HOW BAE SYSTEMS MARITIME – NAVAL SHIPS BENEFITED FROM A STRATEGIC TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION PARTNER

ONE OF THE LARGEST SHIPBUILDERS IN EUROPE	LARGEST SHIPBUILDING COMPANY IN THE UK	LARGE BUILDER OF COMPLEX WARSHIPS

The Project

The Type 26 Frigate is a 21st Century Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) ship that will replace the Type 23 ASW Frigate as the fleet's workhorse and undertake the Royal Navy's three core roles—warfighting, maritime security, and international engagement—on the world stage. BAE Systems has ordered three of the eight planned ships and scheduled the first to enter service in the mid-2020s. These ships will be mainstays of the UK defence strategy for the next 20 years or more.
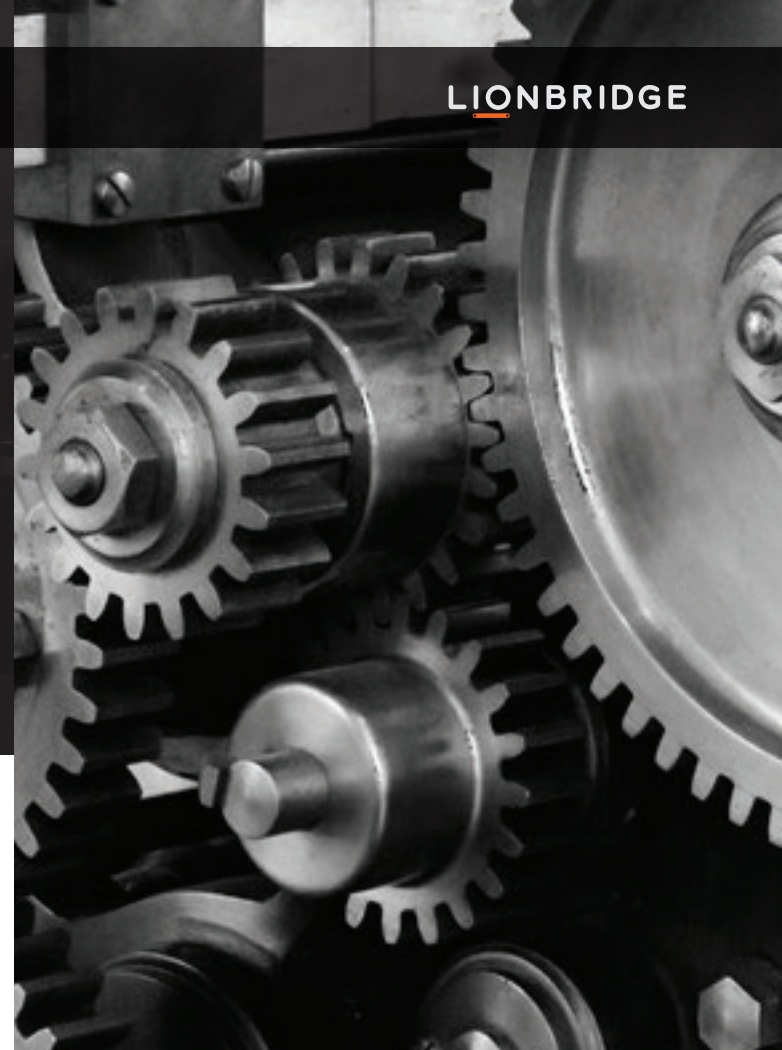
About the Client

BAE Systems Maritime – Naval Ships is a wholly-owned subsidiary company of BAE Systems plc that specialises in naval surface shipbuilding and combat systems integration. One of three divisions of BAE Systems Maritime, along with BAE Systems Maritime – Submarines and BAE Systems Maritime – Maritime Services, it is the largest shipbuilding company in the United Kingdom, one of the largest shipbuilders in Europe, and one of the world's largest builders of complex warships.

As an island nation, the UK has a proud history of world-class naval engineering. Recently, that legacy has included Type 45 destroyers and Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers. BAE Systems designs, builds, and delivers those complex warships and combat systems.

Client Objectives

- To Develop an Integrated Electronic Technical Publication (IETP) that is integrated with Training Media

- Data Modules can be reused with in the training packages

- Media assets are only created once

- Change in the IETP is flowed through into the training packages

The Challenge

In collaboration with the Royal Navy, BAE Systems needed a trusted partner to whom it could outsource its Technical Documentation support. The ideal partner would be a strategic organisation whose core business was the creation of technical publications. BAE Systems selected Lionbridge as that partner. Lionbridge's work ultimately will enable BAE Systems to:

- Develop a solution that will support future ability to view the IETP on a handheld device
- Create a tablet-enabled version of the most recent TrilogiView
- View latest information at the point of use
- Hold all ship support information, including the Datum pack
- Create a solution that does not rely on ship power (providing it has been charged)
- Offer potential for on-board Wi-Fi updates

The Requirements

BAE Systems needed Lionbridge to produce Support Information as S1000D technical publications, which would be integrated with the T26 GCS training requirement with scope covering all aspects of the T26 GCS platform, systems, and equipment for descriptive, procedure, process, and parts information.

Training media includes animated diagrams such as system diagrams with a layered build of system components and animated system flows.

The two-phased scope covers the creation of traditional technical documentation as well as the generation of interactive multimedia Data Modules.

PHASE 1
Demonstrator Phase – Produce interactive training video,
as well as an integrated set of training and documentation business rules

PHASE 2
Production Phase – Create Data Modules, Training Media,
and 3D animation variants

The Solution

BAE Systems selected Lionbridge at tender due to its combination of technical excellence, high quality, and cost-effectiveness on this major defence programme. The contract recognises Lionbridge's high level of technical documentation capability—the result of many years' experience working with major OEM defence suppliers. That experience delivers value to the customer by drawing on experienced marine technical authors from within existing operations in the UK and offers a secure foundation that underpins the development of other areas of technology. Lionbridge thus offers an innovative approach to creating this highly complex suite of technical documentation.

The Results

Lionbridge and BAE Systems manage their relationship jointly through collaborative planning, regular status reports, and monthly review of KPI's and senior management governance. Our strategic partnership delivers substantial and measurable benefits including:

- Relieved internal resources that can focus on the client's core engineering business
- Flexible teams deployed at both Lionbridge and customer sites
- Value added through Lionbridge's high level of domain product knowledge and experience
- Strategic direction for relationship set by a joint senior-level management team
- Investment in IT infrastructure and connectivity
- Improved communication and information security

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