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Finmeccanica: SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems secures 1.25 billion euros Eurofighter order

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Order brings total value awarded to SELEX S&AS for Eurofighter Tranche 2 to 2.2 billion euros

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SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems, a Finmeccanica company, has secured an £850 million order (1.250 billion euros), to manufacture the EuroDASS Electronic Warfare suite for the second production batch of the Eurofighter Typhoon programme.

EuroDASS is designed to enhance aircraft survivability with an advanced suite of self defence sensors and countermeasures. These detect and evaluate potential threats at maximum range and then automatically deploy the most effective countermeasures without the need for crew intervention.

SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems leads the EuroDASS consortium, which also comprises Elettronica of Italy (which is 32% owned by Finmeccanica, has a 300 million euros share of the order), INDRA of Spain and EADS of Germany. The EuroDASS consortium supplies the state-of-the-art defensive aids suite to the Typhoon.

This order, combined with the £100 million (148.3 million euros) development contract awarded for EuroDASS earlier this year and a £500 million (741.6 million euros) order to manufacture the CAPTOR radar system awarded in December 2004, brings the total orders awarded to SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems for Tranche 2 of the Eurofighter Typhoon programme to approximately £1.5 billion (2.2 billion euros).

Pier Francesco Guarguaglini, Finmeccanica's chairman and CEO said: "This important order underscores the rationale of Finmeccanica's strategy to invest in the UK where we are now a major defence contractor. It also strengthens the company's position in the electronic defence sector, a field which offers further interesting opportunities in international markets".

Tranche 2 is the second production order of 236 Typhoon aircraft for the four-nation Eurofighter Typhoon programme which is a collaborative project at both government and industry levels between Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK.

The production phase extends to the last quarter of 2012 and will provide a valuable workstream for SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems at its UK sites, and the EuroDASS partners throughout Europe.