



Alvis Vickers

# IMPACT

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## Alvis exhibits at IDEX

Alvis is showcasing its fighting vehicles and bridging products at a major defence exhibition in the Middle East - IDEX 2003.



The exhibition, at the International Exhibition Centre at Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates on 16 - 20 March, is expected to attract high level military delegations from the Middle East and further afield.

Alvis Vickers is exhibiting the Piranha Light Armoured Vehicle and the Tactica Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Vehicle. Both Piranha and Tactica are in service in the Middle East.

Managing Director of Alvis Vickers, Trevor Harrison, said: "This major exhibition provides a good opportunity for Alvis Vickers to highlight its expertise across a wide range of defence programmes from wheeled vehicles to heavy armour."

"We already have an excellent customer base in the Middle East. For instance, we are continuing to support the Royal Army of Oman which has a large number of Alvis Vickers vehicles in its fleet including Challenger 2, Stormer, Scorpion and Piranha. Piranha is also in service in Qatar and, in Kuwait, we are working with the Kuwait Land Force on the Desert Warrior programme."



▲ Alvis Vickers is exhibiting the successful Piranha Light Armoured Vehicle - in service in the Middle East - at IDEX 2003.

## FRES industry day

A Government decision is expected in April on procurement options for the Future Rapid Effect System (FRES) programme - the British Army's biggest ever land systems project.

"Whatever the outcome we're confident we are going to play a major role," said Richard Wigley, the Alvis Vickers Project Director FRES.

He was speaking after an industry day at which the Ministry of Defence (MoD) revealed details of the ground-breaking flagship project.

The London briefing on 28 February, aimed at putting momentum into the programme and inviting expressions of interest, attracted 370 representatives from UK and overseas companies.

It was opened by the Assistant Chief of the General Staff, Major General David Richards, and attendees were told that FRES is a pressing programme backed by genuine resource with around £6 billion in the budget.

The requirement is for around 2,500 vehicles for up to 16 different roles, and

the importance of FRES as key to the future of the Army and at the heart of its digitised, balanced force, was emphasised.

Delegates were told: "This is a high profile, prestigious programme for those of you who aspire to become involved,



and FRES must succeed - it must deliver!"

They heard that the programme is different in that to create a credible medium, deployable and sustainable capability, the intention is to push the

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Working under the desert sun - Kuwaiti technicians on the Desert Warrior Repair and Recovery course run by Alvis Vickers.

See page 2 for a special feature on the Desert Warrior programme.

that has contributed to the success of our defence systems that are in service throughout the world." Alvis Vickers is sharing a prominent exhibition stand at IDEX with other companies in the Alvis plc group including Alvis Bridging, Alvis OMC and Alvis Hägglunds. Delegates are invited to visit the Alvis plc stand D2 which is situated outside the UK Pavilion. See page 4 for more news about Alvis at IDEX.

## Engineer vehicles are praised at launch day

The Engineer Tank System (ETS) programme at Alvis Vickers is "a shining example of how SMART acquisition should work."

That was the verdict of the Defence Procurement Agency's Executive Director 1, Ian Fauset, when he congratulated Alvis Vickers on the success of the programme at a major launch event on 20 February.

In a speech to Alvis Vickers staff and more than 40 invited guests from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and British Army - including the Engineer in Chief, Brigadier David Innes - Mr Fauset said it was "marvellous" to be able to celebrate success.

He was speaking as Alvis Vickers unveiled the first prototypes of the TITAN bridgelayers and TROJAN breacher vehicles less than two years since the company was awarded a £250 million contract to develop and produce 66 of these vehicles for the Royal Engineers.

"Our Engineer customer is really looking forward to getting its hands on this kit - they have had outdated



▲ Ian Fauset speaking at Newcastle.

equipment for some time now and what they need is modern equipment.

"It is a real success story and I am confident that when they get this equipment they will be delighted with it. The British Army will like it and I am confident that other armies will want it too," said Mr Fauset.

He paid tribute to the excellent working relationship between the MoD's ETS Integrated Project Team led by Nigel Gilhead and the Alvis Vickers team led by Bob Armstrong. He also praised the work done by Alvis Vickers' key sub-contractors - many of whom were represented at the launch event.

Managing Director of Alvis Vickers, Trevor Harrison, said the launch of the

## STOP PRESS!

As Impact went to press Alvis Vickers was in the final stages of negotiation with General Dynamics UK which is due to award a multi-million pound contract for a Challenger 2 Platform Battlefield Information System Application (PBISA).

PBISA will integrate information derived from a battlefield management system with information derived from Challenger 2 sensors - providing tank commanders with enhanced situational awareness and planning and messaging support.

PBISA Project Manager at Alvis Vickers, Mark Barnes, said: "In essence, the contract will cover us to write software and to design, specify and procure hardware that will be installed in the UK's in-service Challenger 2 tanks."



▲ Taking a look at the TROJAN prototype are Ian Fauset (rear of picture), the British Army's Engineer in Chief, Brigadier David Innes, and Trevor Harrison.

ETS prototypes was a very special occasion and he paid tribute to everyone working on what was one of the fastest equipment programmes ever to be achieved.

"Alvis Vickers has harnessed its skills in complex system integration and key suppliers have made a significant contribution. This programme is being achieved in record time and it's due to the combined efforts of industry, the MoD and the Army," he said.

See page 2 for commemorative pictures of the ETS launch day

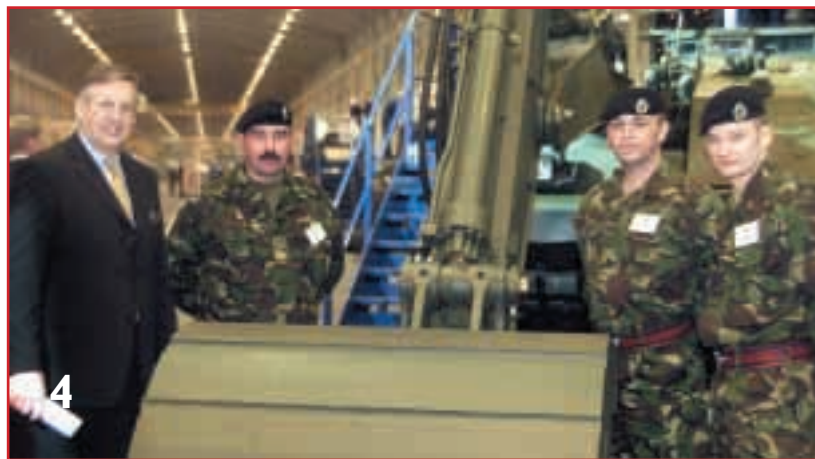
# ETS is unveiled at Newcastle

A musical fanfare and light show heralded the unveiling of the TROJAN and TITAN prototypes on 20 February. VIP guests inspected the vehicles and later visited the Alvis Vickers trials range at Ridsdale to see demonstrations of special-to-role equipment on trials rigs - including a TITAN bridge launch.



**Key to photographs of the launch event (all people are named from left to right):**

1. Examining the TITAN powerpack are Major Tim Copestake and Major Sid Lawrence (both on the ETS Integrated Project Team) with Alvis Vickers Engineering Director Bill Jamieson and Director Equipment Capability (Direct Battlefield Engagement), Brigadier Ian Rodley.
2. The MP for Tyne Bridge, David Clelland, and the President of the Armoured Engineers Association, General Sir John Stibbon, explore the TROJAN prototype with Alvis Vickers FRES Project Director, Richard Wigley.
3. Engineer in Chief (Army), Brigadier David Innes, hears about the merits of TROJAN from Corporal Mark Eastley of the Royal Engineers Trials and Development Unit (RETDU).
4. Checking over the TROJAN excavator are Trevor Harrison with members of RETDU, Staff Sergeant Paul Binns, WO2 Arthur Cargill and Corporal Mark Crawford.
5. Discussing TITAN's bridgelaying capability are the MoD's ETS IPT leader, Nigel Gilhead, Alvis Vickers Engineering Director, Bill Jamieson, and the Defence Procurement Agency's Executive Director 2 and Master General of the Ordnance, Major General Peter Gilchrist.
6. Domnick Hunter was one of several key ETS sub-contractors that put on displays at the launch event. Others were AdVal Group plc, Parker Integrated Systems Division, William Cook Defence, Pearson Engineering, Tyco Electronics, Ultra Electronics and Caterpillar Defence Products.



## Welcome on board!

**Mike Pope has been appointed to the board of Alvis Vickers as Business Development Director.**

Mike, who was formerly Head of Business Development at Telford, is responsible for all UK Ministry of Defence business (with the exception of the FRES programme which has its own Alvis Vickers director) and for all company exhibitions and publicity. He and his staff will produce customer proposals for both UK and export market initiatives.

Mike, aged 41, studied mechanical and electrical engineering at Wolverhampton University. He spent more than 18 years at GKN Defence where he undertook a variety of engineering, project management and sales and marketing roles.

He later became Sales and Marketing Director at Engage (a GKN Westland Division)



▲ Mike Pope.

before joining Alvis Vehicles Ltd in August 2000.

Mike, who is 41 and married with two sons, will be based at Alvis Vickers' Newcastle site.

Commenting on his appointment to the board, he said: "I am excited by the opportunities ahead of us. Alvis Vickers is doing a lot of excellent work that we need to make our customers more aware of and I certainly want to strengthen existing relationships and develop new relationships with our customers."

"Main priorities for my department in the immediate future are to secure the Future Command and Liaison Vehicle contract and other key programme work such as the Armoured Battlefield Support Vehicle programme - in addition to ensuring we create winning proposals and an outstanding profile for Alvis Vickers."

## The continuing success of Desert Warrior

**In 1993, under a 'government to government' contract, Kuwait bought 254 Warrior fighting vehicles that had been in service with the British Army.**

**By January of 1994, Alvis had a team of staff based in Kuwait to embark on what is known as the "Desert Warrior" programme - embracing crew training and support services.**

**As this huge support programme enters its tenth year, Impact looks at past achievements and ongoing work by the Alvis Vickers team in support of the Kuwait Land Force.**

Working under the desert sun and sleeping in an army tent at night. Not a typical day at the office for most of us but for members of the Alvis Vickers Desert Warrior team it's pretty routine.

The team, led since last November by Director and General Manager of the programme, Michael Coombs, is currently working on a further extension to the original Desert Warrior contract which will see Alvis Vickers staff providing support to the Kuwait Land Force until next year.

Everyday duties for some of the Alvis Vickers team include permanent detachment with three battalions of Desert Warrior on the border with Iraq.

Alvis Vickers' former Director and General Manager of Desert Warrior, Colin Coleman, recently returned from Kuwait to take up a new post as Director of Product Support and told Impact about working life in the desert.

"It can be a challenging and harsh environment to work in. Temperatures can reach 50 to 60 degrees Celsius and there are times when you miss the comforts of home."



▲ Instructor Nigel Broadbent examines a Desert Warrior power pack with students on the vehicle mechanics course.



▲ Desert Warrior on deployment in Kuwait.

"But the job in Kuwait is an extremely satisfying one. Our team has performed well on all the various facets of our contracts and it's great to see the Kuwait Land Forces deploying Desert Warrior successfully," said Colin.

He explained that Alvis Vickers was contracted by the British Government to do the work in Kuwait.

"We work through the Kuwait Project Office which is part of the Defence Export Services Organisation. We've recently had a two-year extension to our contract worth \$11 million and in the past 18 months we've secured contracts valued at around \$20 million for additional spares and repair work," said Colin.

The company's original contract covered the training of vehicle crews along with vehicle commissioning and support. The first Kuwaiti vehicle crews were trained in the UK before returning to Kuwait where the Land Force now undertakes its own crew training.

The initial delivery of modified Warrior vehicles - incorporating an American turret and 25 mm gun - was completed by Alvis Vickers at Telford in 1995 and in 1996 the company won a four-year contract to maintain Desert Warrior in Kuwait. In 2001 the company beat competition to secure the current contract for further vehicle maintenance work and to train vehicle

Technicians in the Kuwait Land Force check the engine in a Desert Warrior Repair and Recovery Vehicle.



▲ Michael Coombs - leading the Desert Warrior programme.

maintainers.

"We've completed the Line 1 maintenance training which is for training maintainers to work in the field. We're now about half-way through the Line 2 training which is for maintainers working back in the workshops."

"The programme involves around 25 westerners - including employees from Telford - who will have delivered training to more than 150 technicians by the time the programme finishes in September 2003," explained Colin.

Looking back on his time in Kuwait, Colin said: "We have developed an excellent working relationship with the Kuwait Land Force. Our customer is delighted with our work and I believe Desert Warrior continues to be a very successful Middle East programme."

# Alvis promotes wide vehicle range at IDEX

**The Piranha Light Armoured Vehicle - already in service in Oman and Qatar - is sure to be a big crowd-puller at the Alvis stand at the IDEX defence exhibition this month.**

Alvis Vickers is exhibiting the 25mm turret variant which boasts high levels of protection and mobility. Piranha's unique driveline and suspension system, coupled with a high power-to-weight ratio, provides remarkable cross-country mobility and excellent acceleration. The vehicle's low profile and all-terrain agility ensure a high level of survivability.

"Piranha's compact design provides it with excellent strategic and tactical mobility and makes it an ideal vehicle for rapid deployment roles," said Alvis Vickers Business Development Manager, John Davidson.

## Piranha NBC

He added that visitors to IDEX would also be able to gain a unique insight into the NBC (nuclear, biological and chemical) reconnaissance variant of Piranha. A model of a similar variant is on show and an associated interactive video enables viewers to take a virtual tour inside the vehicle.

"The systems chosen for this variant represent the very latest state-of-the-art technology available in the world in order to provide armed forces with the most modern complete NBC protection system available.

"The combined system incorporates equipment that is integrated to detect and identify chemical and biological warfare agents.

Previous applications required two separate systems and vehicles to perform the same function.

"The increasing availability of biological and chemical agents makes it vitally important for governments to



▲ The RG-12 - on show at IDEX and deployed in the Middle East.

equip themselves with a means of warning and reporting on possible contamination - Piranha provides this capability," said John.

Several variants of Piranha are in service in Oman, including the command, mortar, armoured personnel carrier and the repair and recovery vehicle. In 1994 the first battalion was ordered by Oman and in 2000 Alvis Vickers received a further order for a second battalion of Piranha vehicles and associated logistic support. The latest vehicle order was

completed and shipped at the beginning of this year.

A Piranha fleet equipped with a 90mm weapon station is also in service in the State of Qatar where Alvis Vickers has just completed a contract for the provision of technical assistance to land forces operating the vehicles.

## Tactica EOD

Another key Alvis Vickers exhibit at IDEX is the Tactica Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Vehicle. This version of Tactica is in service with the British Army and has recently been ordered by the Norwegian Air Force for airfield defence.

Tactica's many variants are in service with emergency and security forces in 11 countries worldwide including Middle Eastern nations and NATO countries. The Tactica family of versatile, cost-effective 4 x 4 wheeled vehicles has been designed to accept a range of turbo-charged diesel engines to meet customers' preferences.

"The Middle East is a very important customer region for Alvis Vickers. Both Piranha and Tactica are already successfully deployed in the Middle East and we obviously hope that their presence here at IDEX will generate more interest from prospective customers," said Alvis Vickers Sales Engineering Manager, Tim Burleigh, who is working at IDEX.



▲ Alvis Vickers has combined the very latest NBC detection equipment into one integrated system and installed this advanced technology into the world's leading multi-wheeled vehicle - Piranha.

Also on display at the Alvis stand - stand D2 outside the UK Pavilion - is the Alvis OMC RG-12 wheeled vehicle - used by a number of countries for internal security operations and already deployed in the Middle East. The vehicle provides high levels of survivability with protection against firebombs and a variety of grenade-type weapons and mines.

Alvis Vickers is also displaying models of the Challenger 2E Main Battle Tank, the Desert Warrior which

is in service with the Kuwait Land Force and the Scorpion 90 combat vehicle - also deployed in the Middle East.

Models being exhibited by Alvis Hägglunds at IDEX include the CV90120 vehicle and the BVs10 armoured all-terrain vehicle. Alvis Bridging is displaying a large-scale model of its modular bridging system which is in service with the British Army.

"Our bridging is an integral part of the British Armoured Brigade and has been used successfully in desert conditions. Its modular configuration is flexible and also makes it an ideal choice for humanitarian aid and disaster relief," said Head of Sales at Alvis Bridging, Hugh Stott.



▲ Piranha is in service in Qatar.



▲ The proven Alvis Vickers Scorpion - designed for multi-role capability.



▲ Tactica EOD is being exhibited at IDEX. Tactica is in service with 11 countries worldwide.



▲ The Alvis Hägglunds BVs10 vehicle on exercise in the Middle East.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

■ Alvis Vickers has agreed an Enabling Contract with Royal Ordnance plc to undertake design definition work on the TERRIER engineer vehicle.

■ As *Impact* went to press, Alvis Vickers was preparing to submit 'best and final' offers to undertake the UK Future Command and Liaison Vehicle (FCLV) programme. Two separate teams within the company have been working on the programme.

A team based at Newcastle is offering the RG-32M which is based on an in-service vehicle and a Telford team, working in partnership with Iveco, is offering a vehicle based on the Iveco Multi-Role Light Vehicle.

It is hoped that a decision on the winner of the FCLV contract will be made by the middle of this year.

■ Chairman and Chief Executive of Alvis plc, Nick Prest, led a successful Alvis Group marketing conference at Slaley Hall, near Newcastle, in January. Several directors and managers of Alvis Vickers attended. The Defence Procurement Agency's Executive Director 2 and Master General of the Ordnance, Major General Peter Gilchrist, was a special guest.

"It was the first opportunity for the heads of the new group companies and our senior marketing team members to get together. The conference was very helpful in terms of cross-fertilisation of ideas and examining our approaches to various markets," said Managing Director of Alvis Vickers, Trevor Harrison.



▲ Members of the Alvis Vickers Oman II project team with the final Piranha - a mortar variant - delivered to Oman earlier this year.



▲ Challenger 2E rises to the challenge in testing terrain.

## Engine conversion programme for CVR(T)s is motoring ahead

**Alvis Vickers has commenced work on a new contract to enhance the performance of tracked combat reconnaissance vehicles (CVR(T)) in Brunei.**

The contract, to replace CVR(T) petrol engines with diesel engines, is the latest in a significant run of 'dieselisation' work which includes programmes in the Middle East. Vehicles being converted include Scorpion and Sultan.

Director of Product Support at Alvis Vickers, Colin Coleman, explained: "Diesel engines are more economic and reliable and are better suited to desert conditions. We have undertaken a significant amount of work to supply diesel engines and ancillary components and to provide initial support for conversion work in several Middle Eastern countries."

The Brunei requirement is for the conversion of 25 CVR(T)s and a team from Alvis Vickers is currently in-country to convert the first few vehicles.

Customer Liaison Manager, Ron Walker, explained that another Alvis

Vickers team was currently in Jordan to assist with the conversion of a small number of CVR(T)s for which the company had also supplied conversion kits.

"Jordan has around 100 CVR(T)s and we are discussing the possibility of converting further vehicles for the Jordan Armed Forces," said Ron.

Alvis Vickers has supplied 60 CVR(T) dieselisation kits to Oman as part of the multi-million pound Oman II order which also included the production of Piranha Light Armoured Vehicles and provision of associated logistic support.

Oman II Project Manager for Alvis Vickers, Phil Osborne, said: "The project has gone well. All the dieselisation kits were delivered on schedule and the conversion programme is progressing well. The first batch of vehicles - converted with the support of Alvis Vickers personnel - performed well in a major military exercise in Oman. Our customer is now undertaking conversion work on the remaining vehicles."



▲ Scorpion - one of a number of CVR(T)s being converted successfully to diesel.

# FRES industry day

Continued from page 1

boundary - doing things differently in a culture of openness and trust, establishing a true partnership between the MoD and industry.

The project represents a huge challenge because of its daunting size and performance, cost and time targets with a 2009 in-service date. It is also a major opportunity with enormous export potential.



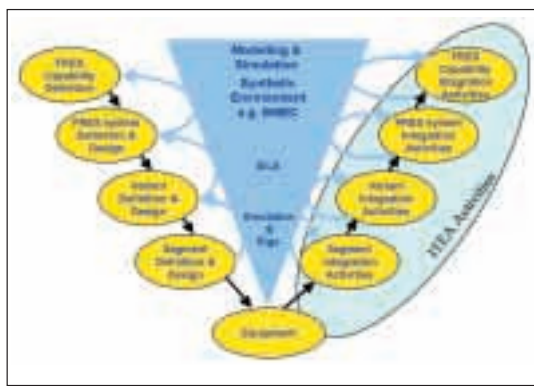
▲ Alvis Vickers FRES Project Director, Richard Wigley.

Richard Wigley said it had been an important day, launching the programme into industry and seeking expressions of interest.

He added: "That will lead to starting to populate the whole Integrated Project Team structure for the Assessment Phase."

"We believe there is an excellent chance that the supporting role we've got at the moment will be converted into being prime contractor for the programme. Whatever the outcome, Alvis Vickers is clearly going to play a major role. We've had a lot of interest from potential sub-contractors."

"The next move is the decision on the



◀ The FRES system engineering process has been developed by the joint industry and MoD team based at Alvis Vickers in Telford. FRES Project Executive, Peter Thompson, said: "The process takes the project through assessment and demonstration phases and enables us to analyse the required military capability and translate it into FRES variant functionality within the digitised battlespace."

procurement strategy - whether there will be a competition and if so what form it will take, or MoD may decide to nominate a prime and maximise the competition at sub-contractor level.

"One of the key capabilities being looked for is knowledge of the current armoured vehicle fleet and how the British Army goes about its business. Clearly Alvis Vickers is the company that has that knowledge."

"We also have complex systems integration skills and we have won an award for SMART acquisition on the ETS programme for our culture and the processes we're using."

A website allowing companies to register their interest in the FRES programme by the end of March 2003 has opened at: [www.fres-uk.com](http://www.fres-uk.com)

## Finns evaluate Alvis bridging

**Representatives of the Finnish Defence Forces have been conducting an intensive evaluation of the Alvis Modular Bridging System.**

During a recent visit to the UK, 14 members of the Silta 05 Project Evaluation Team spent three days at the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham where they formed joint teams with the Royal Engineers Export Support Team and regimental personnel to build and strip 32 metre general support bridges. The Defence Logistics Organisation gave presentations and joined in seminars with their Finnish counterparts on support of the bridging system in service.

The Finnish party, which included specialists in bridging, vehicles and logistics, also visited the Combat Engineer School at Minley and the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington to evaluate other aspects of the modular system including the Chieftain bridgelayer launching a 26 metre scissor bridge and combination bridging.

Senior members of the Finnish party visited Alvis Bridging at Wolverhampton where they had talks with General Manager, John Eden, and toured manufacturing facilities.

John Eden said: "It was an encouraging visit and gave us the opportunity to discuss the merits of our bridging system. The Finns seemed very impressed with our bridging as a complete modular system."

## Major step forward in BOXER programme

**The BOXER programme (formerly known as the Multi-Role Armoured Vehicle programme) has taken another major step forward with the first UK vehicle 'drive and mission modules' reaching the assembly line at Telford.**

The achievement means that Alvis Vickers is well on its way to producing the first UK prototype vehicle by autumn of this year.

The very first BOXER prototype - a German armoured personnel carrier - was rolled out at a VIP ceremony in Munich in December. Alvis Vickers is working with German and Dutch industrial partners - co-ordinated by the ARTEC joint venture company - to produce a total of 13 vehicles for armed forces in the UK, Germany and the Netherlands.

### New name

All the vehicles being produced under the programme have now been named BOXER. Alvis Vickers has designed and built the steel hulls for all of the 'BOXER' 'drive' modules and has produced a variety of vehicle sub-systems. The company is also designing and building the 'mission' modules for the UK armoured personnel carrier and command vehicles.

"We've now shipped drive module hulls to all our international partners so that they can assemble their national BOXER prototypes."

"Here in Telford our first BOXER drive module moved onto the assembly line at the end of January and then, by mid-February, it was joined by our first mission module," explained

BOXER Programme Manager at Telford, Bob George.

Alvis Häggglunds is producing the UK weapon station - which will offer the same high protection levels as the rest of the vehicle - to be integrated into the first UK armoured personnel carrier prototype. Other work happening in parallel includes the 'dressing' of a power pack installation that will be fitted into the hull on the assembly line.

"By autumn 2003 the first UK prototype is scheduled to start qualification trials including weapon firing clearance. All four UK prototypes are to be assembled by the end of the year. This means that the next 12 months promise to be our most demanding yet," said Bob.

He added: "Given the fact that this is an international programme - where communication links can be very testing - it is a credit to all of the industrial partners that we have made such excellent progress."

### UK customer

Bob said he was excited at the prospect of soon being able to show a finished vehicle to the UK customer and members of the Alvis Vickers team.

"I was lucky enough to try out the German prototype. BOXER is a fantastic vehicle and I can't wait to show the team here just what we have created."

"It's a very capable vehicle which can accommodate a large crew and their equipment. Automotively, it's second to none - the engine is very quiet, gear change is seamless, acceleration is very impressive and the handling is excellent," said Bob.



▲ The first UK prototype BOXER drive module on its way to the assembly line at Telford.

## Lights! Cameras! Action!



Piranha was the star of the show when Meridian TV filmed a "Crash Test" programme at Bovington in February. Presenter, Louise Brady, quizzed Alvis Vickers Business Development Manager,

John Davidson (pictured above), about the technology in armoured vehicles and also took Piranha for a test drive following lessons from Support Engineer, John Evans.

## Engineer speaks out

**A senior engineer from Alvis Vickers spoke from the platform at a key defence symposium at the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham early in March.**

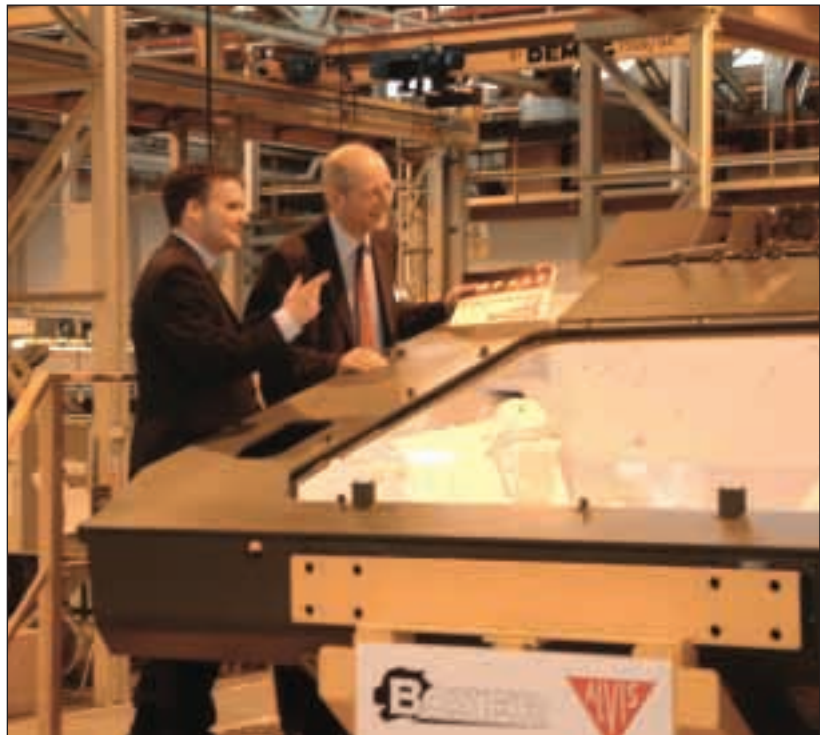
John Watts, currently working on armour and hull structures in the BOXER team at Telford, spoke on "Structural analysis and design of off-highway vehicles" at the eighth European Armoured Fighting Vehicles Symposium.



John, who is a member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and is also a Chartered European Engineer, recently gained a Masters Degree in Engineering Business Management at Warwick University (see picture above).

Alvis Vickers also sponsored a formal dinner at the symposium which was attended by key figures from the defence industry and European armed forces.

In February, Business Development Manager at Alvis Vickers, John Davidson, was a key speaker at a Light Armoured Vehicle Symposium in London where he talked about vehicle design considerations including survivability, lethality and mobility.



▲ During a recent visit to Alvis Vickers at Telford the MP for Wrekin, Peter Bradley (right in the picture), heard all about the BOXER vehicle from Operations Director, Charlie Blakemore.

## Challenger 2 training facility opens

**Alvis Vickers Projects Director, Alan Cook, attended last month's official opening of the Donnington Yeomanry Training Facility which is equipped with Challenger 2 training aids.**

Alan (left in the picture) presented a framed Challenger 2 print to representatives of the training facility which will be used by Territorial Army soldiers.

"All the visitors got a chance to try the training simulators and everyone was very impressed with the facility," said Alan.

Alvis Vickers Customer Support Manager, Jim Schofield, explained that the company had installed a range of Challenger 2 training aids at the facility. They included precision gunnery training equipment, loader drill trainers and computer-based training.



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