## Fuzing for UK Precision Guided Bomb UK PGB – ASR 1248

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UK PGB program still in competition
Down selection process has resulted in 2 final competitors
MBDA/Boeing bidding with UK-JDAM variant
Raytheon Systems UK bidding with Paveway IV
Both Primes have selected MEHTF as the fuze for their proposals
Award announcement anticipated in May 03, contract 3Q03



- Program Background -
- UK Fuzing Philosophy -
  - UK Fuzing Options -



- Technical and Development Status -

Jointly prepared presentation by ATK and TME



The RAF Staff Target (ST(A) 1248) was initiated in the early 90s

- The program is now known as UK Precision Guided Bomb
  - UK PGB

The program was initially conceived as a tail modification kit for the UK in-service, 2" pocket, bomb stock

- In parallel, UK MoD sponsored UK-US PSFT program giving support to MEHTF
- MEHTF is being developed for AFRL by ATK with TME support

In 2000 UK MoD/Dstl studies established that the US Mk82 was better suited to UK requirements than the UK 540lb warhead

Dstl undertook a fuze study that concluded that MEHTF was the best solution but that JPF was an acceptable alternative



Up to the mid-80s the UK fuzing stock consisted of a large variety of release mode specific fuzes and pistols

The Falklands War highlighted some performance problems and the logistic burden associated with this variety of fuzes

As a result, the UK established a requirement for a single fuze capable of fuzing all UK freefall and LGB weapons in all release modes

TME won the subsequent competition with MFBF

This fuze has been used very successfully by the UK since the early 90s (Desert Storm, Kosovo, ...)



UK policy is to have a variety of weapons for all war scenarios/ targets

- But number of individual weapons is small
- To avoid a logistic burden and achieve economies of scale, a single all-purpose fuze solution is preferred
  - Approach proved successful with MFBF
  - MoD accepts that this may result in a fuze overmatched to some requirements, including PGB

MoD has invested in advanced/intelligent bomb fuzing research in conjunction with TME for over 10 years

Recently, MoD fuze investment has been channelled into MEHTF through PSFT plus some other technology risk reduction exercises





#### By 2001 the UK fuzing philosophy resulted in 3 basic options:

- MFBF adaptation
- JPF (FMU-152)
- MEHTF (2" fuze in 3" 'can')

# However, UK procurement policy remains to procure Systems and not components

Thus fuze selection has been left to the Primes

Both MBDA and Raytheon have selected MEHTF for their PGB proposals



Prior to MEHTF and PSFT, both ATK and TME funded hard target research work

TME & ATK have successfully worked on MEHTF and PSFT for the last five years

TME will be Prime for UK PGB with ATK as major sub-contractor

These roles will reverse for a US program

PGB will fund the final development and qualification of the MEHTF/PSFT fuze

UK development investment in MEHTF has been circa \$20M

PSFT and PGB

**Production:** 

Initially approximately 2,000 weapons



#### MEHTF – UK PGB Timelines 🚱



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# MEHTF Technical and Development Status



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#### From Paper Concepts To Test hardware To Functional Prototypes







From Paper Concepts To Test hardware To Functional Prototypes To Development Hardware



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From Paper Concepts To Test hardware To Functional Prototypes To Development Hardware To PSFT Development Hardware



### Assembled Fuze Boards 🚱







- Under both US and UK government funding, and with our own IRAD and PV support, ATK and TME have brought the MEHTF fuze to a level of maturity suitable for selection in a major UK weapon procurement program
- MEHTF fits with the UK philosophy of utilising a single fuze with the capability and the growth potential to support many future weapons
- MEHTF will be the UK's next generation fuze and has strong potential to spiral back into the US









