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EOS WINS CONTRACT TO UPGRADE ADF WEAPON SYSTEMS

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Electro Optic Systems Pty Ltd (ASX: EOS) has been awarded a \$6.5 million contract for the refurbishment and upgrade of Australian Defence Force [ADF] remote weapon systems [RWS].

Under the contract EOS will upgrade 45 of the ADF inventory of 235 EOS R-400 remote weapon systems by April 2016. Each system will be completely refurbished in the EOS factory and upgraded to full R-400S specification.

The EOS R-400 RWS has seen service in Iraq and Afghanistan with the US and Australian Army, and other coalition forces. The system is used on the Australian Bushmaster vehicle and has been instrumental in the success of Army operations and the protection of Australian soldiers.

The R400S, the most recent R-400 variant, was developed with the support of the Australian Government's Priority Industry Capability Innovation Program (PICIP) run by the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO). Since 2013, the PICIP has provided EOS with matching grant funds to help commercialise innovative defence technology. The R-400S has been specifically developed to provide precision engagement at long ranges generally beyond the reach of conventional remote weapon systems deploying weapons such as 12.7mm and 7.62 mm machine guns.

This upgrade program will provide the ADF with significant new capabilities:

- a new Australian-designed stabilisation system delivering exceptional hit probability on a moving target from a moving weapon platform;
- improvements to both day and thermal imaging systems to allow greater identification range and enhanced image quality for dual-use ISR [intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance] and lethal force applications;
- automatic video tracking providing accurate engagements at longer ranges whilst the vehicle is moving;
- software upgrade to the fully integrated software suite for protected and armoured vehicles, allowing the RWS to instantly plug-and-play with any other turret or RWS;
- an RWS easily adjusted to allow digital integration into a variety of Battle Management Systems; and
- instant video and audio recording of all engagements for battle damage assessment, rules of engagement review and potential secondary engagement authority during peace support operations.

According to EOS CEO, Dr Ben Greene, the upgrade will provide the ADF with an unsurpassed capability in cost-effective battlefield lethality.

“The R-400S is the first of a new generation of RWS which uses the same software and libraries as armoured vehicle turrets, which are typically 10 times more capable and costly than typical RWS. Advanced capabilities developed for EOS turrets, for example for main battle tank and fighting vehicle applications, will apply immediately for ADF RWS.”

“This software compatibility allows innovations such as upgraded sensors, video tracking, video recording and enhanced C4I integration support to flow immediately from our large turret programs to quickly upgrade RWS combat effectiveness. It also allows RWS to be added to an existing combat system with plug-and-play capability.”

“This Australian-developed software is now at the heart of a wave of innovation that is creating the world’s most advanced combat lethality systems,” Dr. Greene added.



ADF R-400 Weapon Systems on Deployment

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About ELECTRO OPTIC SYSTEMS (ASX: EOS; OTC: EOPSY)

EOS is an aerospace company which develops and produces products incorporating advanced electro-optic technologies for the global aerospace market. EOS products are based on core technologies in software, lasers, electronics, optics, gimbals, telescopes, beam directors, optical coatings, precision mechanisms and highly ruggedized assemblies.

EOS employs around 120 staff operating from facilities in Australia, Singapore, Germany and the US. EOS operations are divided in two sectors: **Space Systems** and **Defence Systems**.

Defence Systems

EOS is a key global supplier in the market for remote weapon systems [RWS] and autonomous military surveillance and combat systems.

Over 1,000 RWS from EOS have been sold or deployed through US, NATO, Australian and other forces. Product configurations sold have been for naval weapon systems, armoured vehicle turrets and remote controlled mobile weapon systems. EOS is a major development centre for RWS users globally.

The Company's RWS product family is based on a common module set and fully-qualified fire control software. Modules include high resolution cameras, thermal vision, image processing, ruggedized computers, lasers, sensor systems and power management systems, all qualified for the harsh military environment. Around 90% of all EOS research and development for RWS is performed in Australia.

Space Systems

The EOS Space Systems sector focuses on both commercial and defence requirements for space information, including space situation awareness. EOS specializes in obtaining space information using EOS-developed optical instruments and sensors to detect, track, classify and characterise objects in space. This information is required for both military and commercial space applications.