



Strategic Partnership Grants DCMA Combat Vehicles – Detroit Special Functions for *Stryker* Contract

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Defense Contract Management Agency Combat Vehicles – Detroit signed an updated memorandum of agreement with the *Stryker* Brigade Combat Team Project Management Office in late 2007, on the grounds of the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command Life Cycle Management Command in Warren, Mich.

This strategic partnership is designed to allow DCMA Combat Vehicles – Detroit to provide special contract administration and program management functions at supplier locations supporting the SBCT PMO via the authority delegated by the government oversight clauses in the *Stryker* contracts. The memorandum of agreement represents the entire DCMA enterprise support commitment to this customer.

The Army awarded a \$3.7 billion requirements contract for what is now the *Stryker* family of medium-weight vehicles in November 2000. The project was a joint venture between prime contractors General Motors Defense and General Dynamics Land Systems. Although GDLS subsequently purchased GMD, the joint venture continues with GDLS as the prime contractor.

Currently, the contract is worth more than \$7.27 billion. The customer is negotiating with the contractor for a follow-on requirements contract, which could be for an additional 4,050 vehicles at a cost of \$9.4 billion.

Stryker is a family of 10 eight-wheel drive combat vehicles that can travel at speeds up to 62 mph on highways, with a range of 312 miles. Each vehicle operates with the latest command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance equipment as well as detectors for nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. *Stryker* vehicle configurations include the nuclear, chemical and biological reconnaissance vehicle; anti-tank guided missile, reconnaissance and medical evacuation vehicles; and carriers for mortars, engineer squads, infantry squads, command groups and fire support teams. The mobile gun system, a separate variant, is armed with a GDLS 105 mm tank cannon in a low-profile, fully stabilized, “shoot on the move” turret. It carries 18 rounds of NATO standard 105 mm main gun ammunition; 400 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition; and 3,400 rounds of 7.62 mm ammunition.

Soldiers from the 4th Squad, 2nd *Stryker* Brigade Combat Team, Fort Lewis, Wash., were at the forefront

of the latest major offensive Jan. 8, 2008. They went up against one of the largest known redoubts of al-Qaida in Iraq. For the past five years, *Stryker* brigades have been the weapon system of choice for the U.S. Army in Iraq to combat urban insurgency. Because of their flexibility and extensive training, *Stryker* brigades have served in most of the major campaigns throughout most of the theater of operations.

A newly formed *Stryker* brigade from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, is currently in place at Camp Taji in Iraq. The official mission turnover was scheduled for Jan. 15, 2008. The Hawaii Brigade took over the mission from the 1st *Stryker* Brigade Combat Team, “Ironhorse,” out of Fort Hood, Texas. **C**



From left: Army Col. Robert Schumitz, *Stryker* Brigade Combat Team; Garlin Gilchrist, DCMA Combat Vehicles – Detroit; and Army Col. Dion King, DCMA Combat Vehicles – Detroit, sign a strategic partnership document. (Photo by Michelle Zucchetto)