

**The UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) has a major acquisition programme underway to provide the British Army with a fleet of specialist armoured vehicles. The Specialist Vehicle (SV) programme will deliver a fleet of medium weight, armoured fighting vehicles to replace increasingly obsolescent In-Service vehicles deployed on operations, and to fulfil future expeditionary roles.**

Experience in Iraq and Afghanistan has underlined the requirement for a family of vehicles which are manoeuvrable, capable of a variety of roles from Recce to Direct Fire and yet have sufficient armoured protection to support a balanced, rapidly deployable medium weight force. The SV programme is critical to success in the land environment, and Scout in particular is one of the Army's highest equipment priorities and will be the cornerstone of the Army's Reconnaissance Capability.

Atkins was selected to support the Medium Armoured Tracks Team (MATT) to deliver the Assessment Phase of the SV programme, in particular to help MoD develop an independent view of the current and future capability within the armoured fighting vehicle domain and provide support to determine the optimum system solution. The SV programme is working to an accelerated schedule and Atkins is providing specific skills and resources to help the MoD to achieve the timeline targets, whilst striving to secure long term value for money in the sector.

# Specialist Vehicle (SV) Programme

Client: UK Ministry of Defence (MoD)



Atkins primary role has been supporting the MoD to deliver the SV Assessment Phase in compliance with the DE&S acquisition processes for a Cat A programme and to meet the requirements of the programmes' stakeholders, including Scrutiny and the Office of Government Commerce (OGC). The Assessment Phase was successfully completed with the achievement of the stretch milestone date for Main Gate, enabling a ministerial announcement of the preferred supplier in line with the accelerated schedule. We continue to support MoD in the Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFV) sector and are currently working with the MoD on the SV programme transition to Demonstration Phase.

#### Challenges Faced

MoD is working to a challenging schedule driven by the need to bring Scout into service as soon as possible. A key part of the challenge has been the ability of the MoD to construct an effective competition to select a Specialist Vehicle Provider and for this, the MoD has used skills and competencies from independent consultants to help them, a key role that Atkins performs.

#### Solutions and Added Value

Atkins form a significant proportion of the team providing specialist technical and project management staff delivering against the MoD's objectives of defining the optimum vehicle capability in terms of performance, cost, time and risk.

Atkins breadth and depth of capability provides MoD with flexibility in their resource management by providing the full range of accessible and appropriate skills.

Terry Baldwin, MoD Team Leader for MATT commented:-

"Independent consultancy support is a key part of our team and as our Independent Systems House and largest supplier of consultancy support, Atkins has made a significant contribution to our ability to hit these milestones"

John McGlynn, Land Programme Director for Atkins Defence commented:-

"Our role is to provide robust, evidence-backed advice to MoD, take direction from MoD leadership and ensure that we do everything in our power to deliver the requirements of the programme".

#### Services Provided

Atkins has provided the following services to the Medium Armoured Track Team:

- Project Management, monitoring and controls;
- Competition Support and Tender Assessment;
- Systems Engineering (including technical domain specialists);
- Requirements Management and Trading;
- Programme Options Analysis;
- Through Life Cost Modelling;
- Managing Technology Demonstrator Programmes;
- Stakeholder Management;
- Safety & Supportability.

Throughout the SV Programme, Atkins has demonstrated the success of the independent approach by developing an environment with the MoD and major defence contractors which permits constructive challenge to thinking through impartial, evidence based assessments. Our strong focus on 'outcome' has enabled us to make a significant and recognised contribution to its progress.

As the independent partner of choice in Defence & Security, we pride ourselves on finding the right solution whatever the challenge. Our expertise spans land, sea and air as well as information and communications and we work throughout the lifecycle of a platform, system or facility.

For more information please visit:

**[www.atkinsglobal.com/defence](http://www.atkinsglobal.com/defence)** or contact  
**[defencecommunications@atkinsglobal.com](mailto:defencecommunications@atkinsglobal.com)**