Google Cloud Awarded Landmark Sovereign Cloud Contract with UK Ministry of Defence

[London, UK] – [September 12th] – Google Cloud today announced it has been awarded a £400M contract to deliver a UK sovereign cloud capability for the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD). This landmark initiative will provide a secure cloud platform to enable innovation with the speed and flexibility of the cloud, while enabling the MOD to benefit from enhanced data controls.

This landmark partnership aligns with the MOD's wider vision, as outlined in their *Strategic Defence Review,* to leverage cutting-edge cloud infrastructure for advanced capabilities and secure information processing, including the latest cybersecurity and AI technologies.

The partnership also establishes a foundation for job creation, skills development, and start-up and small to medium enterprise growth across the UK defence industrial base. The deal has already led to millions of pounds of inward investment from Google Cloud, which will hire a specialist dedicated team in the UK to manage the technology.

“Google Cloud is dedicated to supporting the UK government's mission to develop a robust and resilient infrastructure and harness the latest technology innovations,” said **Tara Brady, EMEA President, Google Cloud**. “This partnership will enable the MOD to accelerate its digital modernisation efforts while maintaining the highest levels of security and data sovereignty.”

General Sir James Hockenhull KBE ADC Gen, Commander, Cyber & Specialist Operations Command, UK MOD, said: "The Ministry of Defence is committed to utilising next-generation technology and AI to enhance our operational capabilities and ensure the security of the United Kingdom. This partnership is a critical component of our digital transformation strategy, and we are pleased to partner with Google Cloud to deliver a secure and resilient cloud environment for our highly sensitive data."

"Today’s investment shows how defence is an engine for growth, supporting highly skilled UK jobs and a vibrant British tech startup ecosystem. Secure, seamless communication with our allies is crucial for national security and Google Cloud’s investment will build up our world-leading secret tech for the future. The deal also delivers on the Strategic Defence Review, helping us develop the latest digital technology to counter our adversaries.” said **The Rt Hon John Healey MP, Secretary of State for Defence.**

About Google Cloud

Google Cloud is the new way to the cloud, providing AI, infrastructure, developer, data, security, and collaboration tools built for today and tomorrow. Google Cloud offers a powerful, fully integrated, and optimised AI stack with its own planet-scale infrastructure, custom-built chips, generative AI models, and development platform, as well as AI-powered applications, to help organisations transform. Customers in more than 200 countries and territories turn to Google Cloud as their trusted technology partner.

Notes to Editors:

- **Google Distributed Cloud Air Gapped**: The sovereign cloud environment will be built upon Google Distributed Cloud (GDC) air-gapped, a platform designed for workloads that require strict data residency and security controls. GDC provides a hardened, air-gapped environment, ensuring that the MOD's critical data remains within UK sovereign territory and under their direct control. This platform will also enable the responsible integration of Google's advanced AI and machine learning tools, empowering the MOD with enhanced analytical capabilities to provide operational efficiencies.
- Google Cloud is supporting delivery in alignment with the MOD's ethical principles in defence, JSP 936, demonstrating its commitment to aligning with the MOD's leading ethical standards.

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