

DSEI 2017

“The most comprehensive display of military technology”

Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI), regarded as the most comprehensive display of military technology, has been termed by UK's Secretary of State for Defence, Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon as “a remarkably stable landmark in an otherwise turbulent world”. The most recent edition, held 12-15 September 2017 at ExCeL London, did not disappoint.

Vayu's editorial team were at the buzzing exhibition halls which welcomed 35,008 visitors, a 3% rise since 2015, with 1,600 companies, while the dockside venue hosted a spectacular line up of seven visiting international warships. Not to be outdone by the naval sector, an impressive array of aircraft stationed at ExCeL's East Terrace included a Chinook and a Black Hawk. The land dimension was in full force, with armoured vehicles such as Rheinmetall's 'British by Birth' 8x8 multi-role Boxer and its Leopard main battle tank among those drawing much attention.

DSEI also attracted an exceptional level of UK Government support, involving the Department for International Trade; Cabinet Office; Home Office; and the Ministry of Defence. The line-up of ministerial guests included the Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon, Secretary of State for Defence, who attended for three days in a row, giving two keynote speeches; Rt Hon Liam Fox MP, Secretary of State for International Trade; Harriett Baldwin, Minister for Defence Procurement; and Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP, Minister of State for Security. Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood MP, Minister for Defence People and Veterans, attended the inaugural *People and Skills Day* at DSEI to highlight how the UK MOD was tackling the challenge of recruiting and retaining personnel from “welders to cyber warriors”, while “adjusting to society's changing expectations and the exponential advance of technology”.

This was achieved by a three-pronged strategy including the creation of “new qualifications in export and International trade, a common industry



NAMMO was a key sponsor of the event

‘Saab Insight’ at DSEI 2017

Saab exhibited its formidable range of products and exhibited its ‘innovative thinking’ through demonstrations, mini-talks, press briefings and a new format called *Saab Insight* on a big screen. Targeting the air, land and sea sectors, Saab welcomed visitors to its stand to see how design, technology and innovative thinking were overcoming barriers to mission success. Airborne, GlobalEye ensures a seamless knowledge of air, land and sea activity, allowing military commanders “to detect and respond to threats wherever they arise.” Near the Saab stand, a Gripen fighter was on display, the first time a full scale replica of the aircraft has been at DSEI. Ground-based operations were represented by the Carl-Gustaf and NLAW infantry weapons, whilst “a further advance in infantry support firepower is to be expected.” At the centre of the stand was a vehicle hosting a variety of Saab capabilities that include CBRN, air defence, multispectral camouflage and C2. Maritime solutions on display showed how Saab could detect, deter and protect ‘your chosen mission’ platform, be it a ship, submarine, or aircraft. These included the RBS15 missile, A26 submarine, naval combat systems and the underwater Multi-shot Mine Neutralisation System (MuMNS) remotely operated vehicle.



The new Gripen Aggressor