



NEWS RELEASE

**Media Contact:**

Sharon Corona  
Textron Systems Corporation  
(410) 628-3184  
[scorona@systems.textron.com](mailto:scorona@systems.textron.com)

**Third ASTIS Contract Awarded to Overwatch Tactical Operations**

**Austin, Texas — February 12, 2009** — Overwatch Tactical Operations, an operating unit of Textron Systems, a Textron company (NYSE: TXT), and its Communication Systems Business Area has been awarded a follow-on contract by Astrium Limited to build ten additional X/Ka shipboard antennas for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) with options for two more. This third contract is in addition to the fifteen antenna systems that have been delivered by Overwatch Tactical Operations and are in service with the Royal Australian Navy. This order will enable the Advanced SATCOM Terrestrial Infrastructure System (ASTIS) prime contractor to supply three new RAN air warfare destroyers (AWD) and two new amphibious ships (LHD) with dual antenna systems capable of simultaneous dual band satellite communications.

Supporting shipboard-based communication needs for the Royal Australian Navy, the antenna and feed utilizes Overwatch Tactical Operations' patented multiband feed technology to offer a truly unique solution and a technology advancement unmatched by other solutions available in the market-place today. Multiband antenna systems, specifically



simultaneous multiband, allow one antenna to perform the duties once required of multiple antenna terminals. In a shipboard environment, combining two frequency bands into one antenna saves limited deck space and increases

operational flexibility to match the capabilities of the satellite being used. For the Royal Australian Navy, an Optus satellite provides transmit and receive capability in both X and Ka, simultaneously. It is a logical evolution that the satellite terminal should provide the same capability. In the future, Australia has signed on for the sixth Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) satellite as a joint effort with the US and will use it for X/Ka services.

At the heart of this antenna is Overwatch Tactical Operations' patented feed and lens technology. Utilizing a proven coaxial cavity design for individual frequency bands produces a feed which provides separate, electrically isolated outputs for each desired band, in the desired polarization orientation. In conjunction with the basic feed design, a patented lens technology is used to focus the resulting feed based on the antenna aperture (shape and size) to meet the gain and efficiency requirements.

Throughout the previous two ASTIS programs, Overwatch Tactical Operations developed products with several key vendors. For the shipboard radome and the electroformed waveguide sections that meet



the low passive intermodulation requirements, Overwatch Tactical Operations will again utilize MFG Galileo and GD-C4 Systems respectively to deliver a product that has proven its viability as the MILSATCOM antenna for the Royal Australian Navy.

Overwatch Tactical Operations is an industry leader in providing multiband SATCOM solutions. For more information, please contact us at [multiband@overwatch.com](mailto:multiband@overwatch.com).

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#### **About Overwatch Tactical Operations**

Overwatch Tactical Operations is an operating unit of Textron Systems, a Textron Inc. company, providing a suite of integrated software tools that is dedicated to the analysis, design, development, and support of complex intelligence, information, and communications systems. As a leader in software C4ISR systems we use industry standards to provide intelligence products that are light-weight, portable, scalable, and interoperable for the warfighter, first responder and counterterrorism analysts. Overwatch Tactical Operations has obtained Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI<sup>®</sup>) Level 5 rating and AS9100, ISO9001-2000 certifications. Overwatch Tactical Operations is committed to the Warfighter. For more information about the company and product demonstrations, contact business development at 512-358-2600 or visit the company web site at <http://tactical.overwatch.com>.

### **About Textron Systems**

Textron Systems Corporation has been providing innovative solutions to the defense, homeland security and aerospace communities for over 50 years. Known for its precision smart weapons, intelligent battlefield systems, surveillance systems, intelligence software solutions, aircraft control components, piston engines, armored vehicles and unmanned aircraft systems, Textron Systems includes AAI, HR Textron, Lycoming Engines, Overwatch Tactical Operations, Overwatch Geospatial Systems, Textron Defense Systems, and Textron Marine & Land Systems. Textron Systems Corporation is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Textron Inc. More information is available at [www.textronsystems.com](http://www.textronsystems.com).

### **About Textron Inc.**

Textron Inc. (NYSE: TXT) is a \$14.2 billion multi-industry company operating in 28 countries with approximately 42,000 employees. The company leverages its global network of aircraft, defense and intelligence, industrial and finance businesses to provide customers with innovative solutions and services. Textron is known around the world for its powerful brands such as Bell Helicopter, Cessna Aircraft Company, Jacobsen, Kautex, Lycoming, E-Z-GO, Greenlee, Textron Systems and Textron Financial Corporation. More information is available at [www.textron.com](http://www.textron.com).