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Elsag Datamat, license plate recognition systems and technologies for security in Greece

Elsag Datamat, a Finmeccanica Group Company, has signed a contract with the Greek Police, for an initial amount of approximately €3 million, for the supply of systems for automatic license plate recognition systems and biometric identification of people. Once again, the company was rewarded for its competence and the technological excellence of its systems for law enforcement, now used throughout the world.

The contract provides for the deployment on Greek police vehicles of 30 automatic license plate recognition systems, including navigation functions, as well as the supply of 10 Patrol Support Systems (PSS). The latter are handheld communication devices that allow the identification of people through the scanning of fingerprints and will be used by police patrols.

The automatic license plate recognition system and the PSS transmit the data collected in the field to the operational centers in real time, thanks to the wireless mode (via GPRS/UMTS), while the operational control centers are organised also for the management of alerts, for example the reporting of suspect license plates cross-referenced with specific hot lists.

At the time of the signing of the contract, the Greek Police stated that they had great expectations regarding the implementation of such technologies, with particular reference to the capability of identifying suspect people and vehicles. The agreement - that follows in the wake of similar projects signed with police forces in Italy, the USA and Chile - further reinforces the leadership of Elsag Datamat in the international market for vehicle-mounted automatic license plate recognition systems. The company's leadership position is the result of its continuous research aimed at increasingly improving the technological capabilities of its products. In particular, the latest version of the system - also deployed in Greece - has a touch screen display interface for the onboard operator, an appropriately hidden camera integrated in the lightbars as well as an infrared illuminator of the invisible-light type.