



SEA-led team wins tactical surveillance radar contract

To conceal assets is an established military tactic deployed against surveillance. The techniques employed may be as simple as covering objects, eg vehicles, with nets and/or hiding them under the natural cover of tree foliage. More sophisticated measures include changing signatures to create illusions in the data.

The MoD's Research Acquisition Organisation (RAO), in conjunction with Tactical UAV (TUAV) IPT from the Defence Procurement Agency, has embarked on a research programme to counter these effects deployed specifically against imaging radar systems.

Following a competition within the UK Radar Tower of Excellence (co-operative groupings, led by the MoD, which bring together key players in the UK defence industry sector and leading UK academic establishments), SEA has been appointed the prime contractor to lead this research. SEA's key partner on the programme is EADS-Astrium with further support from BAE SYSTEMS and the University of Bath.

Over the next two years SEA will lead the development of a wide-band low frequency radar which is robust against concealment and deception techniques. It is then planned to deploy this radar on a sequence of trials to explore and develop counter techniques.

Commenting on this newly awarded contract James Prain, SEA's Business Executive stated: "This is a significant win for us against tough competition. We have excellent heritage in this field and we look forward to working with the RAO on this important programme of research and downstream exploitation into robust operational systems."