

Do you need to make
the connection?

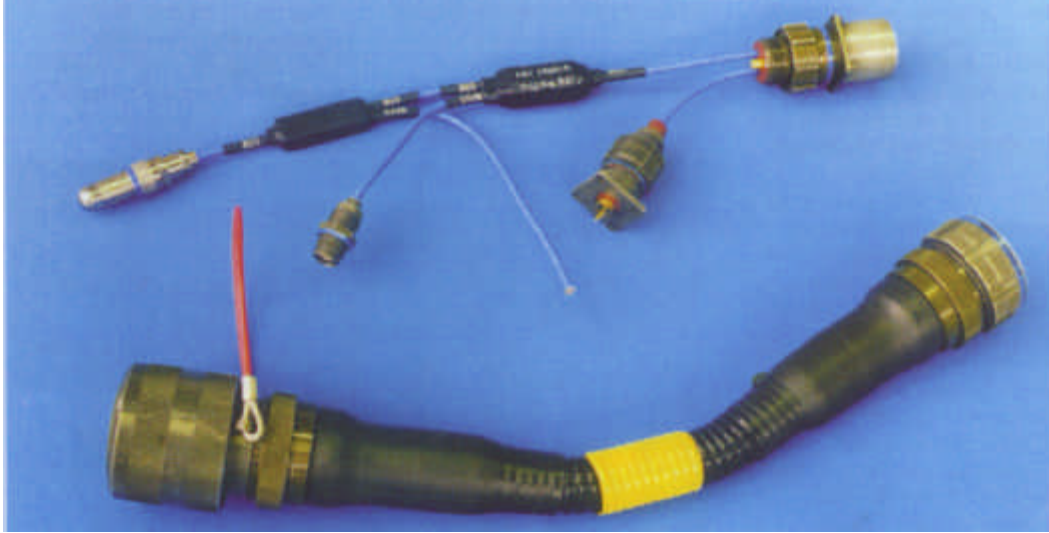
Amphenol

The Inter-Connection

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Vetronics

Electrical /Fibre optic Interconnection



Tornado Interconnection today, TRACER tomorrow?

The term avionics is familiar to most people in the aircraft fraternity, however vetronics is a fairly recent addition to the vocabulary of personnel in the land vehicle defence industry.

The rapid growth of electronic equipment specified on Army vehicles has necessitated

the standard of "black box" interconnection to be upgraded in a dramatic way. Programmes such as AS90 and Challenger II initiated the transition from connectors and wiring similar to that used on pre-war automobiles to relatively sophisticated systems and components that can be compared to

present day fighter aircraft.

Amphenol recognised that expertise gained in high performance avionic connectors, data bus components and EMC / harsh environment cable harness, could be used to satisfy requirements in the Army platform and electronic equipment sector.

This requires interconnection systems that are smaller, lighter, EM/EMP protected, NBC washdown, and soldier proof.

Having successfully negotiated major contracts to supply high performance power, signal and data bus connectors plus complete cable harnesses to the AS90 and Challenger II projects the potential for future high tech products was reinforced by the experience gained as associated members of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) VERDI demonstrator programme.

Amphenol personnel are assisting the development of future vetronic equipment by working with other companies in an interconnection sub-group to the VEHICLE STANDARDS ARCHITECTURES (VESTA) working group which consists of representatives from UK military vehicle and equipment building companies led by the DERA. This forum was formed to recommend to the M.o.D. vetronic standards for use during the procurement of new or mid life improved military vehicles.

The recommendations are detailed in a document "VESTA Interconnection Standards Guide for Future Land Systems Platforms".

The trend to follow the avionic world continues with the progression of the data transmission medium from copper to fibre optics. This subject is a major source of discussion at VESTA interconnection sub group meetings. There is little doubt that programmes such as TRACER and MRAV will specify these systems and Amphenol Ltd will remain at the forefront of VETRONIC interconnection technology.