

Barco press release

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For immediate release

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Northrop Grumman selects Barco's Control Display Units and software platform for E2-D Advanced Hawkeye

Asian Aerospace, Singapore, 21 February 2006 – Barco has been selected by Northrop Grumman (NYSE:NOC) Electronic Systems Sector's Navigation Systems Division, Woodland Hills, CA, for the delivery of advanced Multi-purpose Control Display Units (MCDU). The units will be delivered together with MOSART, Barco's Modular Open System development platform. Northrop Grumman will integrate Barco's custom developed MCDUs into the cockpit and rear operator stations of the U.S. Navy E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft. The integration of Barco's reliable MOSART equipped MCDUs fits into the E-2 Advanced Hawkeye Integrated Navigation, Controls and Displays System (INCDS) program, which will provide a modern, all-glass, digital cockpit for the aircraft's mission systems.

Barco's MCDU is a very powerful and cost-effective system, compatible with the harshest environmental constraints of the carrier-based E-2D aircraft. The versatile control display unit contains a high-resolution 4.2" x 4.2" display and interfaces to the E2D avionics system through both a standard ARINC 739 and a dual redundant MIL-STD-1553 interface. Furthermore, the MCDU is scalable and flexible towards future evolution and in its advanced configuration is able to drive two external displays, turning it into a compact, capable flight management computer. This capability makes the Barco unit the most flexible and powerful MCDU available today.

Along with the MCDU functionality, Northrop Grumman has also chosen MOSART, Barco's modular open system architecture for real-time avionics applications. MOSART allows Northrop Grumman to easily develop and integrate its own applications into the MCDU. The MOSART system enables Northrop Grumman application developers to fully exploit the many powerful features of the unit including the advanced 3D graphics (OpenGL) and video capability.

The E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning and battle management aircraft has served as the eyes of the U.S. Navy fleet for more than 30 years. The current

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production E-2C aircraft possesses the most advanced such capabilities in service today. The Hawkeye provides simultaneous air and surface surveillance, strike and intercept control, search and rescue support, and drug interdiction.

The E-2D Advanced Hawkeye is now in development. Among its many advances will be the new workstations and cockpit, which will feature the Barco MCDUs. The Advanced Hawkeye will provide the enhanced airborne command and control and expanded surveillance umbrella that will be a foundation of the U.S. Navy's Sea Power 21.

Final deliveries under the development program will take place in May 2006. Northrop Grumman has an option on the series-production units, which will remain in effect from 2009 to 2013.

About Barco

Barco, an international company headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium, provides visualization and display solutions for professional markets. Barco designs and develops solutions for large screen visualization, display solutions for life-critical applications, and systems for visual inspection. Barco is active worldwide and has its own facilities for Sales & Marketing, Customer Support, R&D and Manufacturing in Europe, North America and Asia Pacific. Barco is quoted on Euronext Brussels and is a BEL 20 and a Next 150 company (Euronext: BAR; Reuters: BARbt.BR; Bloomberg: BAR BB).

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