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Selex ES wins contract to deliver four IFF Mode 5 interrogators

Selex ES, a Finmeccanica company, has been awarded a contract worth 3 million Euros from the NATO Support Agency (NSPA) to supply four SIR-M5-E New Generation Interrogator Friend or Foe (NGIFF) systems for long range platforms. The NGIFF interrogators will equip four Lockheed Martin FPS -117 air defence radar systems in use with the Italian Air Force.

Selex ES is a world leader in the field of Mode 5 NGIFF interrogators and transponders with a broad portfolio of NATO and international customers and equipment in service on all types of land, naval and avionics platforms.

With a range of more than 450 kilometres, the SIR-M5-E is Selex ES's Mode 5 capable (Level 1 and Level 2) long range NGIFF interrogator. It has been developed and qualified in accordance with NATO (STANAG 419) and US (AIMS 03 -1000A) standards. The new Mode 5 technology allows the SIR-M5-E to clearly recognise each aircraft detected by an air defence radar, even in extremely crowded environments with a mix of friend and foe assets and in highly electronic jamming.

To manage the Mode 5 functions of the SIR- M5-E, the interrogator makes use of Selex ES's Secure Data Unit (SDU) cryptographic module, the first module of this kind certified for use with Mode 5 capabilities developed outside of the USA.

This contract is a demonstration of how Selex ES's IFF products are developed with interoperability and common standards in mind, which makes them easy to integrate with radar systems designed by third party manufacturers. Previously in January 2012, the Italian Ministry of Defence ordered two SIR-M5-E to equip the two Italian Air Force TPS -77 mobile air defence radar systems manufactured by Lockheed Martin.