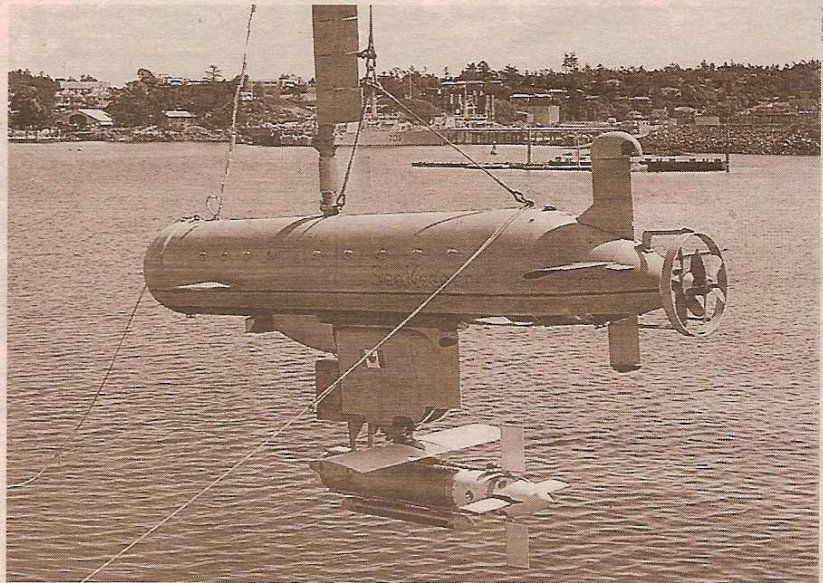


New Technology to help Navy detect mines

Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) has signed a collaborative agreement with the Canadian Navy to begin integrating its Remote Minehunting System (RMS), into Navy operations. During the implementation plan the Navy will gain practical experience in the tactical operation and technical support of the system. The agreement will also add a remote minehunting capability to navy operations until the formal acquisition of two systems in 2010. Vice Admiral Bruce MacLean, Chief of Maritime Staff, signed the implementation plan in Ottawa on Thursday, July 7, 2005.

"Canada has developed a world-leading capability in remote minehunting. This agreement means that this capability will be available to the Navy on an interim basis now, and will also facilitate the introduction of a full capability in 2010," said Dr. Ross Graham, Director General, DRDC Atlantic.

The RMS was developed under the Remote Minehunting System (RMS) Technology Demonstration Project, sponsored by DRDC from 2000-2003. An integrated project team of government and industry personnel developed the semi-submersible system, which can detect and classify sea bottom mines in water depths of 200 m at survey speeds of up to five metres/second (10 knots). The remotely-controlled system is compact and portable. It operates at a radius of up to eight km from any ship capable of transporting its 20-foot remote command



The semi-submersible, remote minehunting, vehicle called DORADO and its tow-fish before launching.

and control system.

Under the agreement, the Navy will provide funding to offset DRDC's incremental costs for providing the RMS twenty days a year. DRDC will contribute scientific and technical training and support to assure the successful operation of the system. The RMS has completed international operations in France, Canada and the United States and is being marketed worldwide.

DRDC is an agency of the Canadian Department of National Defence

responding to the scientific and technological needs of the Canadian Forces. Its mission is to ensure that the CF remains scientifically and operationally relevant. The agency is made up of six research centres located across Canada with a corporate office in Ottawa. DRDC has an annual budget of \$300 million and employs 1,500 people. With a broad scientific program, DRDC actively collaborates with industry, international allies, academia, other government departments and the national security community.