



MSA Secures \$14.3 Million in Contracts for Advanced Combat Helmets

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PITTSBURGH, Oct. 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- MSA (NYSE: MSA) announced today that it has been awarded two contracts valued at \$14.3 million to produce Advanced Combat Helmets for the U.S. Army. The awards represent follow-on purchases of ballistic helmets under a five-year indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (ID/IQ) contract with the Army.

With these awards, MSA is among a select group of suppliers contracted to deliver helmets under the ID/IQ contract. The split of awards among multiple suppliers has been an element of the military's purchasing strategy since the first award of the contract was issued in 2005. The latest contracts ensure continued production of Advanced Combat Helmets at MSA into 2008.

"We're very pleased with the confidence the U.S. Army has demonstrated in MSA by once again expanding the scope of our helmet contract business," said John T. Ryan III, MSA Chairman and CEO. "We're honored to be able to continue serving our armed forces in this capacity and proud to be a key supplier of equipment that's helping safeguard the lives of our fighting men and women in uniform."

MSA's ballistic helmet for the Army incorporates a lightweight design that offers soldiers advanced ballistic protection with greater comfort, stability and situational awareness. Since adopted by the Army as the standard of issue, the ACH has been credited with saving numerous lives in military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MSA also provides ballistic helmets to the Canadian Military and special branches of the U.S. Department of Defense.

Established in 1914, MSA is a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated safety products that protect peoples' health and safety. Sophisticated safety products typically integrate any combination of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to protect users against hazardous or life-threatening situations. The company's comprehensive line of products is used by workers around the world in the fire service, homeland security, construction and other industries, as well as the military. Principal products include self-contained breathing apparatus, gas masks, gas detection instruments, head protection, respirators and thermal imaging cameras. The company also provides a broad range of consumer and contractor safety products through retail channels. These products are marketed and sold under the MSA Safety Works brand. MSA has annual sales of approximately \$914 million, manufacturing operations throughout the United States and Europe, and more than 40 international locations. Additional information is available on the company's Web site at <http://www.msanet.com>.

SOURCE MSA

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