

# Weststar contractor for VSHORAD

**THALES** Air Defence Ltd UK has appointed the Weststar Group as the main contractor for Malaysia Ministry of Defence's (Mindef) procurement of the Starstreak Very Short Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) system.

Weststar MD Tan Sri Syed Azman Syed Ibrahim said the deal involved Mindef upgrading its existing missile defence system by capitalising on the trade-in opportunity for the previous Starburst missiles with the much-improved Starstreak missiles.

"This has enabled Mindef to realise substantial savings in the process," he said in a statement in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Weststar said the Malaysian defence industry would also gain benefit through the offset programme offered by Thales, including the transfer of technology in hardware and software applications that is correlated to the system as well as in other related fields.

Thales has also offered training packages for the smooth operation over the life cycle of the system, it said. —

*Bernama*