

# for Defence and Security Industry **Review**®

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# EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

This time I will be fairly short in my editorial. Why? As in this current issue you will find everything, from A to Z from the Czech defence and security industry, which can be proud of its know-how, production, services, but above all the people who are behind all this with their professional work. I regard highly that the Czech Republic, although a small country, can be and is so competitive worldwide.

On the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our publishing house MS Line, allow me to wish you all a happy start to the New Year, a lot of strength, success, perseverance as well as pa-

tience and prosperity, as the last 2 years have not been easy for all of us, but most of all I wish you a robust health that no one can buy!

Happy New Year 2022 on behalf of the whole editorial team!

**Šárka Cook, Editor in Chief**



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# Interview with Jiří Hynek, President of the DSIA CR

The past year has been very challenging for the entire Czech economy and the pandemic has affected events not only in the defence and security industries. Nevertheless, in the middle of the year, the DSIA CR presented a new strategy for the 2021–2030 period. In this interview, the President and Executive Director of DSIA, dr. Jiří Hynek, explained how the Association worked during the pandemic, what are its goals in the forthcoming period and many more matters.



**In what direction the pandemic affected the defence and security industry in the Czech Republic the most and how the Association responded to the situation?**

The covid-19 pandemic hit the whole world and shattered the vast majority of industries. Of course, the restrictions being constantly changed by the government have also affected the work of our association, and especially our member companies. Perhaps because the industry is involved in the crisis management technologies, companies have been able to cope with this crisis better than in other industries. It is being said that everything bad is good for something. The pandemic has revealed a number of long-standing unresolved issues, and it may have led many people to

address them finally. Above all, I mean the need to focus on our own capabilities and on the domestic industry. This is both at the time when nothing seems to be happening, and especially during a crisis, which can be a threat to the state or even the war. I stick with this opinion for a long time, and I try to present it at professional and non-professional conferences, in my media appearances and in negotiations with politicians and public administration. It is true that in crisis situations, each state will prioritize its own national interests over the others. After all, this saying was confirmed many times during the pandemic. There are many examples. Let's follow the saying, "If you look for a helping hand, you will find it at the end of your shoulder." Then we will not be unnecessarily disappointed, but most importantly we will be able to solve the crises.

**What are the steps to get back the Czech defence and security industry to normal? How will the association get involved in this recovery?**

We must realize that the pandemic has decimated the entire national economy. In the end, the huge state budget deficit that has arisen during that time tells its own tale. The only way forward is to start up the industry and its exports as quickly as possible. The defence industry makes high value-added products and 90 percent of them are being exported. Strong exports of the defence industry have not only a significant economic benefit, which our country needs, but it also helps to maintain manufacturing capabilities of the defence companies, which the state can use to its advantage in the event

of crisis. Export promotion is the cheapest way to maintain necessary production capacity while securing revenues for the state budget. This view must be crucial for the state export policy when assessing individual exports and must be principal for the entire state licensing policy. The Association will continue to push for the introduction of the rule - let's build a higher fence around a smaller backyard. We want to reduce the list of what is regulated to the absolute minimum allowed by EU rules. On the contrary, we will not oppose the introduction of transparency and capital adequacy rules for the companies that are involved in the military equipment business. But in return, we will demand that for those traders who meet required criteria, the state will not complicate their exports. The economic interest of the Czech Republic must be considered when assessing exports. We will continue to demand strengthening the role of foreign trade activities of the Czech embassies and their staff in promoting the interests of the Czech industry in defence projects for foreign customers, especially at the level of government cooperation within government-to-government contacts.

**In the second half of 2020 and almost in the whole 2021, most trade fairs and other events were cancelled. What is your forecast for the future?**

It is difficult to predict since no one knows how the covid will interfere in our lives in the future. In any case, the Czech defence industry needs international fairs, conferences, or trips of the state officials to countries of our export interest. From this point of view,

it was very important that in the autumn the IDET trade fair took place in Brno, which is already a traditional demonstration of the Czech defence industry capabilities. And that this fair was visited by foreign delegations, albeit on a much smaller scale than we would like. The world needs to return to normal as soon as possible.

**This year, the DSIA presented a new strategy for the 2021-2030 period. How would you describe this new strategy? Are there any significant changes compared to the previous one?**

The basis of the DSIA strategy remains the same since its establishing, i.e., to support the Czech defence and security industry. However, there are dynamic changes in the environment, and it is necessary to respond to them. We are facing new types of threats that require support for the development of new technologies. The global Covid-19 pandemic has shown that it is more than ever necessary to rely on a domestic producer that is indispensable in a crisis. All this is reflected in the new DSIA strategy.

**The strategic objectives are based on the structure of the three main pillars. How do they interconnect and how do they relate to each other?**

Major goals are currently being debated, such as the creation of the self-sufficient European and transatlantic industrial base. We certainly see this as the key objective constituting the third framing pillar of the DSIA strategy. However, to make this happen, the Czech defence and security companies must have full support in their activities at home (this represents the first pillar of the strategy) and the pro-export

support must work so that the Czech companies can succeed in foreign markets and to the maximum possible extent participate in large foreign acquisition projects for the Army of the Czech Republic (2nd pillar). These pillars are interconnected and linked to each other. The DSIA strategy for the 2021-2030 period presents concrete steps that need to be followed to support the Czech defence and security industry as effectively as possible.

**During the crisis caused by the pandemic, the society began to realize the importance of self-sufficiency not only in the industry. The association thus decided to support the strengthening of the role of the Czech defence and security industry across the European and North Atlantic cooperation. What steps does the Czech defence and security industry intend to take to create this important security base? How will the association support the achievement of this goal?**

We have already taken necessary steps long time before the pandemic. However, now there is the chance that the public, not just the professional community, will realize their importance. We managed to push through the representative of our association, doc. Milan Šnajder, to the Expert Board of the European Commission. As a very important step I perceive the approval of my Deputy Dr. Kristýna Stejskalová for the National Focal Point (NFP) position. The main task of the NFP is to serve as a link between the European Commission and the Czech companies and to work closely with the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic with the aim to involve as many Czech entities as possible in the European Defence Fund projects. The DSIA thus becomes the

main EDF contact point for the Czech companies and in the coming years it will regularly organize seminars and in cooperation with the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic will provide consultations to the Czech companies on the issues of the European Defence Fund. To support this goal, the DSIA creates an expert group where we invite relevant government officials and experts in the implementation of international projects. As the key element we also consider scientific research support of defence industry companies by the state, academic and scientific research organizations, and institutions. This is concerning mainly the state grant policy, subsidies, and the training of appropriate professional staff, especially for the management of planning and conducting defence production. We regard defence research and development as the key element in increasing education in technical and natural sciences, and in this spirit, we will also work with our school and education system.

**What are your current challenges now?**

The newly prepared EU rules of the ESG look scary for the future of the defence industry, where especially the "S", i.e., social, will have an impact on the manufacturers. The production of weapons and other defence items is to be described as socially unsustainable, as are tobacco products or gambling. It's unbelievable to what group they want to include us in. On one hand, the European Commission supports the competitiveness of the European defence industry through the European Defence Fund, on the other hand, it expels investors from the European Union through the rules of the ESG. Also, the existing approach of banks to the defence industry is devastating. "Defence techno-



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logy" is becoming an almost vulgar term in the internal regulations and ethic codes of these supranational institutions. If the reluctance of commercial banks towards the Czech manufacturers of military equipment to provide standard banking services, such as payments or bank guarantees, continues to deepen especially in connection with the new EU ESG rules, then our defensiveness will be jeopardized. But here the solution is only in the hands of our government. No one else can do anything about it. And citizens should realize that without weapons, we will be defenceless.

In addition to the new EU madness, we are still looking for solutions with the transit of our products. With the transit licenses, our neighbours punish us for the fact that our ancestors did not conquer our territory by the sea. We can lose every export order for which the Czech authorities give us an export license only because the country we need to transport through will not allow us to do so. And the European officials do not care that there are countries in the European Union that are discriminated simply because they do not have access to the

sea. We have been trying to eliminate this discrimination for a long time, we have tried almost all possible ways, but so far, no satisfactory solution has been found for the Czech Republic. Again, a major topic for the new government.

#### **How successful was the year 2021 for the defence industry? And how do you see the future?**

Despite all obstacles, exports were successful this year. The companies of the Czech defence industry made a significant contribution to the state budget and would like to contribute to the future as well. Much will depend on whether the new Foreign Minister is aware of the importance of economic diplomacy. Failure in this area could mean that the state could become poorer, which would certainly not be a benefit for our citizens. As far as our domestic orders are concerned, there is hope that our companies will prosper here as well. In 2021, the Ministry of Defence concluded several major contracts for the supplies of key technologies. Although the deliveries are from abroad, domestic suppliers

should have a significant share of the work. The domestic defence industry expects the new government to favour it significantly over the purchases from abroad. The fact that the new government intends to codify defence spendings amounting 2% of GDP starting from 2025 is certainly good news. It is important that this increase is reflected in the investments in favour of domestic manufacturers. This will also strengthen the revenue side of the budget, as domestic companies return almost half of their state contracts in taxes and other fees in a very short time. Even though it forms one of the pillars of the national defensiveness.

The Defence and Security Industry Association has the slogan "We work to make the world a safer place". The goal of our association is to create the best conditions for our domestic defence manufacturers. Because the better the Czech defence and security industry is, the better our mission will be fulfilled.

*Thank you for the interview.  
Adriana Jesenská*

## GLOMEX Military Supplies

### Products for defence and security professionals

GLOMEX Military Supplies (part of the holding SKUPINA a.s.) is one of the Czech Republic's renowned suppliers of a wide range of defence technologies, equipment and facilities for air and ground forces, special units and security forces in the Czech Republic and abroad, especially in Central and Eastern Europe. The company has more than 20 years of experience and employs several former armed forces members, including members of special forces. Their practical experience is an added value that is essential in preparing and implementing each business case.

The company's strength lies in its ability to integrate. It provides its customers with a comprehensive and tailored service from the beginning of a project through its implementation to subsequent training and service. It provides long-term support and maintenance of the supplied equipment to its clients by operating its own technical, service and storage facilities equipped to work with state-of-the-art electronics such as night vision devices or special aviation



equipment. The partners it engages in integration projects are among the world's top. Essential products in the GLOMEX Military Supplies portfolio include aerial equipment, ground equipment, night vision systems, combat identification systems, high-altitude pilot gear, parachute systems and special aviation equipment. The company also offers and executes projects in artillery equipment, artillery and aerial munitions, including their testing and storage. It is also active in modernization projects of the Army of the Czech Armed Forces and Central and Eastern Europe armies. In 2020, GLOMEX Military Supplies succeeded in a competition of ten companies in an open tender of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic to supply new multi-purpose off-road passenger vehicles for the needs of the Czech Armed Forces. In total, the company will provide Czech soldiers with 1,200 modified Toyota Hilux pickups, which will gradually replace the outdated UAZ and Land Rover off-road vehicles.





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# AURA has Dramatically Changed its Foreign Modus Operandi



**Interview with Filip Engelsmann,  
General Director of AURA**

**Mr. Director, AURA has been the largest Czech exporter of information systems for military logistics for a long time. How does the company manage to hold its top position in the current pandemic era afflicted by anti-epidemic measures?**

Let me begin by referring to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute SIPRI, which states in its annual report that the arms industry grew by 1.3 percent year-on-year in 2020, while global gross domestic product fell by more than 3 percent. According to the researchers of this institute, the year 2021 has been developing in a similar relation. I myself do not intend to explore why at this point. But I will try to reflect on how we are coping with the long-term pandemic in AURA. With the clear goal of maintaining and strengthening the position we have achieved in the domestic and international markets without losing quality and volume. Our modus operandi has changed dramatically, with most of our activities ta-

king place online. It was a big advantage that we were used to it from the past, as we used this way of communication within the company a lot. Of course, at the beginning it was sometimes quite dismal when we tried this way of communication with, for example, Asian countries or Middle and Far East regions. We all know how the representatives of these countries rely on personal contacts. After some time, however, some of our marketplaces of interest spread out to countries where we would not have dared to go before. Similar to the expansion of communication and business meetings to more distant regions, our offer of information logistics systems and other products also expanded online. Indisputable advantages of the online modus operandi are the international training courses and webinars that AURA has been organizing with increasing success. These events attract more and more participants as for some of them the online connection is far more feasible than travelling. This is absolutely true also in case of the December online meeting of our MC CATALOGUE codification software users.

**So you don't encounter any significant pitfalls in these difficult pandemic times?**

Well, we certainly do. First of all, there is a significant limitation of our work teams' trips abroad for business meetings or implementation and maintenance of our information systems. Currently, 23 countries worldwide use our services and not everything can be handled online. Of course, the covid illness does not avoid our employees either, and working from home cannot consistently replace everything. Therefore, we also pay attention to the systematic replenishment of our work teams. In connection with your question, I would also like to mention the stagnating

acquisition processes in the Czech defence sector and their negative impact on company business. However, I really cannot objectively assess to what extent the anti-pandemic measures are to blame.

**One of the rare and significant events that AURA attended in the recent past was IDET 2021. How do you evaluate your participation?**

I can't imagine that a company of our stature and importance, nota bene from Brno, would not use IDET, the International Defence and Security Technology Fair, in Brno for its presentation. We have not missed any of the past 16 years. I appreciate an increasingly effective involvement of our Ministry of Defence and Association of the Defence and Security Industry of the Czech Republic in the selection of political and military foreign delegations and mediation of meetings with domestic entities of the Czech defence industry. It applies also to this problematic year. We made full use of all negotiations with foreign delegations that were offered to us. I consider this year's Brno trade fair useful in terms of abroad as well as domestic activities, especially the cooperation of our Codification Agency with its existing and potential customers and the business presentation of Publi – the new generation electronic library. We have been making less use of foreign arms exhibitions where we usually present ourselves as co-exhibitors of our foreign partners, such as the English Allan Webb, Brazilian ProDeal or Danish Bruhn NewTech. When establishing business contacts, AURA considers as a priority the systematic, sometimes very long negotiations directly on the site of implementation of information systems, and the references from our customers on the all-round quality of our production and related services.





**Mr. Director, as it is clear from your responses, AURA's priority not only in the foreign area remains in the further development and implementation of information systems for military logistics. This is certainly good news not only for the security of Czechia but also for the entire North Atlantic Alliance and their partners.**

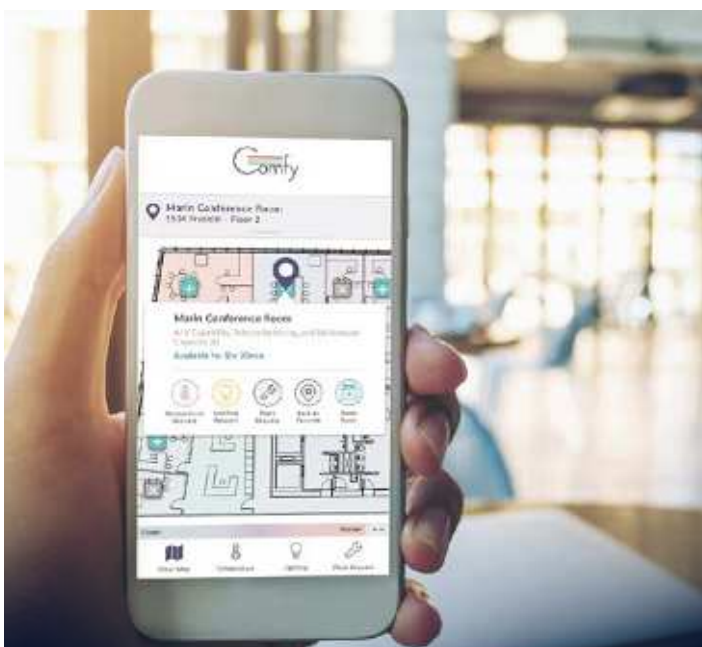
We will definitely continue with what we can do well and where we do good business. This means being even more agile in the world of the NATO Codification

System, where the world's most widely used information system for the support of codification is MC CATALOGUE, our company's golden export item. We have been developing a next-generation Logistics Information System, which in its current form supports 6,500 people (users) daily and manages hundreds of thousands of items of military equipment with a total value of over a quarter of a trillion Czech crowns. Not only for our own needs our developers have been working on a specialized Customer Relationship Management Infor-

mation System AURA CRM; and on the domestic market we are trading a multimedia eLibrary Publi with the Code Creator company.

But what I wish most of all for the future is an early end to the global pandemic with the least possible loss of human life and a return to relatively healthy and normal times.

*With thanks Antonín Svěrák*



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# Agados Has Added Another Type to Its Mobile Field Kitchen Portfolio

The offer of mobile kitchens PK4 Kaga, larger PK6 and ultralight kitchen AGA ULT is supplemented by another model made by the largest domestic trailer manufacturer Agados. The modern AGA FK2013 field kitchen offers extreme mobility even in rough terrain and quick commissioning.







Mobile kitchens are designed for the efficient production of a lot of hot food in field conditions. It is used in the military or rescue operations. Agados has been expanding the range of special products for the components of the integrated rescue system, the armed forces, as well as civil societies for a long time. In the past, mobile kitchens from the workshop of the company settled in Velké Meziříčí have also won a number of awards in professional circles. The main motivation for the production of the first field kitchen was the fact that the last product of this kind was used by the Czech armed forces for 60 years. There is great interest in them not only from the Czech environment, but mainly from abroad.

The public had the opportunity to see the new AGA FK2013 kitchen at this year's International Defence and Security Technology Fair IDET in Brno. It was at this fair in the past where PK4 KAGA mobile field kitchen, also made by Agados, was awarded the Golden IDET 2017.

The new type of field kitchen is again characterized by extreme mobility. It is possible to transport it in fields, roads, or very rough mountain terrain. The kitchen offers quick and easy commissioning, easy operation and maintenance. Everything is adapted to the extreme conditions in which the kitchen is used.

The field kitchen is light, compact and it is a comprehensive and tested solution, including the power generator. A wide range of gastronomic components ensures the possibility of preparing a wide range of dishes for up to 200 people (the number of portions depends on the type of dish). It also meets all the highest hygienic requirements. All work surfaces and gastronomic equipment are made of high quality stainless steel and are easy to maintain. The workspace is protected by a shelter system, which provides shelter for the personnel and protection from the weather influences, and is also equipped with efficient lighting and roof ventilation hatches. The inte-

grated diesel unit ensures the operation of the kitchen even in remote places.

The mobile kitchen has a double-skinned cooking unit with hydraulic tilting with a volume of 150 litres, which is complemented by a 20-liter water heater. The set also offers two frying pans with a lid with a volume of 25 litres. Optionally, a convection oven with a capacity of 150 litres can be added. Oil, gas, wood can be used as a heat source. In transport mode, the kitchen has dimensions (l × w × h) 4,990 × 2,050 × 2,160 mm. Depending on the equipment, its weight is 1,150 to 1,600 kg (max.). The trailer includes a height-adjustable drawbar.

Other special projects of the company include a tank, a freezer box, water treatment plants or a lighting tower suitable for illuminating accident sites. The company also developed an amphibious off-road trailer.

[www.agados.cz](http://www.agados.cz)

# Rheinmetall's Lynx Gets Rubber Track Innovation in Australia

Flexibility is one of the most important demands of today's battlefields. Armed forces need equipment which can be quickly adapted to the requirements of various different fighting environments, and this is especially true for infantry fighting vehicles (IFV), which have to be capable of performing in close-combat urban settings, rugged terrain, open peer-on-peer conflict, and many more situations.



## Rheinmetall Australia driving Lynx innovation

Rheinmetall's Lynx KF41 is one of the few remaining contenders for the Czech Republic's IFV renewal program, and is also competing for tenders in several other

countries. One of these is Australia, where the Lynx is one of two options being considered for the country's major Land 400 Phase 3 IFV programme, which will see around 450 vehicles procured for the Australian armed forces. Production is expected to begin next year.

Now, Rheinmetall Australia has broken new ground in successfully testing the use of a Soucy composite rubber track (CRT) system on the Lynx. The demonstration proved that the Lynx is capable of using both steel and composite rubber tracks – potentially opening up an even wider



range of operational capabilities to the vehicle.

Fitting the CRT to the Lynx allows an overall weight reduction, which should allow easier air transportation while potentially reducing maintenance costs throughout the operational life of the vehicle. Tests saw the Lynx rapidly switched to a CRT configuration from its base steel system, and then quickly switched back to the base system again with ease.

"Steel and composite rubber track systems both have their advantages, and opening up the possibility of both for the Lynx is an exciting development," said Oliver Mittelsdorf, Executive Vice President Sales Tactical Vehicles at Rheinmetall. "Whichever configuration customers favour, the Lynx's capability to switch rapidly between systems opens up a wealth of possibilities for meeting different threat environments."

### Sovereign military industrial growth in Australia

The latest Lynx innovation led by Rheinmetall Australia demonstrates the leading role played by Rheinmetall teams worldwide in the Lynx's development. In Australia, Rheinmetall is dedicated to fostering sovereign military industrial growth by developing the proposed Lynx fleet at its Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence (MILVEHCOE) in Redbank, Queensland, as part of a "design to manufacture in Australia" ethos. MILVEHCOE is already home to production for logistics and Boxer vehicle types being



produced for Australia within the Land 121 and Land 400 Phase 2 programmes. Rheinmetall has meanwhile developed a powerful network of local industrial partners, with over 100 small- and medium-sized enterprises already involved in the Lynx programme. The company's presence, as Australia's largest supplier of military vehicles, has supported hundreds of high-tech design and manufacturing jobs in diverse fields ranging from electro-optics and simulation systems to turret and weapons manufacturing.

### Lynx: an IFV for all seasons

In the Lynx, Rheinmetall has developed an IFV capable of fighting and winning in the huge array of potential combat environments which armed forces decision-

-makers must reckon with. Central to the vehicle's design is its remarkably high degree of modularity, which allows operators to rapidly re-configure the Lynx between various possible mission types, from lighter ambulance and reconnaissance variations to the full-weight infantry fighting vehicle function.

The vehicle has also been developed with a high payload reserve to allow the incorporation of future mechanical and electronic systems. This makes it uniquely well placed to evolve in line with global battlefield developments, unlike older competitors which are already pushing the limits of possible operational add-ons without compromising fundamental operational capabilities.

These qualities are making the Lynx a tempting prospect for armed forces around the world, from Australia to the U.S.A., as well as current and potential European customers. These include the Czech Republic, where Rheinmetall is competing to provide a fleet of 210 new IFVs to help the country meet its NATO commitments. The Lynx will also compete for a new Slovak IFV renewal programme, and it has already been selected in Hungary for a new fleet of 218 IFVs, most of which will be produced in a new state-of-the-art factory being constructed near the town of Zalaegerszeg.

*"The Lynx is an IFV for the present and the future," said Oliver Mittelsdorf. "Hungary has already placed its trust in our innovative vehicle, realising that while previous generations of IFVs will soon be left behind by new battlefield developments, the Lynx will be a potent fighting force for decades to come. If other decision-makers across the world make the same choice, they will reap similarly impressive operational and industrial benefits."*



# Jozef Piga: We See the Future in Our Own Research and Development

Jozef Piga, Chairman of the Board of Directors of OMNIPOL, talks about the current direction of the entire group, his attitude to research and development and even OMNIPOL's entry into Aero Vodochody.



## What is OMNIPOL's current strategy?

Since 1934, when OMNIPOL was founded, it has undergone a number of developmental milestones. In recent years, we have increasingly profiled ourselves as an investment and business group that deals with investments in HI-TECH companies and projects in the defence and aerospace industries in both the Czech Republic and Slovakia. At the same time, we are still focusing mainly as a system integrator on the export and import of products, technologies and services with high added value.

Thanks to our in-house experts, we can connect the systems of different manufacturers into one functional unit. We are the owner of two subsidiary production holdings ERA and MESIT, which have technologies, that focus, in the case of ERA, mainly on passive systems for monitoring air, sea and sea targets. As for Mesit the focus is on, military communications, aircraft instruments and precision engineering production, including their own foundry and galvanic processes.

## Is OMNIPOL a pioneer of some innovations or innovative technologies?

There are only nine countries in the world that, have the ability to design, develop and produce their own military jet aircraft, and the Czech Republic is one of them. The latest aircraft, namely, the L-39NG, has been designed, developed and manufactured by AERO Vodochody and OMNIPOL has since the beginning, been the 50% owner of the project.

We have also recently become a co-owner of Aero Vodochody, from which it is clear that, we have maximum confidence in the development of aviation technologies in the Czech Republic.

The Omnipol Group does not only focus on aviation. Our subsidiary ERA was the first to launch a technology called multilateration, which improves security at many of the world's airports. It can calculate the exact position of each aircraft on the ground and in the air, and even vehicles on the airfield, and this data is then used by dispatchers to control air traffic. These technologies are a great success.

In the field of military technology, ERA has developed a completely unique VERA-NG system for tracking targets on land, in the air and at sea. It detects and recognizes aircraft, ships, ground combat technology and is now also able to capture drones. We strongly support our subsidiaries in the development of our own research and development. We currently employ around 200 experts purely in R&D.

## Although it is not so well known about OMNIPOL, you also work for the private sector. Do you perceive any differences between the two markets?

There are many differences, especially in product types, regional distribution, customer requirements and needs. For

military contracts, the journey is significantly longer and more complicated, from the initial demand to the final implementation itself. This is due to the military purpose, they require higher administrative demands including of course the national security requirements of the Customer.

It is completely different, if you sell a plane to a state institution or, a beverage technology line to a private company.

## And what do you think connects these two markets?

It is the same as with any other service, the two sides are not very different. Both require the highest possible quality and the widest possible range of other services provided, ie service, training, etc.

## Now a little more from another area. As you mentioned, you have recently entered Aero Vodochody, which also includes the adjacent airport. Will it also be used for commercial purposes?

You're right, the airport was part of an acquisition transaction. The airport is absolutely essential for the functioning of the aircraft manufacturer. Although it is possible to conclude contracts for the long-term use of an airport, it is undoubtedly much simpler and more appropriate if both the manufacturer and the airport are owned by the same entity. In the future, we plan to use the airport mainly for the needs of Aero Vodochody in the development and testing of jet aircraft. We can already say that there is definitely no plan to continue the project of a new international civilian airport for passenger or freight transport.





# PLESS

## BREAK THE HORIZON

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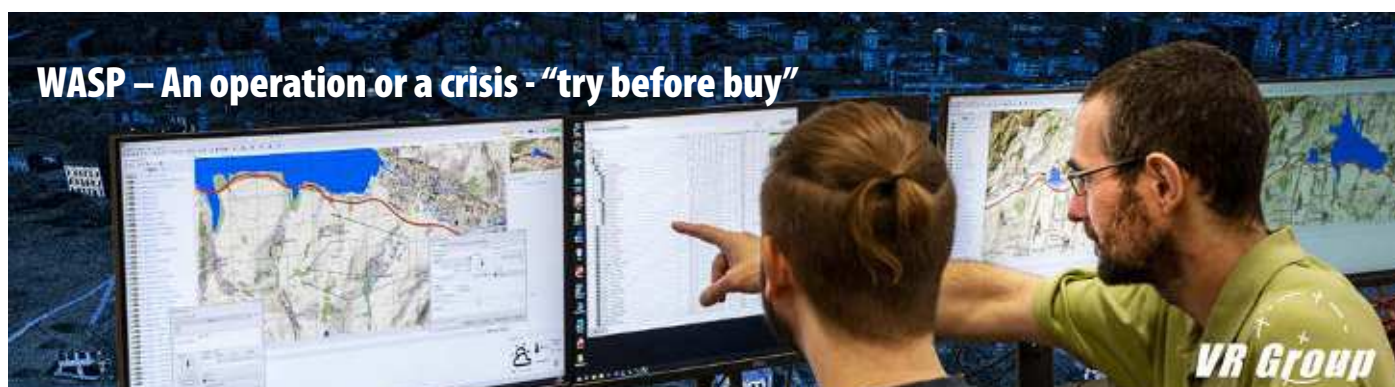
DIRECTION FINDING

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PULSED AND CONTINUOUS  
WAVE SIGNALS



Commanding armies has always been regarded as a kind of art, and the only chance to improve in it was waging war itself. But what if it would be possible to gain this kind of experience without the need to fire a single shot? The systems of constructive simulation that have pushed the fidelity and educational potential of war games and simulations to the next level are every bit as revolutionary as the Prussian tabletop Kriegsspiel once used to be. Moreover, their utility is not strictly limited to military use. Thanks to the cutting-edge simulation systems, also civilian stakeholders and all kinds of security and emergency corps can use them to exercise and prepare themselves to face emergencies. All with maximum respect to the complex real-world information environment, in modern conditions,

and with a broad spectrum of tools and forces.

The WASP simulation system for advanced personnel training offers precisely this kind of experience. WASP is the software of Czech origin that can be utilized in many ways, intentions, scenarios, and activities. Support of the Czech team of experts from VR Group, a.s. with more than 20 years of experience in military and civilian staff training is always guaranteed. From a tactical exercise at a platoon level up to the complex crisis, WASP helps its users prepare any training audience efficiently for situations that are impossible to mimic in reality, costing a fraction of what it would otherwise require. Furthermore, command and control cannot be isolated from other interconnected duties and tasks, like real communication

with lower and higher echelons and other subjects, intelligence feed, or the overview of the status and activity of friendly forces. The innate flexibility and connectivity of WASP allow users to craft the desired outlook of the exercise precisely according to their particular needs and intentions: from the lay-down of the Day 0 situation and its development, through customization of the simulated entities' characteristics, specification of terrain and weather conditions up to the plug-in use of one's ICT systems. No plan survives first contact with the enemy. In this regard, the secondary benefit of simulation technology and exercises, besides personnel training, is the ability to test and verify keystone documents such as emergency plans. The scope of reality is limited. The scope of WASP is up to you.

## Bell's H-1 industry support brings benefits to the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic's new fleet of H-1 helicopters is set to bring a new level of fighting capability to the Czech Air Force. At the same time, the Czech H-1 Program will benefit the Czech economy, thanks to Bell's local industry involvement with VR Group, LOM PRAHA and Ray Service, all of whom have expressed their excitement for the future of cooperation with Bell.

Besides the company LOM PRAHA will provide support, coordinate and perform full spectrum of services needed for H-1 aircraft life cycle support and airworthiness sustainment following the initial LOA period. Next step is to work with the U.S. Government to establish the ability to carry out higher levels of maintenance on the helicopters in the Czech Republic in the future, so the fleet never has to leave the country due to repairs anymore.

"Cooperation with Bell has provided us with interesting professional opportunities and

we appreciate that we will professionally participate in this groundbreaking project of rearmament of the Air Force of the Czech Republic," says the director of LOM PRAHA Jiří Protiva.

The VR Group will provide moving models and Contractor Logistics Support for the Flight Training Device (FTD) for the new Czech helicopter fleet. "Working with Bell on the model build, combined with the opportunity to provide maintenance for the FTD, opens up the possibility for us to take a leading long-term role in the country's Air Force capabilities," said Ivo Gamba from the VR Group. "As one of the Czech Republic's leading providers of defence training solutions, we are extremely excited to play our part in supporting the FTD with the team at Bell, bringing our local expertise to the project to create a great benefit to Czech helicopter operatives."

Ray Service, a leading Czech manufacturer

of cable harnesses and electromechanical assemblies, also praised their cooperation with Bell, which saw the company awarded Class One Supplier certification by a team from Texas earlier this year.

"Becoming the first Czech company to be awarded Class One Supplier certification is a source of great pride for us," said Jakub Gabriel, Managing Director of Ray Service. "The certification followed a stringent evaluation of our operating procedures as well as our staff, with Bell finding us to exhibit the very highest standards of industrial production."

For Bell, such partnerships are the cornerstone of a successful helicopter delivery program. "Our Czech partners were chosen for their commitment to excellence," says Brendan Taylor at Bell. "We feel privileged to be working with such capable and innovative local partners and look forward to the arrival of H-1s in the Czech Republic and deepening our collaboration further."



# EVPÚ Defence a.s. launches a range of new cooled thermal imagers

Following the success of EVPÚ Defence's new MANTIS and MANTIS MINI remote-controlled weapon stations at IDET and FEINDEF 2021, the company now comes forward with yet another addition to its defence product segment. This time EVPÚ Defence's team focused their efforts on developing a range of cooled thermal imagers to complement their current offer of day-night and uncooled thermal cameras. The new cooled cameras are called SUMO-C300, SUMO-C320, SUMO-C600, SUMO-C690 and SUMO-C900.

EVPÚ Defence a.s. produces surveillance and monitoring systems designed to protect border zones, coastal areas, airports and other objects of importance. These systems can be used in short-, mid- and long-range applications. In order to ensure that surveillance can be performed 24/7, the systems comprise a day camera and a thermal imaging camera. Different applications require different sensors, so what is

the difference between cooled and uncooled thermal imagers?

Generally speaking, thermal imaging cameras display the infra-red radiation that is produced by every object. Cooled thermal imaging cameras contain a detector which is kept at a very low temperature by a cooling system. As a result of this cooling process, the detector itself produces much less infra-red radiation and is therefore better able to capture a high-quality image based on the infra-red radiation of the monitored objects. When considering your needs and options, you should be aware that the cooled cameras come at a higher purchase price and attract higher maintenance costs than their uncooled counterparts. However, this is more than compensated by the superb quality and sharpness of image that can be especially appreciated in long-range electro-optical systems. Besides, EVPÚ Defence's thermal imaging cameras meet the specific requirements of the police and armed forces. On the other hand, uncooled thermal im-

agers do not contain a cooling system, their purchase price is therefore lower and maintenance costs reduced to an absolute minimum. They are especially great for short and mid-range electro-optical systems that require fast start. With their minimum need of maintenance, they are also suitable for surveillance towers.

EVPÚ Defence a.s. assembles all of its systems at the company's own production facilities in Uherské Hradiště, CZ, which means that its customers are able to request special modifications where needed. You can find out more on [www.evpudefence.com](http://www.evpudefence.com).



## The company SVOS, spol. s r.o. based in Přelouč near the city Pardubice,

is a Czech, technologically and modernly equipped company belonging to the leading manufacturers of special armored vehicles in Europe. Thanks to its high quality based on valid ISO 9001 and AQAP 2100 certificates and reliability, it has exported more than 6,500 vehicles to 60 countries around the world since its establishment in 1992. Customers choose the level of ballistic protection according to European, American, NATO or other national standards. SVOS vehicles are used by various governments, armies, humanitarian organizations and high-ranking VIP customers around the world.



## FROM FEELING SAFE TO FEELING SECURE

### TRAAM, s.r.o.

is a subsidiary of SVOS (the area is 500 m away) and specializes in the production of ballistic resistant glass for the military, police and civilian industries, including armored glass for bank counters, safety glass for engineering and large-area glass for the architecture of glazed buildings and partitions.

## WWW.ARMSVOS.CZ

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Tel.: +420 466 955 743, E-mail: [svos@armsvos.cz](mailto:svos@armsvos.cz)

## AVEC CHEM's products protect first responders in the Czech Republic

AVEC CHEM, company from the Czech Republic, designs, develops and manufactures personal and collective protective equipment against chemical, biological and radioactive substances.

AVEC CHEM's products protect soldiers, police officers, first responders, medical staff, firefighters and industry workers in more than 60 countries in five continents.

A family company from Eastern Bohemia started its business with protective equipment in 1994, from 1997 as AVEC CHEM. First seated in a small village of Starý Mateřov, District of Pardubice, in 2018 the company opened a brand new factory in Přelouč employing almost 20 workers. There is also a research laboratory for testing of breakthrough time, filtration efficiency and other parameters of protective filters, full face masks, half masks and other protective devices. In total, AVEC CHEM manufactures more than 1 million filters a year.

Years of experience, close contact with users, innovative approach, use of the most modern technologies and materials, this all have helped AVEC CHEM to develop a new generation of light, comfort and highly re-

liable PPE. AVEC CHEM manufactures and delivers particle, gas, combined and special filters capturing not only a complete range of TICs, but also CWA and radioactive substances.



The quality of AVEC CHEM's products is well proven by the wide range of customers coming from all over the world. In the Czech Republic AVEC's filters and tactical masks are used by the 43. Parachute Regiment in Chrudim or Czech police special operation force (URNA). "Considering URNA is a special police unit which is called into action when terrorism, kidnapping or very dangerous organised crime occurs, it is ob-

viously very important for the officers to have highly reliable protective equipment. Specially for them we have developed a half mask for special operations. It is called TAPR (Tactical Air Purifying Respirator). It provides protection against a wide range of harmful substance, toxic gases, dangerous bacteria and viruses with the efficiency of 99,99%," explains the executive director of AVEC CHEM, Michal Filipi.

AVEC CHEM has developed a unique half mask filtrating inhaled and exhaled air. This exclusive system of filters located on the exhalation chambers is patented. Such half masks can be used in hospitals, medical and social centres or retirement homes, where people shall be protected against such diseases like COVID-19 brought from the outside. Manufacturing of bidirectional air filtering half mask is a part of 30 million company investment into robotisation and production processes improvement.

Apart from filters and half masks AVEC CHEM also offers permeable protective suits, full face masks, mouth pieces, escape hoods and collective filters.

## WPA

When the Czech Republic was hit by the first wave of the Covid-19 epidemic, even before the global emergency declared by the World Health Organization (WHO), Workpress Aviation (WPA), a Pilsen-based leading manufacturer of the aviation components, launched the development of a top-level protective half-mask with filtration exceeding the FFP3 standard. After a month of an intense project activity, the firefighters and the paramedics got the first mask for testing in the front line. Later, they received thousands of masks for free as an expression of respect and support from WPA.

At the beginning of the project, there was an effort to protect WPA own employees, ensure the continuity of production and preserve all jobs, despite the general lack of protective equipment. The priority was to achieve the top filtration capability by using a special filter tissue. A parallel goal was to design a half-mask which could be used for standard work purposes. Considering the experience of paramedics, who had to wear the protective equipment for long periods, emphasis was placed on ergonomics and low weight of the mask, to enable all-day comfortable use.

The mask, made of certified material that adheres to the face, has two filters, including protective vents on the sides and one exhalation valve at the front. An important feature of the product is that the filter is protecting against viruses and bacteria. Based on the performed tests, the filters are able to capture 99.95 percent of all harmful particles, which is a level higher than FFP3 respirators.

The entire mask can be disinfected or decontaminated and reused, therefore it is very cost-effective and environmentally friendly.

The half-mask is available in ten colors and three sizes, S, M and L. There was an increased interest from

the police and other security forces in the neutral gray and black variants.

During the pandemic, the nanomask of the Pilsen company WPA received a great response at home and abroad. Tens of thousands of pieces were delivered to the Ministry of the Interior, IRS units, hospitals and region authorities. It is also available to the general public via the e-shop <https://wparespirators.cz/>.





# MOBILE SOLUTION OF MEDICAL GAS DISTRIBUTION (FROM MZ LIBEREC)

The joint-stock company MZ Liberec, among others a member of DSIA and AVDZP associations, has been designing, manufacturing, supplying, installing and commissioning medical & technical gas distribution systems since 1957. Its production scope includes gas consumption units, such as bed head units, medical beams, rotary ceiling pendants, and other medical devices that are used in operating theaters, intensive care units, anaesthesiology & resuscitation departments and standard patient's wards worldwide. The company is also able to supply and to commission medical gas sources, i.e. oxygen generators, compressors, vacuum, reduction & evaporation stations.



MZ Liberec responds to specific requirements focused on field / containerized hospitals as well as their medical gas distribution fed from mobile oxygen generators that ensure the production and distribution of oxygen throughout the medical facility. Furthermore, mobile intensive care units incl. source columns are serving as a mobile carrier of gas cylinders and/or operating lights, including UPS backup sources. Thanks to the above-mentioned technologies, it is possible to secure the production and distribution of medical gases even outside stationary medical facilities, to bring medical care closer to the patients and thus to contribute to a higher level of care provided in extreme conditions.



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**MOLPIR GROUP CZ a.s.** has been operating on the market since 1993 as a major manufacturer and supplier for microclimate treatment equipment in mobile devices. It deals with the development and implementation of special air-conditioning and heating units for logistic and defence vehicles of NATO armies. It offers cooperation in solving complex air-conditioning systems of vehicles. It carries out the development, production and supply of equipment for collective protection of persons, especially in the field of CBRN protection.

#### Product Portfolio:

- Equipment for collective (CBRN) and personal protection;
- Air conditioning units;
- Ventilation equipment;
- Heating units.

[info@molpir.cz](mailto:info@molpir.cz)  
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# ELDIS Pardubice: 30 years of development and Radars production

ELDIS Pardubice, the company of radar manufacture, celebrated 30 years Anniversary on the market this year. On this occasion, they have introduced a new logo and mainly they gained majority of very important and significant contracts. One of the most important is the supply of 11 radars worth almost a billion crowns for the Indian Navy and the Coast Guard. In Pardubice, they also valued contracts for the supply of radars to Slovakia, Germany and Latin America.

ELDIS Pardubice is a leading radars manufacturer. Thanks to a strong development department, the company can be proud of producing radars of its own design, which are continuously modernized. For example, ELDIS is currently completing the development of an innovative primary radar module that uses the gallium nitride method. It means that the module will be smaller, more powerful and reduce power losses compared to silicon module.

This innovated module will already be part of eleven combined radars, which ELDIS will

supply to the Indian Navy and Coast Guard in cooperation with the partner company Manhidra Telephonics. India is a key territory for ELDIS. Pardubice radar manufacturer already covers 99 percent of the airspace of this seventh largest and second most populous country in the world.



In total, ELDIS supplies its products to almost thirty countries on four continents. The company is now trying to focus on demanding markets in Western Europe and is

celebrating its first significant success in this field: company will deliver the PAR-E precision landing radar to Germany. However, ELDIS is also successful in other markets: for example it has won a significant reference contract in Colombia,

ELDIS Pardubice has been a member of the Czechoslovak Group industrial technology holding company and its CSG Aerospace division since 2017. In cooperation with other member companies of the division, ELDIS participated in a number of trade fairs this year. Besides the domestic IDET in Brno, it was, for example, IDEF 2021 in Istanbul, Turkey, FAMEX in Mexico or the prestigious WATM Congress in Madrid.

Presentations abroad and reference orders are key for ELDIS Pardubice. Most of the company's production is export-oriented and has been successful in this area for a long time. In the year 2020, ELDIS won the prestigious Medium Exporter of the Year award in a survey by the Czech Chamber of Commerce.

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# Project Mobile security barriers and use of Augmented reality

Security in public spaces is one of the key responsibilities of all governments and municipalities in modern world. The role of our barriers is not only to protect critical areas against a vehicle ramming attack but also to serve as an aesthetic object which can be used as a table or a bench. The restraint system developed within this project are being thoroughly tested both in the real physical crash tests and also in virtual computer simulations (finite element numerical simulations). A tremendous advantage of the simulations is their ability to answer many questions regarding behaviour of the system with very low costs and in short time. During this project the barriers were virtually tested also in scenarios with different impact angles, several different attacking vehi-

cles, and various impact velocities. Therefore, the final version of the barrier has not been tested only in a single physical crash test that proves its ability to mitigate the attacking vehicle.

Development of these barriers is a great challenge and therefore there are 3 specialised teams involved. There is a team

the material and component testing. And finally, there is a team of simulation analysts from SVS FEM s.r.o. who performs all the numerical simulations. Due to the fact that majority of the development of these barriers is done in the virtual world, it is possible to preview the results of the crash test simulations also in augmen-

ted reality. It is not even necessary to use any special equipment such as special projecting device or 3D glasses. This form of visualisation has a great potential,

especially in the field of numerical simulations. You can try it yourself by loading the attached QR code.

The project "Restraint systems designed to stop trucks" was supported by the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic (no. VI20192022129).



of engineers from MC Velox Praha s.r.o. who are designing shape of the barriers, arrangement of steel reinforcement and systems for linking individual blocks of the barriers. There is also a team of scientists from Research Institute for Building Materials a.s. who take care of all



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# Talkey Innovates, It Has Another Set of Unique Features on Its System for Secure E-mail Communication

Talkey, a member of the ette group, stays behind the development of a unique encryption application. It protects users from data leakage, misuse of communication content and other security risks posed by the trend of digitization. Thanks to an innovative approach, brings another unique features to the market, and with it the ranking among the best companies in the Czech Republic in the Czech Top 100 competition.

With its innovations, Talkey is responding to the increasing number of cyber-attacks and the growing need for secure e-mail communication not only in companies. At the same time, it wants to show that even with the strictest security parameters, communication encryption can be user-friendly.

"We have implemented the inherited

feature of advanced e-mail settings in the latest version. This gives the sender full control over the entire mess-



age thread. The recipient inherits the original advanced features set by the sender and cannot change them when forwarding or replying" specified Jacek

Makowski, project & product manager at Talkey.

Other unique features allow the user, for example, to abolish an e-mail already sent in the recipient's mailbox, set when and how many times the message can be read, prohibit forwarding the message or open it on a mobile device.

Emails sent via Talkey are digitally signed, with automatic confirmation of the sender's identity. A "digitally signed" icon will appear on the recipient's side, which guarantees the origin, ownership and immutability of the message.

The application can be used free of charge in the basic version. It is available for download at: [talkey.com/installator](http://talkey.com/installator). There is also a mobile application that is available for Android and iOS.

## Transport risks are growing. Are you fully prepared?

**Costs associated with the operation of company fleets are increasing, no matter whether the cars are being used to transport people or cargo. Some of these are due to risky situations and the consequences of damages. To illustrate: in 2019, traffic accidents alone in the Czech Republic resulted in economic losses of over CZK 80 billion. (source: nehody.cdv.cz)**

However, transport and transportation risks can, as in other fields, be effectively managed. RENOMIA specialists not only use their expertise and experience for this purpose, but also modern technology. The tools developed by RENOMIA DIGITAL SERVICES enable us to process a clear analysis of traffic risks and claims trends for our clients and, on the basis of this analysis, to eliminate all preventable damages. With this managed claims experience, we are able to optimize insurance costs, which are growing in the period of ongoing or expected economic crises and make it practically impossible for clients to obtain attractive insurance conditions without the support of an experienced broker.

RENOMIA also offers useful tools directly for its clients to use. Our mobile application guides the driver of a company car through all the steps for a problem-free solution to a loss event in the Czech Republic and abroad. It provides and transmits important data online and helps the driver to behave rationally and according to the established rules. The result is relevant damage documentation that is quickly available - minimizing the cost of damage and simplifying and speeding up the liquidation process. Our claims handling specialists can then help with the settlement of the claim.

Thanks to the application, the driver of the company car also has the "Lawyer on Call" service available free of charge, which can be used 24/7 in the event of a traffic accident in the Czech Republic and abroad. For example, the lawyer on call service provides the driver with an initial legal assessment of the situation, recommendations for further appropriate steps, or instructions to secure the means of proof and proper documentation of the accident. The service also includes the cost of interpretation and translation. For

further details and arrangements of quality insurance programs in transport and transportation, please contact Karel Makovec, [karel.makovec@renomia.cz](mailto:karel.makovec@renomia.cz).

In addition to insurance against traffic risks, RENOMIA offers insurance programs relating to both the protection of tangible and intangible assets and the resolution of liability claims by members of management and statutory bodies or employees. RENOMIA is the largest insurance broker in the Czech Republic and is also one of the most important in the entire Central and Eastern Europe region.

We use our market position and good relations with leading Czech and foreign insurers to provide our clients with the best services in the field of risk management and insurance. We are at your disposal at any time, and we will also be happy to welcome you to our professional RENOMIA FORUM webinars, which we hold several times a year.

*Michael Dubský*

*Client Service Director of RENOMIA GROUP*





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# NCS College in 2021

Since 2012, the University of Defence in Brno and the National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic, with the support of the AURA company and other domestic and international institutions, have organised biennially the NCS College to give mostly international students the skills and knowledge to successfully operate the NATO Codification System (NCS) in their respective nations.



Among the NCS College lecturers there are current and former National Codification Bureau Directors, representatives from NSPA (NATO Support and Procurement Agency), AC/135 (NATO Allied Committee 135 - Group of National Directors on Codification), the University of Defence in Brno and last but not least specialist codification experts from AURA and other commercial foreign codification companies.

The NCS is a methodology to describe

- Interoperability and sharing of equipment and spares between national and multi-national forces based on the common identifier of the NSN.
- Improved procurement by providing more choice of suppliers, more competition, lower costs and increased availability through access to the NATO Master Catalogue of References for Logistics (NMCRL) – the largest logistics database in the world.
- Reduced inventory and lower stock-holding costs by removing duplications and multiplications of stocks held under different supply numbers.
- Improved data quality and reduced costs by focusing on data cleansing and improved governance procedures.

It is hoped that future NCS College courses will again be held in person in Brno depending on international travel and safety considerations.

**George Bond, Senior Lecturer and Moderator, NCS College**

*George Bond served as Director of the UK National Codification Bureau and Chairman of AC/135.*

Normally organised as a three week course based at the University of Defence in Brno, the 2021 course was held for the first time on-line with 21 students from 11 different countries – Japan, Saudi Arabia, Romania, Indonesia, Germany, Czechia, Finland, Norway, Hungary, Qatar, and NATO. Since 2012 more than 130 students from 25 countries worldwide have attended the NCS College.

The syllabus of the NCS College covers the full range of topics embraced by the NATO Codification System. It includes NCS key policies & principles, purpose and benefits, regulations and documentation, and international liaison & data exchange processes/procedures.

and identify all materiel in a common manner by allocating an Approved Item Name and unique 13-digit NATO Stock Number (NSN) to each item held in the defence inventory.

Developed from the US Federal Cataloguing System after the Second World War and adopted by NATO countries in the late fifties, the NCS has been the backbone of materiel identification and interoperability requirements within NATO and has now been adopted by all 30 NATO nations and 34 non-NATO nations worldwide.

The benefits of the NCS include:

- The creation of a single supply 'language' for all national and international logistics operations.





## NCS College

**2012** – Organized by the University of Defence, Defense Logistics Agency of Logistics Information Service USA (DLA LIS), National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic; supported by AURA, AC/135, NSPA; Course for Managers and Logisticians (1 week), Course for Codifiers (3 weeks); 32 students from 12 countries and organizations.

**2014** – Organized by the University of Defence, AC/135, National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic; supported by AURA, DLA LIS, NSPA, ESG, National Codification Bureau of Austria; Course for Managers and

Logisticians (1 week), Course for Codifiers (3 weeks); 30 students from 13 countries and organizations.

**2016** – Organized by the University of Defence, AC/135, National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic; supported by AURA, DLA LIS, NSPA, National Codification Bureau of Spain; Course for Managers and Logisticians (1 week), Course for Codifiers (3 weeks); 26 students from 15 countries and organizations.

**2018** – Organized by the University of Defence, National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic; supported by AURA, Allan

Webb, George Bond (former UK NCB Director and AC/135 Chairman); Course for Managers and Logisticians (1 week), Course for Codifiers (2 weeks); 23 students from 10 countries and organizations.

**2021** – Organized by the University of Defence, National Codification Bureau of the Czech Republic; supported by AURA, Allan Webb, George Bond (former UK NCB Director and AC/135 Chairman); On-line Course for Managers and Codifiers (2 weeks); 21 students from 11 countries and organizations.

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# IDET Returned to Pre-Covid Levels. Exhibitors and Visitors Welcomed the Opportunity to Hold Meetings and Do Business Live

The 16<sup>th</sup> IDET International Defence and Security Technologies Fair has confirmed its position as one of the most important exhibitions in Central Europe and NATO countries. In connection with the concurrently held PYROS International Fire Fighting Equipment and Services Fair and ISET International Security Technology and Services Fair, the fair was a comprehensive presentation of the components of the Integrated Rescue System and their suppliers. A total of 496 exhibiting companies from 27 countries took part in the security fairs; their stands were viewed by over 24 thousand trade visitors from the Czech Republic and abroad.



IDET 2021 was held in its standard format at the level of the last years. The world continues to face complex security challenges that require investment in strengthening the defence capabilities, which has been reflected in the scope and quality of the trade fair offer. The excellent level of IDET 2021 was appreciated by VIP guests, exhibitors as well as numerous visitors.

Everyone enjoyed live events, the possibility of a face-to-face meetings and pleasant vibes.

At the invitation of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic, Armed Forces of the Czech Republic and the company BVV Trade Fairs Brno, members of official delegations from territories of interest and representatives of foreign

armed forces from 31 countries (Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Egypt, Philippines, France, Italy, India, Iran, Israel, South Africa, Jordan, Canada, Republic of Korea, Hungary, Germany, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Austria, Romania, Northern Macedonia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, USA, United Kingdom and Vietnam) attended the IDET fair. The highlighted country



of IDET 2021 was Israel with its official display run by the SIBAT (the International Defence Cooperation Directorate of the Israel Ministry of Defence), which participated in the trade fair for the first time. Another premiere at the fair was the official participation of the Ministry of Defence of Pakistan.

The fair reaffirmed the strong position of the Czech defence and security industry, which has long exported over 90 percent of its production, and the value of its exports increased to almost 17 billion Czech crowns in 2020. A memorandum of cooperation between the Czech Export Bank and the Agency for Intergovernmental Defence Cooperation, established by the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic to support the exports of the Czech defence industry, was ceremoniously signed directly at the fair. Among the exhibits of Czech exhibitors, the self-propelled wheeled howitzer DITA, which was presented in the Czech premiere by the company EXCALIBUR ARMY, met with great acclaim.

The largest area was occupied by the display of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic and the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic with the main topics of modernization of the armed forces and 30 years since the first foreign operation in which Czech soldiers participated. At the stands of foreign suppliers, visitors could also get acquainted with the latest acquisitions for which the Ministry of Defence signed contracts just before the fair – Caesar self-propelled howitzers from the French company Nexter Systems and Spyder anti-aircraft missile set from the Israeli company Rafael.

A premiere had the Start-up Innovation Pavilion - a display of five young innovative companies. It was organized by the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic with the aim of presenting the high potential of start-up companies and connecting them with larger partners. A new topic this year was also 3D printing, presenting printing solutions for components for the defence industry, such as metals or composite materials for the development of prototypes and the production of spare parts. As part of the professional supporting



program, the 9<sup>th</sup> Cyber Security Conference was held, promoted by the Czech branch of AFCEA. The IDET Arena off-road polygon with live demonstrations of military, firefighting and police equipment has once again become an attractive part of the security fairs.

The best exhibits of the fair were handed three Golden IDET awards and one honorable mention. An expert jury decided on the Golden IDET award for the Titus 6x6 wheeled armored vehicle, which is an outcome of cooperation between Tatra Defence Vehicle, Tatra Trucks and French manufacturer of specialized defence land forces products Nexter Systems. The award went to the ReGUARD multi-role 3D radar from the company Retia. The third Golden IDET 2021 was given to the RCWS MANTIS weapon station from the manufacturer EVPÚ Defence. The jury awarded an honorable mention for an innovative product to the T4N hand-held fire extinguisher with 3M Novec 1230 fire protection fluid from the company EAF protect.

The personality of the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic was also solemnly announced at the fair – the nominee this year was Professor Svatopluk Zeman, a recognized scientist in the field of energy materials.

**The next IDET, PYROS and ISET trade fairs will take place on their traditional date in May 2023.**

### Exhibitors' view

The opening of the first Israeli national pavilion at this Czech defence industry fair is a step towards further strengthening security relations. We see great potential for defence cooperation in the areas of unmanned aerial vehicles, air defence, missile systems and cyber systems. We thank the Czech Ministry of Defence for their trust in our defence system and we will continue to work together to strengthen relations and maintain the security interests of both our countries.

*SIBAT (Ministry of Defence of Israel), Shahr Rachel Horev, Deputy Director*

The fair was a success. There are many important companies, many visitors who were interested in our products both in outdoor and indoor areas. We are glad that we are here and we rate the fair as successful.

*Czechoslovak Group, Lukáš Novotný, marketing manager*

We are glad that we can introduce ourselves here as a company that has been cooperating with the Czech industry for a long time. There is great potential for the production of unmanned aerial vehicles in the Czech Republic. *General Dynamics European Land Systems, Thomas Strasser, Director of International Trade and Services*

We really enjoy the fair and we are pleased to meet all representatives of Czech industry or ministries who have arrived at the event. Many customers



are interested in our products.  
*Lockheed Martin, Dennis Göge, Vice President, Central and Eastern Europe*

We are very satisfied with the fair. After a long covid-19 break, it's about improving everyone's mood. Attendance was high. Everything was perfect.  
*LOM Prague, Jitka Šuláková, marketing and PR*

I must say that I am pleasantly surprised by the number of inquiries and the number of visitors who are interested in our products – field kitchens or other types of trailers. The fair definitely met our expectations.  
*AGADOS, Ivo Uchytíl, Head of Sales*

I'm glad to see so many people here, it's really full. My whole team, all the traders, are happy to be at IDET again. The most important thing for us is to meet customers from Central Europe. We are doing well here. We are happy again in the Czech Republic and we are very happy to be back in Brno.  
*Rheinmetall, Oliver Mittelsdorf, Senior Vice President Sales*

The IDET 2021 trade fair has been very successful for us. We were constantly busy with customers. The organization was excellent. From a social point of view,

it was a return to normal and a sign that things were going back on the right track, where every business is built on personal ties. It is certainly a good thing that IDET is taking place this year and we can meet our current and potential partners here.  
*STV Group, Mikuláš Klang, press spokesman*

We are very surprised how many visitors there are in here. There were a lot of delegations from the armed forces. Generals, the Minister of the Interior or the Minister of Defence, as well as foreign delegations visited our stand.  
*EVPU Defence, Patrik Hlůšek, sales director*

We are glad that the fair took place after the break, that we were able to welcome our current and possible future business partners. I dare say that our stand was the focus of great customer interest, we presented a portfolio of our weapons designed for members of armed forces.  
*Česká zbrojovka, David Basovník, CZ Export Praha*

This is the first presentation of the company LPP at the IDET trade fair and we are very surprised. The interest was really enormous.  
*LPP, Miroslav Žížka, company executive*

Fire protection has long been underfunded, and this regards both professional and volunteer firefighters. The situation has been starting to change recently, which is why we also have large investments ahead of us in the future. The PYROS trade fair is a space where both exhibitors and the Fire Rescue Corps and volunteer fire brigade units can show the general public where they are at the moment and where they would like to arrive.  
*Vladimír Viček, Director General of Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic*

The interest is really great. We have a recruitment center where visitors can find out all the information on what to do to put on their uniforms and become a police officer.  
*Police of the Czech Republic, Petra Hružová, spokesperson for South Moravian police officers*





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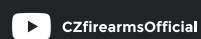
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A detailed view of a Nexter VBCI T40 8x8 armored vehicle. The vehicle is olive green and features a complex turret with various sensors and a machine gun. It has large, treaded tires and a heavy-duty front bumper with tow hooks. The word 'nexter' is visible on the front. The background is a dense forest with green foliage.

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