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RM300m in aerospace and maritime deals

THE Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition this year followed previous exhibitions in the amount of the contracts signed between aerospace and maritime firms.

A total of RM300 million worth of contracts were signed, mostly involving the Government and Malaysian aerospace companies.

Several of the contracts were signed at a special ceremony held in conjunction with the launch of the Malaysian Aerospace Industries Association, with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as witness.

SME Aerospace and newly-formed BAe Systems (a merger between British Aerospace and Marconi Electronic Systems) signed a deal for the manufacture of BAe Regional Jet aircraft parts worth RM45 million. The company will also be the sole supplier of these parts for the remaining life of the aircraft, expected to be about 10 years.

Initially, the contract involves the supply of parts for 54 aircraft worth RM15.4 million expected to be fully delivered over a three-year period. All the raw materials, consumables and the leading edge skins will be supplied by BAe Systems.

SMEA also signed a contract with Italian company Alenia Aerospazio for the manufacture of Alenia aircraft forward lower lobe assembly. This industrial collaboration is expected to extend to other and more complex work packages in stages covering the various aircraft assemblies produced by the Alenia Group.

ShinMaywa Aircraft Engineering Co signed a contract with SMEA for the manufacture of machined parts of Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft.

The contract is seen as a major milestone for SMEA as for the first time Boeing commercial aircraft parts will be manufactured by the company.

Meanwhile, Airod Sdn Bhd clinched the deal with the Government for the C-130H Hercules Aircraft Upgrade Programme.

The deal will involve upgrade works on avionics and airframes, where several of the RMAF aircraft will be stretched to become tankers.

Composite Technologies Resources Malaysia Sdn Bhd also signed a deal to manufacture wing components for the Airbus A300.

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