

# STAVATTI™

## 21 January 2003 Stavatti Meeting With U.S. Representative Gutknecht

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Stavatti Chairman & CEO Christopher R. Beskar met with Congressman Gil Gutknecht on 21 January at 1:30 PM CST to discuss Stavatti military aerospace programs. The meeting was hosted by Wendell Maddox, President & CEO of Ion Corporation and Stavatti Director of Domestic/U.S. DoD Sales. Accompanying the Congressman was Constituent Services Director Doug Altrichter.

The meeting with the Congressman lasted approximately one hour. Over the course of the meeting a general update of Stavatti's F-26 STALMA Multi-role Fighter Program and SM-27S Machete COIN platform was provided. Mr. Beskar also introduced the Congressman to Stavatti's latest program, the SM-54 UCAV. Mr. Beskar explained that the SM-54 is an Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle designed to deliver up to 8,000 lbs of ordinance (four GBU-31 JDAMs) over a tactical radius of 700 nm at over 500 mph. The SM-54 is being developed as an autonomous air vehicle, although ground-based remote piloted variants could be developed. The SM-54 benefits from significant commercial dual-use potential as well, being capable of functioning as an autonomous cargo platform. Mr. Beskar detailed Stavatti's proprietary commercialization plan for the SM-54 to the Congressman.

Congressman Gutknecht appeared enthusiastic about the SM-54, particularly with regard to its commercial/dual-use potential. The Congressman discussed his recent trip to Taiwan ROC and the possible use for the SM-54 in an international over-seas air cargo transport application. The Congressman also discussed the possible need for U.S. Defense products by both Taiwan ROC and Japan to protect against possible threats posed by North Korea. Congressman Gutknecht suggested that Stavatti meet with former AFA President Maj. Gen. Doyle Larson (Ret) to discuss potential DoD points of contact for the possible procurement of systems including the SM-54. Congressman Gutknecht also indicated the importance of meeting with members of the House Armed Services Committee, including Chairman Duncan Hunter.

Gil Gutknecht is Minnesota's 1st District U.S. Representative. His office is 425 Cannon Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; TEL: (202) 225-2472; email: [gil@mail.house.gov](mailto:gil@mail.house.gov); <http://www.gil.house.gov>