

The Portuguese Air Force is buying a new F-16 simulator



The Portuguese Air Force awarded a contract to IFAD TS A/S for the purchase of a new F-16 simulation based tactical training centre

On 6th January 2022, the Portuguese Visa Court approved the purchase of a new F-16 tactical training centre for the Portuguese Air Force (PRTAF).

IFAD TS A/S (IFAD), together with subcontractor Arenalogic ApS (AL), has been selected as supplier of the DART (Deployable Affordable Readiness Trainer). The DART is a new combined F-16 and JTAC/GCI tactical training centre, which will support the Portuguese defence in educating and training their F-16 pilots in tactical Air-to-Air (A/A) and Air-to-Ground (A/G) operations, their Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTAC) in Close Air Support (CAS) operations, and Ground Controlled Intercept (GCI) personnel.

The DART has been jointly developed by IFAD and AL and have been in successful operation, for several years, at the Royal Danish Air Force (RDAF).



All pictures courtesy of the Royal Danish Air Force (RDAF)

The DART system will be delivered in 2022

The DART system is purchased as a Commercial off the Shelf (COTS) solution with additions based on specific PRTAF needs (DART-PT version). The DART-PT delivery is expected in the fourth quarter of 2022 and will be followed by a Support & Development phase in 2023.

DART-PT system facts

The DART-PT system consists of the following components:

- 4 x F-16 Air Combat Trainer Simulators (F-16 ACT)
- 2 x F-16 Instructor stations (F-INSTR, IoS)
- 2 x JTAC training systems (IFACTS)
- Radio simulator solutions (IRAS)
- Simulator gateways (ISIM Bridge)

DART-PT is delivered with:

- 4 Cave visual systems
- 4 specially designed cockpits
- 4 Hands-on-throttle-and-stick (HOTAS) systems
- 4 head tracking systems for simulating the Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing and Sighting System (JHMCS)
- Various PCs, monitors, headsets, etc.



Realistic and effective mission critical training

- F-16 pilot training (basic and advanced, as well as A/A and A/G)
- Simulation of all Portuguese F-16 weapon systems (A/A and A/G)
- Simulation of Litening G4 ATGP targeting POD
- Link-16 simulation
- Enables joint training with JTACs and GCIs (Joint operations) in real time
- Enables co-training with other simulator centres across geography
- Enables co-training with real planes and real GCI stations using LVC (Live-Virtual-Constructive)
- Training with Night Vision Google (NVG) and JHMCS

In respect to the newly awarded contract award Mr. Benny Graff Mortensen, President and CEO of IFAD said "This is an important award for us. We are very much looking forward to the collaboration with the Portuguese Air Force". "We are committed to maintaining our technology and expertise to the benefit of our military users and we are confident that we will meet the needs of the PRTAF for a cutting-edge F-16 simulator training system."

DART - a competitive F-16 training solution

DART is a fully developed COTS F-16 tactical training system, with the possibility of national adaptations. DART is currently in operation at RDAF in Denmark. The DART solution is now available on the international market for current and future F-16 user nations. The system is extremely competitive in terms of training value, functionality and price.

Reference

Commander Col Holstener-Jørgensen of the Royal Danish Air Force, F-16 Fighter Wing Skrydstrup stated: "DART makes it possible to use a simulator that is completely up-to-date on the software side and compatible to the F-16 aircraft that we use in the Danish Defence. The simulators allow us to train important tactics and procedures in a timesaving and inexpensive way. With the new simulators, we can supplement the current training flights with scenarios and situations, which, during current live flights, would require disproportionate resources."

More information

Feel free to contact us for further information if you find this solution interesting or to discuss a solution that suits your needs. Please contact:

Henrik Fabricius
Director, Sales & Marketing
IFAD TS A/S
+45 6311 8891 · Henrik.fabricius@ifad.dk www.ifad.dk

