

DRAFT

18 April 2006

Joint Annual Conference - Electro-Magnetic Remote Sensing (EMRS) & Systems Engineering for Autonomous Systems (SEAS) Defence Technology Centres (DTCs)

The Electromagnetic Remote Sensing (EMRS) and the Systems Engineering of Autonomous Systems (SEAS) Defence Technology Centres (DTCs) are holding a joint technical conference and exhibition on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th of July 2006 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC). The event is being sponsored by Scottish Enterprise as part of their strategy for Aerospace & Defence.

Established by the Ministry of Defence (MoD), DTCs are virtual centres of excellence in broad technology areas. Participants see a return on their investment in science and technology through its application in future defence equipment and wider civilian applications.

The strategic aim of DTCs is to provide more rapid application of low technology maturity level research in the MoD's defence equipment programme. The DTC initiative is a role model for research collaboration between Government, the UK Defence industry, small-medium sized enterprises and universities. Both the SEAS & EMRS DTCs will invest up to £30 million of MoD research funds over a six year period. Industry provides MoD with a matching contribution in-kind – knowledge of their internally funded research.

This open event forms the DTCs' main channel for dissemination of unclassified research output - with over 100 technical papers presented. The event is expected to draw approximately 550 defence scientists from the UK and beyond.

Alvin Wilby, SELEX S&AS Capability Director said "In 2003 we saw the emergence of the DTC concept. I am delighted to confirm that since then the idea has gone from strength to strength. The collaboration between industry, government and the academic sectors is really working. This important conference gives us an ideal opportunity to showcase the work that is being done and to encourage others to become involved."

The conferences should be attended by:

- potential exploiters of EMRS or SEAS DTC funded research

- potential providers of research to the EMRS or SEAS DTC programmes
- the broad military and civil electro-magnetic remote sensing communities
- the autonomous systems and systems engineering communities

This joint annual technical conference provides the UK with its largest annual defence science conference. Moreover, the event establishes the UK MOD's Defence Technology Centre initiative as the national focus for collaborative, defence science research.

The technical conference offers two parallel events – SEAS & EMRS DTC. The SEAS conference is itself split into the following thematic sessions:

- Systems Engineering Research,
- Mission Planning & Decision Making,
- Algorithms & Architecture,
- Sensor Exploitation,
- Communications & Control
- Propulsion Power Generation and Energy Management.

The EMRS DTC conference is also split into parallel sessions offering:

- RF Systems,
- Embedded Processing,
- Devices and Materials,
- Electro-Optic Systems,
- Embedded Processing,
- Materials and Devices.

There will also be a significant commercial exhibition with over 40 organisations participating including: Agilent Technologies, Alpha-Data, Applied Wave Research, ASTRAEA, BAE Systems ATC, Blue Bear Systems, CAE, COMSOL, CORDA, DSTL Knowledge Services, ESL Defence, Filtronic, Gedae, Glenair, Heriot-Watt University, HFI DTC, Systems Engineering Innovation Centre, Mathworks, Mercury Computer Systems, NARRC, Octec, Pentland Systems, Plexus, QinetiQ, RF Engines, Cranfield University, Rhode & Schwarz, Roke Manor Research, SELEX Sensors & Airborne Systems, Scottish Optoelectronics Association, SPIE, Strateva, Sula Systems, TeleLogic, Thales, TRL Technology, University of Glasgow, University of Strathclyde, Vecxel Imaging, Waterfall Solutions, and York University.

For further information contact see the conference web site at:

<http://www.emrsdte.com/conferences/2006/conferences.htm>

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

About Finmeccanica:

Finmeccanica is Italy's leading high-tech company, operating in the design and manufacture of helicopters, aerostructures, satellites, space infrastructure, missiles and defence electronics. It plays a leading role in the European aerospace and defence industry, and participates in some of the biggest international programmes in the sector through well-established alliances with European and American partners. Finmeccanica also boasts significant manufacturing assets and skills in the transport, energy and IT sectors. The group is listed on the Milan stock exchange, and operates in Italy and abroad through 16 companies and 6 joint ventures. It employs around 51,000 staff in total. As part of its drive to maintain and build on its technological expertise, Finmeccanica spends the equivalent of over 16% of its revenues on research and development.

About SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems:

SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems, a Finmeccanica company, is one of Europe's leading defence electronics companies which is 75% owned by Finmeccanica and 25% owned by BAE Systems and brings together the former UK based BAE Systems Avionics and Galileo Avionica in Italy. SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems provides world class capabilities in surveillance, protection, tracking, targeting, avionics and imaging systems. The company employs some 7,600 employees and has operations in England, Scotland, Italy, and the United States. Further details can be obtained from our website www.selex-sas.com

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