Elbit Systems



s Israel's largest war industry, Elbit is fiercely proud of its "Corporate Responsibility Policy." As proof that it is a "good corporate citizen and an advocate for social and environmental responsibility," Elbit points to its design, creation and production of weapons systems. Elbit promotes its contribution to world peace, by saying that the first "key element" of its Corporate Responsibility

military forces, they are also widely exported. One of its foreign customers, the US government, purchased US\$560 million worth of Elbit's products between 2000 and 2009. Of these, 100% were for US military departments and agencies.

In amazing disregard for what Elbit actually produces (and how Israel uses them), the Ethisphere Institute ranked Elbit as the single most ethical foreign firm dealing with the US government in 2008.

Urged on by Israel's then-Deputy Defence Minister, Shimon Peres, the company began in 1966 as Elbit Computers Ltd. It was a joint venture between the Israeli military's Research Institute and Elron Electronic In-



Cameras for the Separation Wall

Israel's shopping list.

Elbit produces "Hermes" 450 and 900 drones. Israel has used these unmanned aerial vehicles for reconnaissance and air strikes in the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon (2006) and Sudan (2009).

Elbit also makes electronic systems for air-, land- and seabased weapons, including Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance systems, electro-optics and electronic warfare systems.

Other Elbit products used by Israel's military include:

- Computers, helmet-mounted systems and display systems for F-16s.
- Advanced combat training systems





Policy is "Leveraging ...our core technological knowledge, skills, capabilities and innovation to make the world a safer place."

However, Elbit's "knowledge, skills, capabilities and innovation" are almost exclusively devoted to refining the technologies of war. In fact, only 5% of Elbit's business is non-military.

With annual military revenues weighing in at US\$2.5 billion, Elbit currently ranks as the world's 33rd largest military contractor.

Although Elbit's weapons systems are extensively used by Israel's

dustries, which was founded by a former Motorola employee and funded by Israel's Discount Investment Corp. (DIC). (See DIC, p.25, and Motorola in table "CPP Investments," p.53.)

Through a subsidiary, Cyclone Aviation Products, Elbit upgrades many varieties of warplanes (including the F-4, F-5, F-15, F-16 and MiG-21 fighter aircraft), military helicopters (such as the CH-53, AH-1W, Super Puma) and the V-22 tiltrotor aircraft. The Israeli Air Force arsenal includes all of these except the F-5, MiG-21 and Super Puma, while the V-22 is near the top of

for fighter aircraft.

- Light trainer aircraft.
- Fire control systems and thermal imaging sights for weapons in Israel's main battle tanks.
- Support services for warplanes and helicopters (repair, maintenance and spare parts).
- Enhanced tactical computers for armoured vehicles, howitzers and mortars, multiple-launch rocket systems and attack helicopters.
- Skylark, a "highly-covert" drone that "supports open area as well as urban warfare scenarios," and is

"battle-proven" by Israel's military, as well as in Iraq and Afghanistan.

- Battle management systems for sensors and weapon systems within combat-vehicles.
- Cutting-edge laser systems for air, ground and naval uses that "have been tested and proven in combat for more than three decades."
- Laser designators/rangefinders for ground, naval, aircraft and unmanned aerial platforms.
- Ground-based payloads, for dayand-night scanning, tracking, range measurement, aiming and targeting.
- Thermal imaging systems. These electro-optical, infrared, night-vision technologies fulfil surveillance tasks for air, sea, ground, "homeland defense and anti-terror applications." Elbit's products include cam-

64s. The US exported this variety of attack helicopter to Israel which has then used them in attacks on Lebanon (2006) and Gaza (2008-2009).

Elbit is also one of two suppliers of the electronic detection fence which is part of Israel's separation barrier in the occupied West Bank. Two of Elbit's subsidiaries, Elop and Elbit Security Systems (Ortek), supplied the Long-Range Reconnaissance and Observation System (LORROS) surveillance system for the Ariel and A-ram sections of the separation barrier. (LORROS uses cameras made by Sony. See table, "CPP Investments, p.53.) Elbit is also involved in building the Masu'a system to monitor the Jerusalem Envelope section of Israel's separation wall. To get this contract, Elbit teamed up with Detekion, a US firm.

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eras, long range sensors, clip-on night sights, elbow sights and nightdriving systems.

Data obtained by the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade (COAT) from the "Government Contracts USA Defense Department" database, shows that between 2001 and 2003, an Elbit subsidiary supplied components for AH-64 "Apache" helicopters. Elbit's electro-optical subsidiary, Elop Ltd., received about US\$1.2 million in contracts from US Aviation and Missile Command to provide a various electrical and electronic components for AH-

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