

**31 March 2016**

**Cohort plc  
("Cohort" or "the Group")  
Contract Win**

**SEA awarded further order of up to £17m to provide External Communications System**

Cohort, the independent technology group, today announces that its subsidiary SEA has been awarded a further order by BAE Systems to provide its External Communications System for the second stage of the common External Communications System (cECS), for the Royal Navy. The value of this order will eventually be worth up to £17m, and will cover further procurement and design activities. cECS is a major step forward in flexibility and sustainability, allowing new communications equipment to be fitted much faster and at significantly lower cost than earlier generations.

SEA is already committed to providing the External Communications System (ECS) for five new build Astute-class submarines, having been awarded the initial contract in 2009. In October 2014 SEA was awarded a further order to commence design work on cECS, extending ECS to all classes of Royal Navy submarines. This second stage order continues cECS design and critical procurement activities into 2017, and further orders are expected in 2017.

**Andrew Thomis, Chief Executive of Cohort plc said:**

"I am delighted that this important programme is continuing in line with our expectations. This substantial new order builds on the award in 2014 and we look forward to continuing our successful relationship with BAE Systems and the Royal Navy."

**Ends**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **Cohort plc**

Cohort is an independent technology group working primarily for defence (air, land and sea), wider government and industry clients, through four market-facing subsidiary companies:

**MASS** - a specialist systems house with a focus on electronic warfare operational support, cyber defence and secure information systems. Based in Cambridgeshire, MASS was acquired by Cohort in August 2006;

**MCL** - an expert in sourcing, design and integration of surveillance and other electronic systems, as well as field support and training for the UK MOD and other government agencies. Based in Surrey, MCL has been part of the Group since July 2014;

**SCS** - a defence technical advisory business, providing a range of services, including independent technical evaluation of military aircraft safety, and design and delivery of large and small scale military training exercises. Owned by Cohort since flotation in March 2006;

**SEA** - an advanced systems and software business operating in the defence (naval systems, simulation, training and technology research), transport and offshore energy market sectors. Acquired by Cohort in October 2007.

**Cohort** was admitted to London's Alternative Investment Market in March 2006. It has its headquarters in Berkshire and employs in total around 650 core staff there and at its other operating company sites in Bristol, Cambridgeshire, Devon, Lincolnshire, Somerset, Surrey and Scotland.