

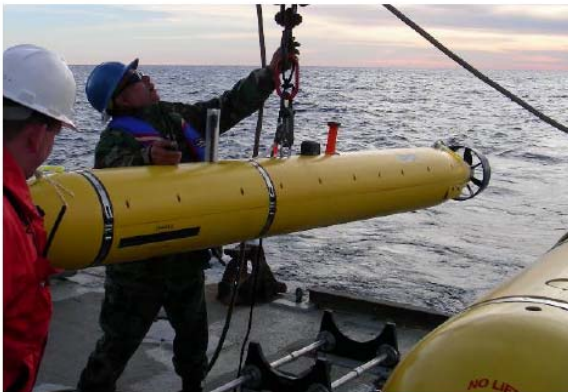


News release

October 19, 2006

BLUEFIN ROBOTICS CORPORATION SECURES \$18 MILLION CONTRACT FOR SURFACE MINE COUNTERMEASURES

CAMBRIDGE, MA – Bluefin Robotics Corporation and QinetiQ announce the award of a \$17,956,137 contract from the US Navy, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) to support design, development, fabrication, and test of surface mine countermeasures (SMCM) addressed through unmanned underwater vehicles (UUV). Work will be performed in Cambridge, Mass. and Winfrith, UK, and is expected to be completed by February 2009. The proposed UUV System, which is the second increment of the SMCM/UUV program, will be comprised of two Bluefin-12 vehicles equipped with QinetiQ's synthetic aperture sonar (SAS) system.



"We are very excited about the award of this contract" shared Dr. Brian Abraham, CEO of Bluefin. "This contract allows us to expand our support of NAVSEA, leveraging our experience and leading edge technologies with the Littoral Combat Ship Program and to expand our corporate collaboration with QinetiQ".

The Bluefin-12 vehicles will play a major role in enabling the Navy to prosecute surface mine countermeasures missions that support homeland security. With this technology, knowledge of what is present underwater will give them a chance to take critical action at the earliest possible time if necessary.

Bluefin was awarded a \$10,949,863 contract from NAVSEA in September of 2005 to provide the Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) program with Bluefin-21 robotic platforms.

QinetiQ and Bluefin worked together on a joint Ministry of Defence and Office of Naval Research project between 2003 and 2005 in which the team successfully designed, developed and demonstrated the 'Gambit' UUV with an advanced mine countermeasures SAS payload.

About Bluefin Robotics Corporation

Bluefin Robotics is a global leader in the design, development and fabrication of autonomous underwater vehicles. Headquartered in Cambridge, MA, Bluefin is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Battelle Memorial Institute and specializes in engineering and commercializing the most durable, reliable, and user-friendly Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (UUVs) and derivative products, including navigation, propulsion, communication, power and adaptive behavior driven systems.

For more information, visit www.bluefinrobotics.com or contact Deanna Abraham at (617) 715 7080 or at dabraham@bluefinrobotics.com.

Notes for Editors:

QinetiQ

- QinetiQ is a leading international defence and security technology company that was formed in July 2001 from the UK Government's Defence Evaluation & Research Agency (DERA). QinetiQ has over 11,400 employees, who deliver technology-

based services and exploit QinetiQ's strengths in technology research by selling systems solutions, products, managed services and licences to government and commercial customers in a spectrum of defence, security and other commercial markets, and by creating technology based ventures.

- QinetiQ is organised into three operating sectors, which reflect its three market thrusts:
 - **Defence & Technology** represents QinetiQ's core UK-based defence business, provides research-based technology solutions and managed services that support the UK's armed forces and those of its allies.
 - **Security & Dual Use** draws from QinetiQ's broad inventory of defence-related intellectual property to develop commercially viable products and services in selected adjacent commercial markets.
 - **QinetiQ North America**, with its US sales operation in Washington DC, delivers technology services, systems engineering and technical assistance (SETA) and IT services into the North American marketplace.
- QinetiQ has made a number of strategic US acquisitions that complement its core capabilities:
 - October 2004: Westar Aerospace & Defense Group Inc, for £91.8m
 - November 2004: Foster-Miller Inc, for £72.2m
 - September 2005: Apogen Technologies Inc, for £162.7m
 - September 2005: Foster-Miller acquired Planning Systems Inc, for £23.7m
 - March 2006: Westar acquired SimAuthor Inc, for £4.4m
 - May 2006: Apogen acquired San Diego-based Ocean Systems Engineering Corp (OSEC), for £28.8m
- On 15 February 2006, QinetiQ Group plc was listed on the London Stock Exchange (main market).

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