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Rheinmetall Defence Australia Media Brief

Cablex and Rheinmetall sign new export contracts for Europe

MELBOURNE-based manufacturer Cablex Pty Ltd has stepped up its exports to Europe with the company signing new agreements with Rheinmetall Defence Australia to supply Australian-made products for BOXER 8x8 armoured vehicle programs in Germany and Lithuania.

Cablex is manufacturing and supplying power distribution boxes for the BOXER program supplying more than 400 armoured vehicles to the German Bundeswehr. These electronic boxes control various electrical functions in the BOXER vehicle.

The German Armed Forces already have more than 400 Boxer vehicles in different variants already in use or in the procurement process. The Cablex contract is the second the company has signed for this fleet of vehicles, the first agreement signed in September 2016.

Cablex signed a contract last year for the manufacture and supply of electrical wiring harnesses for the BOXER Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV) Project in Lithuania. The company has now signed a second contract for the supply of additional cabling for the same project, the wire harnesses incorporating a wide variety of electrical cable assemblies for the electrical power and signal distribution system in the BOXER vehicle.

The Republic of Lithuania and ARTEC - a joint venture between RMMV and KMW – have signed a contract for the procurement of 88 BOXER vehicles in four Infantry Fighting Vehicle versions called “VILKAS” within the Lithuanian Armed Forces. The Infantry Fighting Vehicles will be equipped with a remote controlled turret with a 30mm cannon and an anti-tank missile.

Rheinmetall is also bidding BOXER CRV in Australia, through the Land 400 Phase 2 program, as well as into the United Kingdom through the ARTEC joint venture bidding for the Mechanised Infantry Vehicle (MIV) program. Both programs are expected to draw on Cablex expertise and products should BOXER be downselected, the company already one of selected teaming partners for Land 400 Phase 2.

Rheinmetall Defence Australia Managing Director Gary Stewart said a commitment to innovation, capability and high performance enabled Cablex to compete against international competitors to secure international contracts.

“Cablex has demonstrated how Australian manufacturing capability can open up new and exciting opportunities for local SMEs in offshore markets under our Global Supply Chain agreement,” Mr Stewart said.

“This comes at a critical time for many Australian companies seeking new markets and Rheinmetall’s worldwide leadership in the military vehicles sector will provide a new pathway to global markets.”

Cablex has 240 employees and is highly regarded by Australian primes for the manufacture of specialist and standard Wiring Looms and the integration and testing of Electrical Systems that can withstand a harsh environment in extremes such as military combat.

Cablex Founder and Chief Executive Officer Michael Zimmer said these contracts were a result of the good relationship between the two companies and represented a major milestone for Cablex in its push into the European market.

“We have an excellent relationship with Rheinmetall and I am delighted that the work we have done so far on the Boxer in Germany and Lithuania has resulted in a greater role for us going forward,” Mr Zimmer said.

“Cablex is a global specialist in our field we look forward to further increasing our presence both in Australia and around the world,” he said.

The battle proven BOXER CRV is also one of two contenders for the Australian LAND 400 Phase 2 program. If selected, BOXER CRV will provide the Australian Army with a combat proven, low risk capability that can be rapidly transitioned into service and easily supported through life.

Cablex is among companies from NSW, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia as part of the Rheinmetall Land 400 Phase 2 team. Each company will deliver a range of products and services to support the manufacture of the BOXER CRV. The additional companies include Wollongong-based Bisalloy, Burnie-based Direct Edge, Brisbane-based G&O Kert, Melbourne-based Hilton Manufacturing, Perth-based Hofmann Engineering, Melbourne-based Nezkot Precision Tooling and Engineering, Adelaide-based Plasteel and Adelaide-based Redarc.

Rheinmetall is transferring critical know-how to local SMEs to support the sustainment of the BOXER CRV throughout the life of the Land 400 program. Local SME partners will also be included in the Rheinmetall Global Supply Chain, enabling each to export their industry leading technologies globally.

About Rheinmetall

Rheinmetall sets the global standard for excellence in a wide array of disciplines and offers an extensive array of military hardware that delivers mobility, lethality, survivability of troops, reconnaissance capability and networking of national and international systems. Rheinmetall Defence Australia and New Zealand is a subsidiary of Rheinmetall AG, with offices in Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane.

- For more information about Rheinmetall Defence visit: www.rheinmetall-defence.com
- For more information about BOXER CRV visit: www.boxercrv.com.au
- To follow BOXER CRV on twitter visit: [@boxercrv](https://twitter.com/boxercrv)

About Cablex

Established in 1985, Cablex is a privately owned Australian Company headquartered in Melbourne, Australia. Cablex is Australia’s leading manufacturer and exporter of complex wiring harnesses, electromechanical assemblies, avionic bays, consoles and box build electrical enclosures for the Defence and Aerospace market. Cablex has significant experience in developing and manufacturing electrical systems for harsh environments and developing solutions where electrical noise is a critical factor. Cablex offers bespoke end-to-end world-class engineering support and C4I systems engineering and integration. More information at: www.cablex.com.au

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