



## G-NIUS, the Elbit Systems and IAI JV, to Develop Next-Generation UGV for the Israeli Defense Forces

Guardium UGV  
Credit: G-NIUS

The new unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) will offer improved operational flexibility and performance and will provide combat support G-NIUS Unmanned Ground Systems (UGS) Ltd., a joint venture of Elbit Systems and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) says that it has been awarded a contract for the development of the next-generation UGV (unmanned ground vehicle) for the Israeli Defense Forces. The development phase, led by the Israeli Ministry of Defense's Administration for the Development of Weapons and the Technological Industry (MAFAT) and the Israeli Ground Forces, is to be completed by 2011.

The "Nahshon" UGV is based on the experience of the G-NIUS UGV Guardium™, operated by the IDF since 2008.

The company says the next-generation UGV will offer improved autonomous movement and operational performance. Additionally, the vehicle's navigation capabilities will be intensified and will include various advanced control solutions.

The new UGV will allow increased payload weight, in order to offer better situational awareness, autonomy and independent decision making. The features of the new UGV will enable higher operational flexibility and allow activity in various combat scenarios. These advanced capabilities will also allow the vehicle to provide combat support, along with the Guardium™ which operates mainly in security missions.

G-NIUS CEO Erez Peled noted that the decision of the Israeli Defense Forces to develop a next-generation UGV reflects the necessity for such a system and its major contribution to security missions in the modern combat arena. Peled added that the Israeli Defense Forces is one of the most advanced armies worldwide in the unmanned systems field, and trusts that other armed forces around the world will follow the IDF in its selection of G-NIUS' unmanned systems.

## BAE Systems responds to U.S. Department of Defense decision

On August 27 BAE Systems were notified by the US Department of Defense (DoD) that they have not been selected for a follow-on contract for production of vehicles under the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles programme.

Linda Hudson, President of BAE Systems Land & Armaments said: "We delivered a strong proposal, which we believe met the best interests of the business, customer and our shareholders. While this news is disappointing, we are proud of what we have achieved in making the FMTV the medium tactical vehicle of choice for the Army during the past 17 years.

We remain committed to implementing a global land systems strategy, particularly in the areas of readiness and sustainment and export activities."

The Company's financial planning assumptions anticipate FMTV sales in each of 2009 and 2010 of approximately US\$2 billion. BAE Systems say it is not anticipated that this planned activity will be impacted by this decision. The Company had planned for FMTV sales to reduce to less than US\$1 billion per year from 2011 onward.

Over the past 17 years BAE Systems has delivered more than 56,000 FMTV trucks and trailers and say they developed a Long Term Armored Strategy to make the FMTV the safest, most reliable medium tactical vehicle it can provide to the armed forces.