

Barco press release

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For immediate release

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General Dynamics UK Ltd selects Barco to deliver CHDD-6.8/1 displays for use in RAF EH101 Merlin Mk3 helicopters

KORTRIJK, BELGIUM, 3 September 2003 – Barco has received an initial order from General Dynamics UK Ltd for the delivery of 23 CHDD-6.8/1 Cockpit Head Down Displays. The digital MAP displays form part of the General Dynamics UK Digital Map Display System (DMDS) to be fitted to the Royal Air Force Agusta/Westland EH101 Merlin Mk3 Support Helicopters. Deliveries will start in the last quarter of this year.

Barco's CHDD-6.8/1 Cockpit Head Down Displays are digital video-only displays designed for use as primary flight displays in both fixed and rotary wing applications. The avionics displays feature a sunlight-readable 6" x 8" Active Matrix Liquid Crystal Display (AMLCD), providing high brightness, excellent contrast and reduced volume with low power consumption. Several bezel options are available allowing the CHDD-6.8/1 to fit into various avionics architectures for both new and retrofit aircraft.

Barco's CHDD-6.8/1 will be used aboard the RAF's EH101 Merlin Mk3 support helicopters as LVDS digital video displays, driven by the General Dynamics Open Systems Map Processor Unit. The user-friendly display units allow use in portrait as well as landscape configurations. Furthermore, they feature custom-designed keyboards and comply with NVIS B standards for optimal performance in nightly conditions.

The EH101 Merlin Mk3 is a medium support helicopter developed by Westland Helicopters Limited, in conjunction with Agusta. It is designed to operate by day and night, in hot or cold conditions, undertaking a wide variety of missions, including troop transport and small vehicle and/or cargo carrying. It can support ground forces in a wide range of operational scenarios, including combat search and rescue in national, NATO and UN operations.

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About Barco

Barco, an international company headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium, is active in three key areas of imaging technology. Barco designs and develops solutions for large screen visualization, display solutions for life-critical applications, and systems for visual inspection. Barco has a network of subsidiaries, distributors and agents in almost 100 countries. Barco is quoted on Brussels/Euronext and is a BEL 20 and a Next 150 company.