





# BENL rMCM Capability Development & Challenges

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#### **Content**

- Quick reminder of the rMCM Project
- SITREP
- Challenges already identified
- Q&A

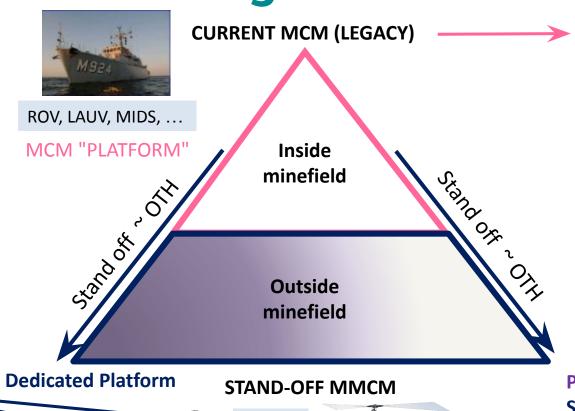




## **Quick Reminder**



#### **CONOPS - overcoming shortfalls**



#### **Recognised shortfalls**

- Transit speed
- Operations Time
- Covert operations
- Risk for personnel
- Limited self-defence
- Limited COMMS
- Limited endurance
- Staff facilities
- Drifting /buried mines

rMCM PF System of Systems

USV

ROV, TSSS, TSAS, Sweep, M-AUV, MIDS, divers ...

M-AUV

Platform of Opportunity Shore based

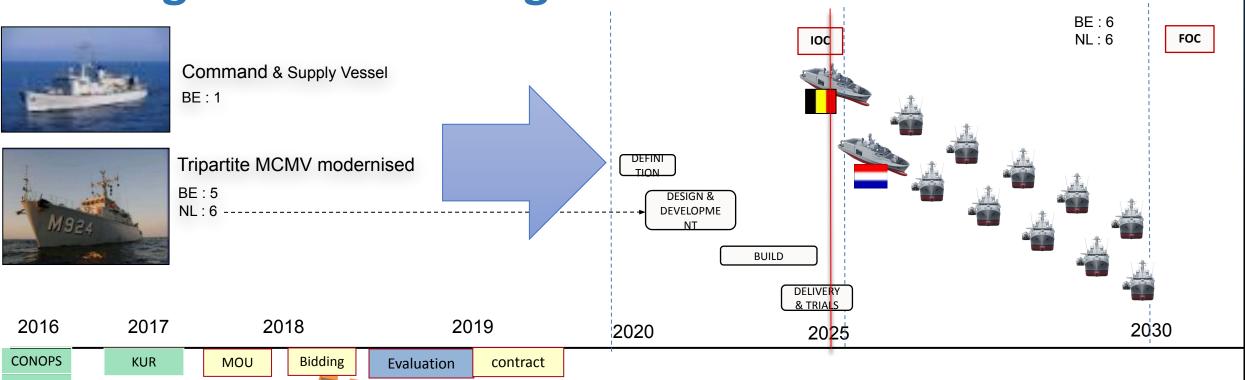
rMCM C2
Containerized TB



Unclassified

**MCM Platform** 

## **Programme Planning**



2250 Regs

DAMEN IMTECH

NAVAL GROUP ECA

SEA NAVAL
SOLUTIONS





## Scope: new Naval Mine Warfare Capability



| L (m) | W (m) | D (m) | T (T) | S (kts) | PAX     |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| 82,6  | 17,0  | 3,87  | 2.800 | 15,3    | 30 - 63 |

- Dedicated MCM PF with Military characteristics: HMS, acoustic & electromagnetic discretion, shock resistance, Cybersecurity, COMMS, FP & self-defense
- LARS for 2 USV & Helideck

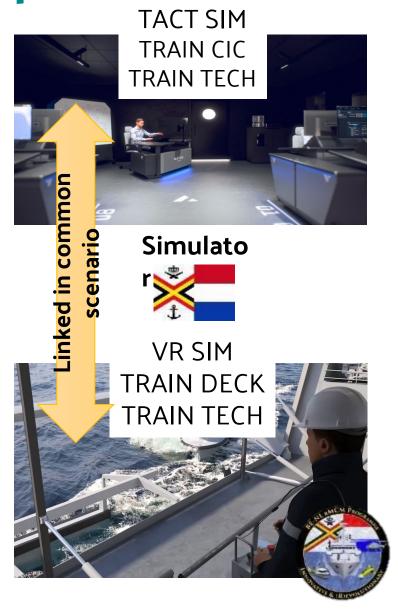


#### **MCM**



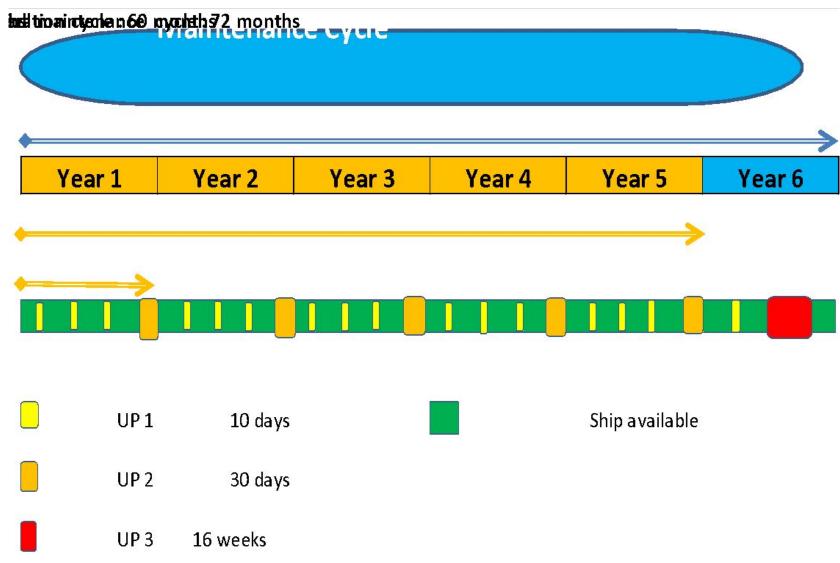
±100 Tools

- USV (unmanned & manned)
  - Divers/EOD/FP
  - TSAS
  - AUV
  - MIDS (2 type of ROVs)
  - Sweep (IMS)
- UAV (EO/IR & LiDAR)
- Containerized C2





#### rMCM Platform - Operational Cycle









## **SITREP**



#### Where are we now?

- MCMPF 1 to MCMPF 8 being built (4 already in the water)
- MCMPF 1 : sea trial ongoing
- Training
  - Crew 1 ongoing since May 24 until end of 2025 (after delivery)
  - Crew 2 started in Jan 25
  - Crew 3 to start in May 25
  - Maintenance team to start in Sept 2025 (ready for first yearly maintenance)





# Challenges already identified



#### Langage barrier

- Belgium speaks French-Dutch-English
- The Netherlands speaks Dutch-English
- France speaks French-English
- Courses are given in English
- Company technicians (on board) speak mainly French
- Documents are in French (contractual) and translated in English
- Meetings are in English
- English...





#### **Training**

- 12 crews (Total 396 PAX) + Toolbox crew (Total 200 PAX) to OLM Level
- Naval Base technicians to ILM & DLM level
- Amount of trainings (for MCMPF 1):
  - 2024 : 52 trainings
  - 2025 : 199 Trainings
  - Between 6 & 30PAX/training
- 2025 start of training MCMPF 2 (+200 Trainings) & MCMPF 3 (+100 Trainings)
- Challenge for the industry and OEM to provide this huge amount of trainings
- Planning challenge (linked to availability of personnel or of the ship)
  - 10 updates in 2024
  - High impact on personnel (flexibility vs liquidity)



#### Maturity of the systems

- The rMCM program involves the creation of MCM software, the creation of new systems (i.e. USV), ...
- Training should be given on a mature system
- Co-activities limit the availability of system developers
- ☐ Impact on training and other activities



#### Amount of ships being built

- (Be) On Site Team in France
- Tasks:
  - Correct building of the ships (respect of the requirements)
  - Acceptance of the systems
  - Respect of the changes (updates after contract signature)
  - Respect of the timings
  - ...
- By 4 People supported by SME's
- As a client, get your priorities right and allow people to be available for your project





#### Military vs Civilian point of view

- Naval Group is an experienced ship builder experienced with FR Navy
- Be Navy is NOT an experienced ship builder (long time since last big ship building project)
- Point of view and priorities are sometimes contradictory
- ☐ Leads to some hard discussions
- ☐ Where to put the limit between « official requirement » and « logic »?



#### Infrastructure

- Update of the Navy base before (or even after) arrival of MCMPF
  - Update of quays (needed renewal), electricity (increase of power needed), fuel pipelines (needed renewal), etc.
- Update of workspaces for drones
  - New stockage areas
  - Secure workspace to work with Li-ion batteries
  - Increase workspace to meet the amount of drones to be maintained



#### « Why did we ask for this? »

- The project started in the heads in 2010+, trials in 2017-2018, signature, acceptation,.....trials
- In almost 10 years, a lot of personnel changes on each side
- It leads to « Who asked this? Who requested that ?Why did we think this was important? » moments...
- Tracking of the reasons of each decision is of vital importance!



#### **But not only**

- Amount of drones to be built in a short amount of time
- Speed of MCMPF delivery (2/year)
- Drone integration with the Platform
- Trials with the drones at sea (Sea State)
- Software integration (Platform & Toolbox) & inter communication
- UAV (Specific training, certification, ...)

• . . .



#### Conclusion

- rMCM project is in good progress
- Challenges are met and will be met in the future

## We will be ready!





Q & A