Ultra awarded contracts totalling US$100m for battlespace IT radios

Ultra announces that its Tactical Communication Systems business in Montreal, Canada has won US Army contracts since the start of 2008 with a total value of US$100m. Ultra is supplying upgraded versions of its High Capacity Line of Sight (HCLOS) radios that already form the core of the wideband tactical radios system used by US armed forces engaged in land operations. The awards have been made by the Canadian Commercial Corporation acting on behalf of the US Department of Defense.

Ultra is the first company to have delivered high capacity, software-defined radios for the tactical military environment. Ultra’s HCLOS radios and associated equipment are key elements of the US Army’s transformation, through its WIN-T programme, of its battlespace information management process. They provide a data highway in the Army’s communication system and are a vital component of the wide area network for voice and data transmission between the various command levels in land forces.

Ultra’s radio communication systems provide secure battlefield trunk telephone and high-capacity data telecommunication services to link battlefield commanders and their combat forces. They accommodate the increasing need for data-based communications, including email and near-real-time video transmissions, in addition to voice communications.

Douglas Caster, Chief Executive of Ultra, commented:
“I am very pleased with the recognition, through contract awards, of the excellent, innovative tactical communications solutions supplied by Ultra. The Group continues to enhance the capabilities of the battlespace IT products it supplies to the US and other armed forces around the world. WIN-T is a major programme to enhance US military communications capabilities and I am pleased that Ultra’s well-proven high capacity radios are a key part of it.”

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**Ultra Electronics** is a group of specialist advanced technology businesses that design, manufacture and support electronic and electromechanical systems, sub-systems and products for defence, security, aerospace and transport applications worldwide.

Ultra, which employs 3,500 people in the UK and North America, focuses on high integrity sensing, control, communication and display systems with an emphasis on integrated information technology solutions. The Group concentrates on obtaining a technological edge in niche markets, with many of its products and technologies being market leaders in their field.

Ultra’s products and services are used on aircraft, ships, submarines, armoured vehicles, surveillance systems, airports and transport systems around the world. Ultra also plays an important role in supporting prime contractors by undertaking specialist system and sub-system integration using the combined expertise of the Group businesses.

Ultra is organised into three divisions as follows:

**Aircraft & Vehicle Systems** including miniature airborne compressors; high integrity software and systems; aircraft system electronics; aircraft system test equipment; aircraft cockpit indicators; aircraft noise and vibration control systems; airframe protection systems, armoured vehicle electronic information and control systems; human/computer interface equipment and crisis information management systems.

**Information & Power Systems** including command and control systems equipment; mission-critical enterprise IT systems; tactical data communication systems; intelligence processing infrastructures; independent IT consulting services; weapons interfacing electronics; radar tracking; electro optical tracking; surveillance systems; naval data processing and distribution; airport and airline information management systems; ID card systems; naval power conversion; signature management of naval vessels; transit system power conversion and control.

**Tactical & Sonar Systems** including secure tactical line-of-sight radio systems, multiplexers and switches; secure video-conferencing systems; voice and magneto-inductive communication systems; tactical data links; cryptographic equipment; active, passive and multi-static sonobuoys; sonobuoy receivers and processors; distributed surveillance sensor arrays; ship’s sonar systems; acoustic countermeasure systems and ship’s torpedo defence systems.