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PHIL ROBINSON CBE

UK Senior Vice President for SELEX Communications

SELEX Communications, a Finmeccanica company, welcomes Phil Robinson's appointment as a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, in recognition of services to the Defence Industry.

In a career spanning over 40 years, Phil has risen to become a prominent figure in the defence industry. Today, as UK Senior Vice President for SELEX Communications, he leads our business in its position as one of the principal defence communications companies in the UK.

Phil joined The Marconi Co. in 1968. He initially worked at the Marconi Research Centre, becoming a recognised expert in satellite communications. In 1982, he moved to Marconi Communication Systems to lead a large development group. He transitioned into more commercial roles, eventually running a number of business divisions.

In 1999, he led the restructuring of Marconi Communications as part of the GEC plan to major in civil telecoms. Three businesses that were corporately programmed for closure, he managed to sell as 'going concerns'. Focusing on building the defence communications business for the future, the Chelmsford manufacturing and support activities were grown and the crypto business at Liverpool was integrated. He managed the productionisation of the Bowman Personal Role Radio (PRR), leading to on-time delivery for early operations in Afghanistan.

In 2001, Phil led the UK element of the sale of the business to Finmeccanica to form Marconi Selenia, working closely with the MOD to ensure that confidence in the business was maintained and critical capabilities were retained within the UK. With the purchase of two small businesses, he grew the company by focusing on customer needs, market diversity and the business cost base. He supported international use of the PRR – now with over 300,000 units sold to 35 countries, earning over £120M in export revenues and a Queen's Award for Enterprise in 2005.

In 2004, he managed the acquisition of the communications business of BAE Systems, once again working closely with the MOD to ensure retention of a range of UK-specific capabilities. He sensitively managed the integration of the two businesses to form SELEX Communications.

Since 2005, Phil has continued the organic growth of the UK business, working with our Italian colleagues to ensure continued investment in key technologies and in new facilities at Basildon, Liverpool, Filton and Portsmouth. He has built a strong partnership ethic within the business, culminating in achieving the top position in the MOD 2008 Performance Review of its designated Key Suppliers. With key roles on a number of major programmes, the business is well positioned to continue delivering critical UK defence capabilities into the future.

About SELEX Communications

<http://www.selex-comms.co.uk/selex/index1.htm>