

## SHOW DAILY

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# Aermacchi scoops UAE trainer prize

Yesterday afternoon the UAE announced that it had selected the Alenia



**Aermacchi M-346 Master for the UAE Air Force and Air Defence.** A total of 48 M-346s will be supplied for both advanced training and the combat air support role.

Details of the contract and the final support package are still being finalised.

Part of the Finmeccanica group, Alenia Aermacchi was selected after a three-year evaluation of the M-346, KAI T-50 Golden Eagle and BAE Systems Hawk 128. The M-346 will be used for the fighter lead-in training role, as well as light attack.

Alenia Aermacchi's chief executive, Carmelo Cosentino, was delighted at the UAE's

decision: "This is a big success for Italian aviation, for Alenia Aermacchi, and for Finmeccanica. This is the first export competition that we have been in, and we have won it."

There is potential for a final assembly line to be established in the UAE, as a possible joint venture with Mubadala. Whether that happens or not is a UAE decision. "The customer is the master," added Cosentino.

The UAE is still evaluating several types for its basic trainer requirement. The M-346's smaller sibling, the M-311, is being proposed by Alenia Aermacchi for that competition.

Thursday, 26  
February 2009



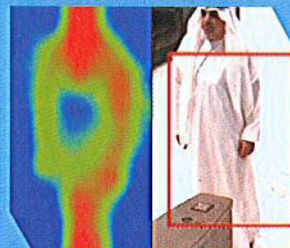
High-mobility GILA protects against mines

p10



MPCS to launch Mistral surface-to-air missile this year

p12



Effective screening of people from a distance

p18

## UAE ORDER TOTAL AT IDEX REACHES AED16.8BN

**Provincial Aerospace:** AED1.071bn to upgrade two DHC-8-Q300 aircraft to maritime patrol configuration

**General Dynamics:** AED111.9m to modify, upgrade and arm RG31 vehicles

**Vectronix:** AED32.6m for artillery observation systems

**Rheinmetall:** AED191.6m for 18 x 27mm guns

**FATS/Caswell:** AED17.6m for light weapon training simulators

**Emirates Marine Technology:** AED46.4m for technical support of various systems

**Alenia Aermacchi:** 48 M-346 Master advanced trainer/combat support aircraft

*The total value of contracts signed yesterday was AED1.47bn.*



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# TenCate armour defeats EFP threat

Christopher F Foss

TenCate Advanced Armour (Hall 10, Stand D30) has revealed that it has developed and successfully tested a new passive armour system that will defeat improvised explosive devices (IEDs) of the explosive formed projectile (EFP) type.

These have become the number one threat in a number of areas, especially Iraq and Afghanistan, and have resulted in the loss of a



number of armoured vehicles together with their crews.

The new TenCate product is a lightweight composite

armour made with TenCate Armourtex BM material, which, according to the company, minimises additional

weight to the vehicle. In fact, its solution to counter the EFP threat is claimed to be half the weight of traditional rolled homogenous armour (RHA) used in many vehicles.

During a recent demonstration, a test example of an armoured personnel carrier (APC) hull protected by TenCate Armourtex BM armour stopped the EFP, and the hull only had a slight indent. In comparison, a test example of an APC hull protected with traditional ceramic armour (STANAG 4569 Level 4) was perforated by the EFP, and it also penetrated the spall liner.

Development of the armour is now complete and production can commence when orders are placed.

## Non-explosive entry

BCB International is presenting an array of items on Stand C10 in Hall 6, including a Special Forces survival kit and a wall breaching system.

The wall breaching system (WBS) is a non-explosive method of entry that will safely minimise collateral damage and, for example, physical injury to trapped or captive personnel. The WBS uses standard aqualung compressed air and weighs about 159kg, enabling it to be carried by two people or wheel-mounted for operation by a single user.

The WBS can be used as close as 3m from the target, but is effective at ranges up to 90m. Once used, it can be recharged and reloaded within seconds.

## Switzerland-based Trunz Water Systems is displaying its newest development in mobile treatment equipment on Outdoor Stand 016.

Designed especially to work in harsh conditions, the robust trailer-mounted TSS 100 or TWS 100 can provide clean drinking water within minutes. The trailer can be attached to any four-wheel drive vehicle to make for easy relocation, and its three solar panels enable it to operate independently. In the event of bad weather conditions that prevent the charging of the batteries with solar power, the incorporated generator will secure continued operation of the unit. Of note is the exceptionally low power consumption of approximately 350W.

Among other systems on display are a water purification and desalination unit, which provides drinking water from polluted and saline sources with solar and/or wind power.



## Sun plus wind equals clean water

The Trunz water systems have been tested in different military camps in Chile, in a joint project by universities in

Florida and in Santiago.

The local distributor is Barari Forest Management of Abu Dhabi.