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SELEX Galileo, leading member of the Finmeccanica UK Battlespace Solutions team, flies its mini UAS as part of a Major British Army Military Exercise on Salisbury Plain

SELEX Galileo, leading member of the Finmeccanica UK Battlespace Solutions team, has flown its Unmanned Air System (UAS) during a British Army mission rehearsal exercise in the UK. The flight team from SELEX Galileo's Air Systems, Unmanned Air Systems & Simulators division oversaw a number of successful flights of its STRIX Mini UAS as part of exercises carried out from 16 – 20 March on Salisbury Plain. This involved fast aircraft and helicopters, as well as SELEX Galileo's mini UAS

The support provided by SELEX Galileo included flying the STRIX Mini UAS for periods of up to one hour to present surveillance of activities at key points on the ground and to monitor the movement of convoys and related action. The video images obtained were down-linked to the Company's Common Ground Control Station and then were passed directly to the Brigade's Intelligence, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (ISTAR) cell.

Approximately 2000 troops and 100 vehicles took part in this major exercise on Salisbury Plain's training area which aimed to prepare troops for possible deployment on operations in the coming months. This Mission Rehearsal Exercise (MRX) involved units from the Bulford based 12 Mechanised Brigade.

SELEX Galileo's contribution to the exercise fits well within the Finmeccanica UK Battlespace Solutions initiative which groups Finmeccanica companies: SELEX Communications Ltd, SELEX Systems Integration Ltd, AgustaWestland, DRS Technologies and, led by, SELEX Galileo with the principal focus of bringing together the skills, experience and products necessary to provide innovative Battlespace solutions to the UK MoD.

Notes to Editors

STRIX Mini UAV

Within SELEX Galileo's UAS capability, which includes battlelabs and common ground control station to mini-micro and Unmanned Vehicles and equipped fully integrated payload suites, the Company portfolio includes the STRIX. The STRIX Mini UAV is an electric, fixed wing, covert system developed and manufactured by Alpi Aviation of Italy. It is catapult launched with automatic landing and is designed for manoeuvre and special operations support. STRIX is carried in a compact light weight back pack, which includes a minimal operable configuration. STRIX is compliant, with NATO's STANAG 4586 regulations and provides autonomous flight and can be used as a critical node in an integrated Networked surveillance system. STRIX is deployable in under 10 minutes, has more than two hours endurance time and, when combined with the SELEX Galileo Common Ground Control Station provides for automatic or manual image analysis and rapid dissemination of intelligence.

Finmeccanica UK Battlespace Solutions

Finmeccanica Battlespace Solutions embraces the complex dilemma of balancing immediate and continued success on operations with the need to protect the coherency of future capability. Finmeccanica Battlespace Solutions purpose is to deliver fused solutions, building on the rich Finmeccanica heritage and breadth of footprint as one of the top two suppliers to the UK MoD providing a focus for innovation and solution provision to the war-fighter, tackling the key issues in asymmetric operations.

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