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## **L-3 COMMUNICATIONS SIGNS 75,000 SQUARE FOOT LEASE WITH ST. JOHN PROPERTIES AT GATE PROJECT IN ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND**

*International defense contractor and high technology firm to place approximately 400 employees in three-story building -- now under construction -- by fall 2010*

**BALTIMORE** (November 9, 2009) – L-3 Communications’ Command & Control Systems and Software (C2S2) unit has announced its plans to move approximately 400 employees to a new 75,000 square foot building situated at The Government and Technology Enterprise (The GATE) project, a 413-acre business community located within Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) in Harford County. The defense firm has signed a full-building lease with St. John Properties, Inc. at 6280 Guardian Gateway, a three-story Class “A” building now under construction. Delivery of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified building is expected to occur in fall 2010.

L-3 C2S2, headquartered in Marlton, NJ, has more than 3,400 employees worldwide. Command & Control Systems and Software (C2S2) assists its customers in moving technology from concept to deployment by providing Systems and Software Engineering and Integration, Software Development, Sustainment and Modernization, Training, Field Support Services, and Logistics capabilities.

“L-3 is a significant presence in the defense contracting industry, and their decision to add 400 employees to Harford County will have positive and far-reaching economic development effects on the entire region,” explained Harford County Executive David R. Craig. “These are exactly the type of jobs, filled by highly-educated and skilled workers, that will create a long-lasting ripple effect to the benefit of area businesses and retailers,” he added.

6280 Guardian Gateway has been designed to satisfy the requirements for LEED Silver-certification and includes a high-efficiency HVAC (heating, ventilating and air conditioning) system, high performance windows, lavatory fixtures with sustainable elements, a white thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO)

roofing system, wetland/forest preserves and significant open space and drought-tolerant landscaping, among other features.

“Attracting L-3 Communications continues our momentum of bringing the nation’s best firms to our project, as well as companies that are recognized for leadership and excellence in their industry combined with a strong commitment to the local community,” stated Jerry Wit, Senior Vice President–Marketing for St. John Properties. “The GATE is rapidly becoming a “Who’s-Who” of companies with significant contracts in the defense industry and substantial workforces that will reside in this area in the long-term,” he added.

“L-3’s decision to establish its facilities at The GATE places our workforce in a location which is virtually within walking distance of our customer’s Team C4ISR Center of Excellence,” stated John Medea, President, C2S2. “After considering other options, we concluded that the proximity of The GATE to our customer would enhance communications and interactions and would strengthen our partnership,” he added.

The GATE is the only commercial real estate development that is located within Aberdeen Proving Ground. As part of the first phase of development of the project, St. John Properties is constructing five office buildings and research and development (R&D) buildings totaling more than 285,000 square feet of space, which are designed to satisfy the backlog of commercial real estate space that presently exists at The GATE project. St. John Properties estimates the total build-out of the project to be approximately two million square feet over more than 20 years.

Headquartered in New York City, L-3 Communications employs over 66,000 people worldwide and is a prime contractor in aircraft modernization and maintenance, C3ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) systems and government services. L-3 is also a leader provider of high technology products, subsystems and systems. The company reported 2008 sales of \$14.9 billion.

St. John Properties, Inc., founded in 1971 as MIE Properties, owns and has developed more than 14 million square feet of R&D/flex, warehouse, office and retail space in Maryland, Colorado, Louisiana, Virginia and Wisconsin. For more information about the company, visit [www.sjpi.com](http://www.sjpi.com).