



# press information

---

Embargoed until 0700

17 March 2008

**Ultra Electronics Holdings plc**  
("Ultra" or "the Group")

## **Ultra acquires Canadian signalling and communications business for US\$22m**

Ultra announces the acquisition, subject to regulatory approvals, of Magneto Inductive Systems Ltd ("MISL") of Canada and the USA for an initial consideration of US\$22m. In addition, a minority share of incremental margin will be paid to the vendors if certain growth targets are met over the next four years.

MISL is a rapidly growing business employing 50 people between its Canadian and US operations. MISL's head office and development centre is based in Jeddore, very close to Ultra's existing Maritime Systems business in Halifax, Nova Scotia, of which it will become part. MISL also has a production facility in San Bernardino, CA.

MISL makes magneto inductive guidance, signalling and communications equipment. These systems can operate not only through air but also through water, sediment, rock and most man-made structures that radio and acoustic systems can not penetrate. MISL's systems are also highly resistant to conventional countermeasures, such as jamming and scanning.

This niche technology can be used to initiate controlled detonations, often through line-of-sight obstructions. One application is in systems used to deal with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) or roadside bombs. MISL has recently been awarded a contract, with an undisclosed value, by the US Army for such equipment. This underpins the continuing development of the business.

MISL's technology for the remote control of explosive devices is also applicable in commercial markets such as rock blasting for mining and mineral extraction. Other applications of MISL's technology include communication systems for emergency services and first responders who may have to deal with incidents underground or in other locations where conventional communication systems are ineffective.

The acquisition of MISL will be financed using Ultra's existing facilities and is expected to be earnings accretive in 2008. The closing of the transaction is expected to occur within 60 days.

### **Douglas Caster, Ultra's Chief Executive, commented:**

"I am pleased to see MISL join the Group. MISL has highly differentiated technology that addresses a real and growing customer need – as such, MISL fits the Ultra pattern. I am confident that MISL will continue its rapid growth as part of the Group's Maritime Systems business."

- Ends -

### **Enquiries:**

**Ultra Electronics Holdings plc**  
Douglas Caster, Chief Executive  
David Jeffcoat, Group Finance Director

020 8813 4321  
[www.ultra-electronics.com](http://www.ultra-electronics.com)  
[information@ultra-electronics.com](mailto:information@ultra-electronics.com)

**Weber Shandwick Financial**  
Susan Ellis / Louise Robson

020 7067 0700

**Notes to editors:**

**Ultra Electronics** is a group of specialist advanced technology businesses that design, manufacture and support electronic and electromechanical systems, sub-systems and products for defence, security, aerospace and transport applications worldwide.

Ultra, which employs 3,100 people in the UK and North America, focuses on high integrity sensing, control, communication and display systems with an emphasis on integrated information technology solutions. The Group concentrates on obtaining a technological edge in niche markets, with many of its products and technologies being market leaders in their field.

Ultra's products and services are used on aircraft, ships, submarines, armoured vehicles, surveillance systems, airports and transport systems around the world. Ultra also plays an important role in supporting prime contractors by undertaking specialist system and sub-system integration using the combined expertise of the Group businesses.

Ultra is organised into three divisions as follows:

**Aircraft & Vehicle Systems** including miniature airborne compressors; high integrity software and systems; aircraft system electronics; aircraft system test equipment; aircraft cockpit indicators; aircraft noise and vibration control systems; airframe protection systems, armoured vehicle electronic information and control systems; human/computer interface equipment and crisis information management systems.

**Information & Power Systems** including command and control systems equipment; weapons interfacing electronics; radar tracking; electro optical tracking; surveillance systems; naval data processing and distribution; airport and airline information management systems; ID card systems; naval power conversion; signature management of naval vessels; transit system power conversion and control.

**Tactical & Sonar Systems** including secure tactical line-of-sight radio systems, multiplexers and switches; secure video-conferencing systems; voice communication systems; tactical data links; cryptographic equipment; active, passive and multi-static sonobuoys; sonobuoy receivers and processors; distributed surveillance sensor arrays; ship's sonar systems; acoustic countermeasure systems and ship's torpedo defence systems.