

# Calgary's **PERATON** to Support **SAAB** in FFCP Bid

**BY JOETEY ATTARIWALA**

Peraton Canada is an affiliate of Peraton Corporation, which employs over 3,500 personnel with headquarters in Herndon, Virginia. With annual revenue of US \$1.1 billion, Peraton Corporation was originally a division of defence and communications giant Harris Corporation (now merged with L3).

That business unit was divested in 2017 and rebranded as Peraton by the new private equity ownership. Often referred to as a "125 year-old start up", the company enjoys a rich history that borrows much from its Harris heritage but it still manages to operate with the agility and responsiveness of a mid-size aerospace company.

Today, Peraton is Canada's only prime contractor for avionics support on a fighter platform. The company has been supporting the RCAF's CF-18 fleet for over 35 years, and is a leader in In-Service Support/Integrated Logistics Support (ISS/ILS). To date, Peraton has completed over 50,000 repairs on Canada's fighter fleet.

Peraton is also a Tier 1 partner on the CF-18 Propulsion Group Sustainment (PGS) contract providing Supply Chain Management (SCM) and Logistics Support Analysis (LSA) for the General Electric F-404 engine, Generator Converter Unit, Airframe Mounted Accessory Drive Unit, and the Auxiliary Power Unit to Magellan Aerospace and the company is the only contractor providing deployed support and Pack-Up Kits (PUKs) for fighter operations to Canada - at home and abroad. It does this by way of its proprietary demand and re-supply algorithm, from its over \$870M of government furnished materiel (GFE), which is the largest allocation in Canada.

In Canada, Peraton operates out of a 76,000 square foot facility in Calgary, Alberta that houses highly specialized engineering and test labs for intermediate and depot level testing and Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), micro-miniature repair,

secure electronic warfare (EW) repair and more.

In 2018 the company underwent a \$2.5 million expansion as it looked to upgrade its facility to accommodate its aerospace customers around the world. Peraton also maintains a Business Development office in Ottawa, Ontario, and has employees embedded at customer locations at CFB Cold Lake (4 Wing), CFB Bagotville (3 Wing), and at DND offices in Gatineau, Quebec.

## **A PERFECT PARTNER FOR FFCP**

Peraton's vast experience within the fighter community and its long-standing relationship with the RCAF, make it a very attractive partner to aircraft manufacturers looking for in-country support on FFCP (Future Fighter Capability Project) and recently, Peraton's Marie Darling, the company's Director of Business Development, told CDR, "Peraton's true platform-agnostic sustainment model has afforded it a position on multiple FFCP teams."

She explained, "Because we are not an OEM of the systems we support, we can provide a sustainment solution designed to optimize the performance-based ISS/ILS

requirements of the contract. We have no bias, no favoured systems."

This proven sustainment model is one of the many discriminators Peraton brings to the Gripen for Canada Team. As part of its ISS/ILS workshare, Peraton will provide avionics and test equipment component maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), and materiel management to the Gripen team.

## **WORKING WITH SAAB**

"We have been working closely with Saab and its OEMs to develop a comprehensive sustainment plan," said Tony Jones, Peraton's Senior Technical Business Development Manager, and the lead for Peraton's Saab FFCP team. "The work we're doing today in developing long-term relationships with these companies will bring new, next-generation technology to Canada for our technicians and engineers to work on."

Peraton continues to look for new opportunities and adjacent markets to migrate its successful sustainment model. When CDR asked about where we'll see Peraton next, both GM Gillespie and Darling agreed that the unmanned market is of particular interest. "Our US affiliate Peraton Corporation is already there," said Gillespie. "We're leveraging off them and looking for new opportunities here in Canada."

Currently, Peraton is the lead in Project SkySensus, an investment framework project under Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada's Industrial and Technological Benefits policy for the research and development, and commercialization of Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) technology in unmanned systems.

The project brings Peraton together with three Alberta-based small businesses: Canadian UAVs (Detect and Avoid Technology), Aerium Analytics (Data Analytics and Automation), and Foremost UAS Range (Regulatory Compliance, Test and Evaluation).



Peraton's Gillespie says the company is looking at the unmanned market