

DEFTECH Delivers Its First 12 Infantry Fighting Vehicles to the Malaysian Army

Pekan, 6 December 2014. The first 12 units of the 8X8 Infantry Fighting Vehicle 25mm (IFV25) were handed over to the Malaysian Army by DRB-HICOM Defence Technologies Sdn Bhd (DEFTECH) at its manufacturing plant in Pekan.

IFV25 is the first of total 12 variants to be designed, manufactured and developed by DEFTECH. The remaining 34 units of IFV25 will be delivered in 2015. These vehicles are part of the 257 units of the armoured vehicles that are designed, developed, manufactured, and commissioned by DEFTECH under the current contract awarded in 2011.

The vehicles were handed over by DEFTECH's Chairman, YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Sri Haji Mohd Khamil Jamil to the Chief of Army, YM Gen Tan Sri Raja Affandi Raja Mohamed. The handing over ceremony was witnessed by the Malaysian Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak.

“To meet this objective, DEFTECH has invested more than RM500 million in building up the infrastructure facilities, equipment and human capital development that will directly spur the local defence industry which covers the production, in-country support capability, creating local contents and Malaysia's own Intellectual Property Rights” says Chairman of DEFTECH.

As this is a development program, the vehicle underwent thorough design, prototyping, factory and user testing and production phases. To achieve the required capabilities and competencies, some 100 DEFTECH personnel had undergone up to 2 years of “On-Job-Training” program and attachment in the development and production of vehicles at FNSS, Turkey, turret at Denel Land Systems, South Africa and Command and Control System at Thales, France.

The production at DEFTECH manufacturing plant involves about 300 personnel. DEFTECH has also established a turret manufacturing facility in Nilai under its subsidiary, Defence Services Sdn Bhd and a System Integration Laboratory (SIL) at its manufacturing plant in Pekan. With these capabilities, DEFTECH is able to develop and produce advanced armoured vehicles, whilst owning the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).

Since its inception in 1997, DEFTECH had successfully developed itself from a soft-skinned logistic vehicles producer to a design, engineering, prototyping, development and production of advanced armoured and heavy vehicles.

DEFTECH will continue to play an instrumental role in driving the nation's defence industry to support the Malaysian Armed Forces, Security and Enforcement agencies in fulfilling their commitment towards the nation's sovereignty.

ABOUT DRB-HICOM DEFENCE TECHNOLOGIES SDN BHD (DEFTECH)

DEFTECH, a wholly owned subsidiary of DRB-HICOM Berhad was incorporated on 17th October 1996 to contribute towards Malaysia's industrialisation as well as becoming a self-reliant defence related equipment designer and manufacturer. With a paid-up capital of RM100 million, DEFTECH is the premier defence industry leader in Malaysia. It plays an integral role in providing the design, development, manufacturing and supply of armoured and logistics vehicles (soft skin) and aviation platforms for military and homeland security. In the commercial sector, DEFTECH is also a preferred supplier for specialised vehicles and commercial buses.

DRB-HICOM is one of Malaysia's leading conglomerates with core businesses in the Automotive Distribution & Manufacturing, Defence, Services and Property, Asset & Construction sectors. With more than 80 active companies in its stable and over 60,500 employees group-wide, DRB-HICOM's aim is to continue adding value and propelling the nation's development. In the Automotive Distribution & Manufacturing sector, DRB-HICOM is involved in the manufacturing, assembly and distribution of passenger and commercial vehicles, including composites component supply for aircrafts. In Services, DRB-HICOM is involved in various businesses, including concession and financial-related services. In Property, Asset & Construction, DRB-HICOM is involved in residential and commercial developments.

For further information, please contact.

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