

FLIR Receives Orders for UGVs for Navy, Army



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ARLINGTON, Va. – FLIR Systems Inc. has received orders for more than 160 of the company's Centaur unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs) for the U.S. Navy and Army, the company announced. The two contracts totaling \$23.5 million include related spares and accessories and are being sourced through the Army's Man Transportable Robotic System Increment II (MTRS Inc II) program.

Since March, FLIR has announced orders totaling more than \$65 million for nearly 500 Centaur UGVs from the U.S. Air Force, Marine Corps and now Navy. Explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams will use the Centaur to assist in disarming improvised explosive devices, unexploded ordnance and similar hazardous tasks. Operators can attach different sensors and payloads to the robot to support other functions, such as chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear missions.

"With the Navy joining the MTRS Inc II program, it means that all U.S. military forces will now use a common, medium-sized robotic platform for EOD and CBRN operations," said Roger Wells, vice president and general manager of the Unmanned Systems and Integrated Solutions business at FLIR.

"In an era of increased joint service operations in combat zones worldwide, having common equipment across EOD units can support more standardized tactics and techniques, plus add new efficiencies in sustainment and training for years to come.

"Our team is incredibly proud to know all four branches of America's armed services have chosen Centaur as their mid-

sized EOD robot. And, more importantly, that our technology is helping so many warfighters keep out of harm's way," Wells said.

In 2017, the Army selected Endeavor Robotics, acquired last year by FLIR, as its medium-sized robot provider for MTRS Inc II. The company designed Centaur as its MTRS solution. FLIR is delivering robots to the Army under that multi-year program of record, which upon award was valued at more than \$150 million, including options. These latest orders fall under the current ceiling.

Centaur is a medium-sized UGV that provides a standoff capability to detect, confirm, identify, and dispose of hazards. Weighing roughly 160 pounds, the open-architecture robot features an advanced EO/IR camera suite, a manipulator arm that reaches over six feet, and the ability to climb stairs. Modular payloads can be used for CBRNE detection and other missions.

Deliveries are expected to begin in the third quarter of 2020.