



## **Elbit Systems awarded a PFI contract to establish and operate Israeli Air Force "Tzofit" (Beechcraft) Training Center**

**Potential revenues expected to exceed \$15 million**

**Training Center Can Also Serve Civil Aircraft Pilots**

Haifa, Israel, February 20, 2007 – Elbit Systems Ltd. (NASDAQ: ESLT) was awarded a contract to establish a training centre for "Tzofit" (King Air B200 Beechcraft) for the Israeli Air Force. Elbit Systems will serve as the project's prime contractor, while Arkia and the Canadian Mechtronix will serve as sub-contractors.

The training centre will operate through a PFI (Private Financing Initiative) program, with Elbit System providing the Israeli Air Force a turn-key solution including the establishment of the training centre, its operation and the supply of simulators, training services and maintenance for a 10-year period. The MoD will purchase flight training hours for the Air Force from Elbit Systems. Potential revenues from the project are expected to exceed \$15 million. The training center will be established on a civilian property outside military bases.

Furthermore, for the first time in Israel, it will be possible to open a training centre for civilian pilots providing them training in accordance with international aviation requirements while using local flight simulators and facilities.

Joseph Ackerman, President and CEO of Elbit Systems, said: "There is a wider global demand for use of civilian and military simulators in all areas of operations in order to achieve better performance with the same level of training hours.

The "Tzofit" training centre project coupled with the company's on-going Israel Air Force cadets training project, strengthen Elbit Systems' position as Israeli Air Force's leading contractor in the field of simulators in general and in flight simulator in particular. Mr. Ackerman added that the prospect of civilian pilots training constitutes an important addition to Elbit Systems' ever growing portfolio directed at the civilian aviation market.

Elbit Systems operates within the global simulator market and supplies systems for all types of platforms, including those for air, land and naval applications, as well as interdisciplinary simulators allowing for joint forces training. Elbit Systems utilizes its advanced technological capabilities, particularly in developing software for complex system programs, and its global leadership in upgrading defense and civilian platforms.



### **About the Tzofit (Beechcraft)**

Received by the Israeli Air Force in 1991, the Tzofit is a civilian business jet manufactured by Beechcraft which has been converted for military use. The first aircraft was manufactured in 1973 and is used worldwide for transportation, passengers' transfer, weather exploration and communication and marine reconnaissance missions. The Israeli Air Force employs the aircraft in various missions.

The Tzofit's maximal cruise altitude is 31,000 feet, its maximal range 3,254 Km and its maximal cruise speed is 289 knots.

Following its acquisition by the Israeli Air Force, advanced systems, manufactured in Israel, were installed on board the aircraft which enhance IAF's capabilities, significantly prolong the aircraft's cruise range and facilitate its special missions.

(Quote from an article in IAF Magazine, Issue # 130, December 1999).

### **About Elbit Systems**

Elbit Systems Ltd. is an international defense electronics company engaged in a wide range of defense-related programs throughout the world. The Elbit Systems Group, which includes the company and its subsidiaries, operates in the areas of aerospace, land and naval systems, command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance ("C4ISR"), advanced electro-optic and space technologies, EW suites, airborne warning systems, ELINT systems, data links and military communications systems and equipment. The Group also focuses on the upgrading of existing military platforms and developing new technologies for defense and homeland security applications.

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