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SEA wins mdgs

SEA Marine Systems Division has been awarded a Ministry of Defence (MOD) contract to supply and support the provision of 17 Meteorological data Gathering Systems (MDGS) for use in the Navy's Type 23 frigates.

Commenting on the contract win, SEA's Marine Division Marketing Executive, Stuart Caines, said: "This is yet another example of SEA drawing together its system engineering expertise to deliver an equipment, consisting of Commercial-off-the-Shelf (COTS) products, to support the country's fleet at sea."

Each system consists of an integrated weather satellite, which is capable of receiving and processing National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) automatic picture transmission weather satellite imagery, and an HF fax receiver capable of receiving weather charts transmitted from the Fleet Weather and Oceanographic Centre at Northwood.

SEA's partner for this project, Thorn SDS, supplies the operational software that has been specifically developed for the MDGS project and allows the forecaster to combine the various received products and annotate them for use at command briefings. In addition to enhancing flight safety, the MDGS also provides information to the ship's command support system that enables the command to optimise the onboard sensors.

The flexibility of the MDGS, the first of which will be fitted in HMS MARLBOROUGH in early March with a rolling programme of fits for the rest of the T23 frigates, will allow for future enhancements to the equipment to include temperature, pressure and wind sensors.