 13kg, its length 1,114mm in firing condition and 914mm when retracted.

Besides the anti-materiel role, it can be utilised as designated marksman rifle (DMR), sniper rifle and base and territorial defence too, with an effective range is more than two kilometres. The rifle can disassembled and re-assembled in two-to-three minutes without the use of any tools.

Aside from customers purchasing the

Featured at the Hungary pavilion this year, arms manufacturer Sero International Ltd is debuting their crown jewel in Bangkok for the first time. In co-operation with the Hungarian Defence Export Agency, Sero's uniquely distinct multi-purpose rifle looks to change the way heavy sniper rifles are fielded. Dubbed the GM6 Lynx Heavy Sniper Rifle, the semi-automatic .50 BMG weapon is the amalgamation of combat rifle, sniper rifle and anti-materiel rifle that aims to be compact, lightweight, low-recoil, easily portable and immediate deployment.

Among its distinctive attributes is its multi-calibre ability to shoot the NATO standard .50 BMG as well as the Eastern bloc 12.7x108mm, simply by changing out the barrels and magazines, a task which would take less than two minutes.

One of the most unmistakable features of the GM 6 is its reciprocating barrel design which houses a revolutionary barrel recoil technology that largely negates the recoil energy. As a bullpup rifle, its barrel length is longer than conventional anti-materiel sniper rifles but shorter than other similar rifles in the market which are often heavier and much longer. With the retractable barrel, operators can wield it easily, move around and even carry it in vehicles



and deploying it swiftly when necessary at the push of a button.

Moreover, the majority of its weight is redistributed to the rear of the rifle, giving users the ability to fire the weapon offhand even in a standing position or on the move,

rifle for sport, military and police units from over 20 nations from every continent have since purchased and used the GM6, with several unnamed customers from the Asia Pacific region. ▲

