

Media Statement – 21st December 2018

All comments below to be attributed to David Eldridge, Sales Director at Chess Dynamics Ltd:

It's clear that the sightings of drones over Gatwick Airport have exposed the frailties of the UK's Counter Unmanned Aerial System (C-UAS) policy, which currently does not allow inhibiting of a drone. However, by looking to military technologies, there are safe and effective ways of dealing with these threats that can be adapted for the aviation sector to protect and enforce its no-fly zone; such as the Anti-UAV Defence System (AUDS), which can detect, track and inhibit drones to prevent them entering restricted airspace. The military also employ specialist equipment that can detect and locate the transmitter used for remotely controlling these unmanned drones.

We need more robust laws and enforcement that prevent unmanned drones entering restricted airspace. Although the registration and education process for flying drones is moving a step forward and will come into force next year, as drone technology becomes more accessible, the Government needs to put in place measures to protect aircraft and their passengers.

-Ends-

Notes for editors:

About Chess Technologies

Founded in 1993, Chess is a world leader in advanced integrated systems and technologies for detecting, tracking, classifying and disrupting a wide range of potential naval, land and air threats. Through its two operating businesses, Chess Dynamics Ltd and Vision4ce Ltd, it provides a unique suite of innovative surveillance and fire control system capabilities that are fundamental to critical defence programmes and vital commercial infrastructure projects. One example is its highly capable military counter-UAV system, AUDS, that provides an effective defence against this growing threat. It was acquired by Cohort plc in December 2018.

About Cohort plc

Cohort plc is an independent technology company and the parent company of five innovative, agile and responsive businesses, EID, MASS, MCL, Chess Technologies and SEA, providing a wide range of services and products for UK, Portugal and international customers in defence, security and related markets.