

pilots and practical benefits of the international simulated air exercise for the combat readiness of pilots and GCI personnel. During the post-exercise briefing, they also both thanked to the LOM

PRAHA team who had helped organize the exercise and supported it. By way of conclusion, the two commanders expressed their interest in and support of future simulated air exercises which

would bring mutual cooperation of partner countries to a higher level and, given the current economic situation, be a very effective way of sharing national training capacities and capabilities.

The Gripen Offset Programme Has Brought CZK 29.2 Billion to the Czech Republic

The defense and security technology company Saab published results of the Annual Report on the performance of the Gripen Offset Programme in 2013.

The report, which was approved by the Ministry of Defense of the Czech Republic, presents the performance of the industrial cooperation programme accompanying the lease of 14 Gripen aircraft from the Swedish government.

2013 highlights:

- As of December 2013, the aggregate value generated by the programme amounted to CZK 29.2 billion;
- The total offset commitment equal to 130 %

of the aircraft lease value has been fulfilled to 114 %;

- Indirect offset commitments have been fulfilled;
- Direct offsets related to defense and aerospace industries will have been fulfilled by the end of 2014;
- The value of performance of offset transactions in 2013 was equal to CZK 1.78 billion;
- As of December 31, 2013, the programme comprised 51 registered offset transactions;

"We proudly announce that the Czech Gripen Offset Programme has exceeded its planned value by almost 15 %. Both direct and indirect offset commitments will be delivered within the agreed

timeframe. Thanks to support of local industrial enterprises and the government, the programme can be regarded as a great success both for the Czech Republic and for Saab," says Daniel Boestad, Vice President of Saab AB responsible for Gripen programmes in Central and Eastern Europe. "The Ministry of Defense has approved the report on the performance of the Czech Gripen Offset Programme in the previous year. In 2013, two new direct offset transactions were included in the programme, which means there is a sound reason to believe the Industrial Cooperation Programme Agreement will be delivered in accordance with all terms and conditions set forth therein," says former National Armament Director Jitka Nalevajková.

Saab Receives FMV Order to Extend Gripen Lease in the CR

Defense and security company Saab has received an order from the Swedish Defense Materiel Administration (FMV) for the extended lease of Gripen from Sweden to the Czech Republic. This agreement provides for the continuing support and upgrade of the Czech aircraft for a further 12 years. The order is valued at approx. SEK 576 million.

Gripen has been in service with the Czech Republic since 2005. In May 2014 a new agreement between Sweden and the Czech Republic extended this partnership for a further 12 years. As a result, the Czech Republic will continue to operate 14 Gripen C/D aircraft until at least 2027. Under the terms of this government-to-government agreement Saab acts as a supplier to FMV,

which in turn provides the aircraft to the Czech Republic.

"The Czech Republic's decision is further evidence of Gripen's high capability and great cost-efficiency. It proves again how well the aircraft stands up in global competition. As we develop the next generation of Gripen for Sweden and Brazil, we continue to see great international interest in Gripen C/D", says Lennart Sindahl, Deputy CEO and Head of Saab's business area Aeronautics.

The new agreement includes hardware modification of the aircraft and upgrade of system functionality that will deliver a continuing increase in capabilities for the customer. Also included are several years of support for the Czech aircraft by FMV. Work to develop and adapt new mission software for Czech

requirements begins immediately. Aircraft modifications will be implemented in about one year's time.

"Our relations with the Czech Air Force are excellent and the feedback from Czech Gripen pilots has always been exceptional. We are looking forward to our continuing fruitful cooperation" says Tobias Wennberg, Head of Saab Central and Eastern Europe.

Gripen provides air defense for five nations: Sweden, South Africa, Hungary, Thailand and the Czech Republic. In October 2014 Saab signed a contract with the Brazilian government for the development and production of 36 Gripen NG for the Brazilian Air Force. The UK's Empire Test Pilots' School (ETPS) relies on Gripen in its training programme for future test pilots and engineers.

ERA Has Signed a New Contract to Provide Surface Surveillance for Incheon Airport in South Korea

ERA Company was recently awarded a contract for the surface multilateration system at the Incheon International Airport in Seoul, capital of South Korea. The contract was assigned by Incheon International Airport Corporation. ERA will provide the MLAT part of the ASGCM-S system which should cover not only the airport area but also 20 nautical miles of TMA. The company will cooperate on the project with its tested and tried partners INDRA (data fusion), TERMA (Surface Movement Radar) and HITEL (infrastructure).



The Incheon project is also an important milestone in ERA technological development due to its pioneering use of the recently introduced NEO system, an enhanced version of the ERA traditional product MSS (multi-sensor surveillance system). The actual installation will consist of 38 Ground Stations, 3 Central Processing stations and 2 Remote and Monitoring Terminals. The final completion is planned for late summer 2017. The proposed system is designed according to RFT requirements and the ED-117 standard.

he team of ERA experts already carried out a site survey at Incheon Airport at the beginning of the autumn. "The Korean client appreciated the fact that ERA has begun its mission not only by taking part in the official opening ceremony of the Incheon project but also by sending engineers who immediately started the first phase of the project – the site survey of the airport terrain," stated the ERA project manager Petr Nováček.

In Incheon airport in Seoul

Incheon International Airport is the largest airport in South Korea, the primary airport serving the Seoul Capital Area, and one of the largest and busiest airports in the world. For nine years in a row (2005–present), it was rated the best airport worldwide by Airports Council International. The airport has a spa, ice skating rink and indoor gardens.

Located 48 km west of Seoul, the capital and the largest city in South Korea, Incheon International



Airport is the main hub for international civilian air transportation and cargo traffic in East Asia. Incheon Airport is also currently Asia's fourth busiest airport and the world's ninth busiest airport in terms of international passengers in 2013. Last year 41 million international passengers used the airport.

CBRN Reach Back Operations Room will Help Combating Terrorism

On Wednesday, November 12, the CBRN Reach Back Operations Room was opened during a ceremony held at the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense Centre of Excellence – JCBRN Defense COE in Vyškov.



The Centre of Excellence itself was activated in Vyškov in 2007. It comprises direct representatives of twelve members of the Alliance, namely the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the United Kingdom and the United States. At the moment, the Centre is the only international organization of the Alliance permanently located in its territory.

The formation of the CBRN Reach Back Operations Room is a major step toward augmenting the Alliance's capabilities in the fight against terrorism and other threats arising from a potential use of weapons of mass destruction in today's world," said Colonel Jiří Gajdoš, Director of the JCBRN Defense COE in Vyškov. "At the same time, its formation marks the beginning of the development of an advisory team which will submit technical and expert recommendations directly to SACEUR, other applicants from NATO structures, or commanders of operations." He also added that the CBRN Reach Back Operations Room could directly contact and add scientific capacities in chemical, biological

and radiological disciplines, as well as experts in the field of protection against weapons of mass destruction, which would result in faster and more effective help at the incident site. The new Operations Room is a unique element in the NATO structure, and there is no comparable alternative to it in Europe. There is a similar centre in the United States, but it serves only US armed forces.

The ceremonial inauguration of the CBRN Reach Back Operations Room, which was funded by NATO under the NATO Defense Against Terrorism Programme of Work, was attended by representatives of the Alliance, member nations participating in the work of the JCBRN Defense COE, Army of the Czech Republic and other distinguished guests, including First Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic Lieutenant General Josef Bečvář, Jan Jireš, Defence Policy and Strategy Director of the Ministry of Defence, Brigadier General Bohuslav Přikryl, Rector of the University of Defense, Axel Angely, representing NATO's Weapons of Mass Destruction and Non-Proliferation Centre, and other outstanding guests representing institutions sponsoring the CBRN Reach Back Operations Room. The opening ceremony was concluded by a video conference between participants in the ceremony and Jamie Shea, Deputy Assistant Secretary General, in Brussels.

"The area of CBRN is a part of the concept of the Army of the Czech Republic and also one of our top priorities we pay maximum attention to," said Lieutenant General Josef Bečvář. "We have always been held in high esteem by our allies in this field, and I hope we will be able to prove, thanks also to the work of the Operations Room, that we are a full-fledged component of the portfolio of capabilities of the Alliance."

Pages 38-41 prepared by František Prokůpek

OPTOKON

OPTOKON HMA SERIES HARSH ENVIRONMENT CONNECTORS

Powered by ruggedized solar power supply



OFT-920
Ruggedized
Optical Test Set

OPTOKON Ruggedized
POF Media Converter

**OPTOKON NATO
SUPPLIER CODE: 1583G**

HARSH ENVIRONMENTAL EXPANDED BEAM CONNECTOR

HMA-J series
HMA-S series



- Advanced expanded beam technology
- MIL-DTL-83526 specification
- 2 - 8 fiber channels (fiber and electrical channels)
- Singlemode and/or Multimode
- Hermaphroditic interconnection
- No adaptors necessary

HARSH ENVIRONMENTAL FERRULE CONNECTOR

HMA-JF Series

- SFF ferrule termination procedure
- Excellent transmission parameters
- Hermaphroditic interconnection
- 2 - 4 fiber channels
- Singlemode and/or Multimode
- No adaptors necessary



CABLE DRUMS



OPTOKON, a.s.
Cerveny Kriz 250, 586 01, Jihlava, Czech Republic
tel. +420 564 040 111, fax +420 564 040 134

WWW.OPTOKON.COM