

Press Release: NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) Contract Awards, Business Case Analysis of:

- Additive Manufacturing (also known as 3D Printing) in NATO Codification System (NATO Stock Numbering, NSN system).
- Compare the use of NATO Stock Numbering (NSN) versus manufacturing part numbers within ERP (and SAP) systems.

NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) awards contract for studies on Additive Manufacturing and ERP/SAP:

Specialist Engineering Consultancy (SEC) Ltd (UK) with a supporting team of specialist sub-contractors; Allan Webb Ltd, Fraunhofer IWU, PIKON International Consulting Group and Leupold Legal, are delighted to announce that they have, after a NATO competitive procurement process, been awarded a NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) contract to deliver two studies focused on:

1. Reviewing the potential benefits and risks of incorporating Additive Manufacturing (AM, also known as 3D Printing) data into the current NATO codification process, including associated legal issues.
2. Comparing the capabilities of the NATO Codification System (NCS) NATO Stock Numbering (NSN) with the use of manufacturers part numbers within Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), including System Analysis Programme (SAP) environments.

Both studies are taking a long-term perspective for the NATO Codification System, providing the NATO NCS community with a broad set of information, assessment and guidance, with opportunities to optimise the NCS.

The team considers the studies on AM / 3D Printing and ERP systems, and the potential to evaluate if and how Defence Supply Chains can best work with these rapidly developing areas as an exciting opportunity.

In delivery of the projects, SEC Ltd will be project managing a consortium of experts from the relevant specialised segments of these tasks:

- Allan Webb Ltd, United Kingdom NATO Codification System and defence logistics
- Fraunhofer IWU, Germany Additive Manufacturing / 3D Printing
- PIKON, Germany, UK, Belgium SAP/ERP
- Leupold Legal, Germany Additive Manufacturing (AM) / 3D Printing law, Information Technology Law, Intellectual Property Law.
- The team is well placed to deliver thorough, objective reviews and reports for both projects, with extensive experience and contacts on a range of international land, sea and air domains, across diverse disciplines for both civil and defence sector supply chain management.

SEC Managing Director, Ross Molay is delighted, saying:

“It was excellent news to win another NATO NSPA contract, the bid was a great team effort from our international team. I look forward to conducting the two studies with our specialists’ team to deliver value added support to NSPA on these far-reaching studies.”

UK Based Supply Chain Specialist Allan Webb Ltd is the only other team member that will work on both papers. With a strong and extensive portfolio on NATO Codification they are perfectly placed to provide expert input on the central theme of the requirements. Managing Director Rory Lipington commented:

“The opportunity to lend our vast experience in NATO Codification to support NSPA and the wider NCS AC/135 community is extremely exciting. It’s an honour to be working with such a great team of experts to help guide the future NATO Codification.”

Leupold Legal attorney Dr. Andreas Leupold will work on the legal aspects of this project and says:

“Additive Manufacturing has many legal repercussions that must be addressed. I look forward to tackling these specific legal questions with this great team of specialists working on this NSPA contract.”

The work is already underway with the team working closely with NSPA and stakeholders from several NATO and associated countries to ensure objectives are met. The 6 months studies are scheduled to deliver to NSPA in April 2022, during which time the team will gather information from industrial and defence sources and deliver objective outputs supported by empirical evidence.

Notes to Editors:

Specialist Engineering Consultancy Ltd

SEC Ltd was founded by Ross Molay in 2018 after 35 years working for UK MoD and the UK defence sector. A small consultancy firm specialising in engineering business development and delivery projects; the company routinely manages commercial, legal, compliance, risk, supply chain, and export/import topics.

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Allan Webb Limited

Allan Webb Ltd is a leading supplier of Technical Documentation, Training, Obsolescence Management, NATO Codification, Inventory Optimisation, Data Capture / Management and Integrated Logistic Support services to government, industry and commercial clients throughout UK and Europe.

www.allanwebb.co.uk

Fraunhofer IWU

Fraunhofer Institute for Machine Tools and Forming Technology IWU is a driver for innovations in the research and development of production engineering. Around 670 highly qualified employees at our locations in Chemnitz, Dresden, Leipzig, Wolfsburg, and Zittau (all Germany) tap the new potential for competitive manufacturing in automotive and mechanical engineering, aerospace technology, medical engineering, electrical engineering, and precision and micro engineering. We focus on scientific developments and contract research concerning components, processes, methods, and the associated complex machine systems – the entire factory.

www.iwu.fraunhofer.de

PIKON International Consulting Group

PIKON has been advising and supporting customers from SMEs to large corporations with analysing their current situation, the strategic development of their digital roadmap, optimising and standardising processes, selecting and implementing the IT and SAP system, reporting, planning, support and training for 25 years.

www.pikon.com

Leupold Legal

Leupold Legal is a law firm with a strong focus on technology and intellectual property law. Dr. Andreas Leupold has been dealing with the legal questions of 3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing for many years. Dr. Andreas Leupold is listed by Best Lawyers for the legal areas of IT law, copyright law and litigation in Germany and has received several international awards for his work in 3D Printing & Law and for IT law. He is a founding member and a member of the supervisory council of the leading international 3D printing network “Mobility goes Additive”. In addition, Dr. Andreas Leupold is the publishing editor of the manual “3D-Printing - legal, economic and technical aspects of additive manufacturing” (German edition). His clients are based in the EU, UK, USA, India, and other countries and are leaders in their fields.

www.leupold-legal.com