

BAE Systems is a global defence, aerospace and security company. Our wide-ranging products and services cover air, land and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, security, information technology, and support services.

They provide some of the world's most advanced, technology-led defence, aerospace and security solutions and employ a skilled workforce of some 82,500 people in over 40 countries. Working with customers and local partners, we develop, engineer, manufacture and support products and systems to deliver military capability, protect national security and people and keep critical information and infrastructure secure.

Challenge in Procurement Strategy

BAE Systems have 9 divisions in the UK; BAE Systems Group, Maritime Services, Naval Ships, Submarines, Land, Shared Services, Air, Weapon Systems and Electronic Systems. With such a diverse product range and due to the wide-ranging nature of the BAE Systems' business, compliance was a business unit centric activity. The need to manage compliance more effectively, reduce duplication and consolidate the requirements on BAE's 25,000 suppliers led to the search for a standardised compliance process that could be rolled out progressively across the company.

Why JOSCAR was chosen

Having run a tender process together with other prime contractors, BAE Systems partnered with Hellios on the JOSCAR (Joint Supply Chain Accreditation Register) solution. The community-based model set JOSCAR apart from other solutions. The collective approach to setting the compliance criteria has provided a clearer view of the risks in BAE Systems Supply Chain and for the industry. JOSCAR is continuously evolving to include changes in legislation and meet the ever-changing requirements of the UK Defence industry.

Results – JOSCAR Implementation

BAE Systems partnered with Hellios Information to implement JOSCAR in July 2014. This began with a small number of suppliers, but the database has grown steadily over the intervening years. There are now 6,500+ suppliers registered on Hellios' systems. JOSCAR has since grown to include 14 primes; BAE Systems, Babcock International, QinetiQ, Leonardo, NATS, Ministry of Defence, MBDA, General Dynamics, Rolls Royce Submarine, Roke Manor Research, Leidos, Raytheon, Chemring Countermeasures and Elbit Systems UK.

The community nature of JOSCAR provides a standardised, collaborative approach to collecting reliable high-quality supplier compliance information. Although JOSCAR does not approve suppliers, it provides objective and validated information which is the perfect foundation for a quick and efficient approval process and a holistic view of suppliers for sourcing new business.



BAE Systems regularly meet Hellios and the other primes to include and amend questions relating to new regulation, notably GDPR for May 2018.

The JOSCAR Implementation Team in BAE Systems won a BAE Silver Global Procurement Award for Supply Chain Innovation in 2017.

By reducing duplication and having one source of validated data available to all buyers, JOSCAR reduces the compliance workload for both Suppliers and Buyers. Suppliers are required to update and submit their information once a year.

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