

PRESS RELEASE



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MBDA and Milrem Robotics to develop anti-tank unmanned ground vehicle

Paris, France - The leading European missile systems designer and producer MBDA and unmanned vehicles manufacturer Milrem Robotics will begin developing the world's first unmanned ground vehicle (UGV) specially designed for anti-tank purposes.

The joint project will feature the IMPACT (Integrated MMP Precision Attack Combat Turret) system from MBDA that will be integrated onto the THeMIS unmanned ground vehicle by Milrem Robotics.

The system will be remotely operated and is in line with the system developers' main aim of exchanging humans on the battlefield for much more capable robots.

"One of the challenges in urban warfare is keeping anti-tank infantry hidden from the enemy's surveillance equipment that can very easily detect soldier's heat signature. The aim of our joint integration project is developing a system that has a low heat signature and most importantly - will keep infantry in a safe distance," explained Brig Gen (res) Alar Laneman, military advisor of Milrem Robotics.

"MMP, the world's only 5th Generation anti-tank guided weapon, now in service within the French Armed Forces, has been developed for both mounted and dismounted applications and is suitable for unmanned ground vehicle (UGV). With its 4km+ range and its two firing modes - lock on before launch (LOBL) and lock on after launch (LOAL) – the MMP gives to THeMIS UGV an unmatched capability to engage a target beyond line of sight. MMP allows, within remote operation, to engage very discreetly battlefield targets at ranges greater than the enemies counter fire, from behind cover and within structures in fighting in built-up areas. The MMP Firing installation deployed on UGV also provides an ISTAR (Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, & Reconnaissance) capability and, through direct integration with a C4I network, delivers battlefield intelligence out beyond the platoon", added the former Colonel Francis Bordachar, military advisor of MBDA.

Notes to Editors:

About Milrem

Milrem Robotics is an Estonian defence solutions provider whose primary focus is the manufacture of unmanned ground vehicles, development of robotic warfare solutions and performing concept of operations and doctrine level warfare analysis.

[Texte]

About THeMIS

The THeMIS UGV is a fully modular diesel-electric unmanned ground vehicle that can operate up to 10h with a full tank, including up to 1,5h in silent mode. It has a top speed of 22 km/h and can carry a payload of 750 kg. It can be operated line of sight, via cameras or equipped with a autonomy kit for fully autonomous operation.

About MMP and IMPACT

MMP is a latest-generation land combat missile fully adapted to modern conflict. It replaces the Milan and Javelin anti-tank missiles of the French Army and the special forces as well as HOT in use French cavalry units. It is a "fire-and-forget" missile with a 4km + range, a dual mode seeker (uncooled infrared and visible colour channels) and also a fibre-optic data link making it possible to maintain "man-in-the-loop" control, providing an unmatched accuracy and minimizing the risk of collateral damage. The missile's multi-purpose military charge (anti-tank, anti-personnel and anti-infrastructure) can defeat targets ranging from heavy tanks with reactive armour to infantry entrenched in an infrastructure.

IMPACT is a 250 kg motorised turret designed for light armoured vehicles. IMPACT carries the day/night sensors of the MMP fire control, as well as two ready-to-fire missiles and a 7.62 mm self-protection machine gun and its ammunition. The firing installation commands are displayed remotely in the vehicle cab so that the crew remains safe from enemy fire and adverse weather conditions thereby increasing permanency in combat.

About MBDA

With a significant presence in five European countries and within the USA, in 2017 MBDA achieved a turnover of 3.1 billion euros with an order book of 16.8 billion euros. With more than 90 armed forces customers in the world, MBDA is a world leader in missiles and missile systems.

In total, the group offers a range of 45 missile systems and countermeasures products already in operational service and more than 15 others currently in development.

MBDA is jointly owned by Airbus (37.5%), BAE Systems (37.5%), and Leonardo (25%).

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