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Sapura to produce locally-designed radios

SAPURA-Thomson Radiocommunications Sdn Bhd will produce 15,000 sets of the indigenously designed, hand-held TRC5100 VHF/FM radio for the local and overseas defence industry.

Sapura Holdings Sdn Bhd senior vice-president for research and development, Shahrulzaman Hassan, said the armed and security forces would account for two-thirds of the TRC5100 sales.

Although Shahrulzaman did not specify, it is learnt that the defence and security forces of France are likely to be their first customers.

"We have also proposed and demonstrated the TRC5100 to the Malaysian armed and security forces and are awaiting their response," he said.

He said the STR was a smart partnership between Sapura Holdings and France's Thompson-CSF Communications.

He added the joint-venture company was established to develop local capability to design, develop, manufacture and maintain tactical radios for the armed forces.

Shahrulzaman said this after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched STR's indigenously designed hand-held radio at the Mahsuri International Exhibition Centre, the venue of the aerospace segment of Lima '97.

Also present were Sapura-Thomson Radiocommunications Sdn Bhd president and chief executive officer Sharil Shamsuddin and Sapura Advanced Systems Sdn Bhd general manager Ahmad Fauzi Ali.

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