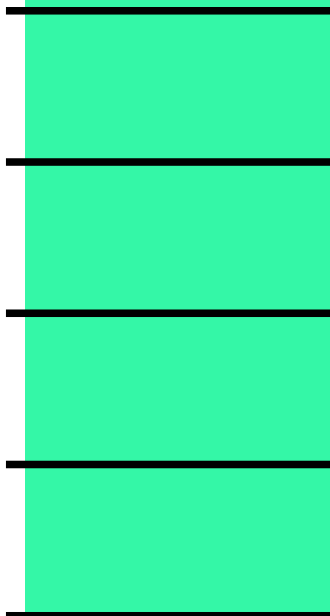


# Army Guide monthly



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- **Rheinmetall books major orders for mine clearing systems and ammunition from international customer**
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**Contracts****BAE Systems awarded \$112 million U.S. Army contract to sustain M88 recovery vehicles**

The contract, awarded by the Army's TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, is for ongoing service and improvements to BAE Systems-built M88A1 and M88A2 recovery vehicles over the next four years.

"The M88 is critical to the military's recovery missions of the heaviest vehicles in the fleet," said John G. Tile, director of Recovery Vehicles at BAE Systems. "Whether our vehicles are coming off the assembly line or deployed in theatre, we are committed to providing the highest quality vehicle and full life-cycle support of the M88. This award continues the long standing relationship of program management, engineering, logistics, and field service support to the Army and other customers of the M88 program."

The M88 vehicle provides recovery support to troops in the field, and is the only vehicle able to recover the M1 Abrams tank and all of the vehicles required to maneuver with the Armored Brigade Combat Team during battle. Under the contract, called Systems Technical Support and Sustainment Systems Technical Support, services and products will be delivered to the Army, the U.S. Marine Corps, and Foreign Military Sales customers in support of their 70-plus ton combat vehicle recovery requirements.

Work on the program will be performed by the current workforce at the company's facilities in San Jose, California; York, Pennsylvania; and Sterling Heights, Michigan; as well as by field service representatives stationed at military facilities across the globe.

**Contracts****Rheinmetall books major orders for mine clearing systems and ammunition from international customer**

Rheinmetall Denel Munition of South Africa, a subsidiary of the Düsseldorf-based Rheinmetall Group, has won several major orders from an international customer for mine clearing equipment and ammunition. In total, the contracts are expected to be worth over €90 million.

In March the customer ordered two Plofadder mine clearing systems and accompanying training devices as well as ammunition, with a total value of over €28 million. The Plofadder mine clearing system is a leader

in its market segment. It fires rockets to create a ladder-like demolition zone, which is capable of cutting a 160-metre-long, nine-metre-wide lane through a minefield.



A further partial order for ammunition has been announced for the second quarter of 2017. This contract will be worth around €65 million.

These important orders underscore once again Rheinmetall's leading role in the world of weapon and ammunition systems. A high-tech enterprise dedicated to the twin imperatives of security and mobility, its range of products here extends from infantry weapons to high-energy laser effectors.

**Contracts****BAE Systems signs CV90 vehicle support contracts with Estonia**

CV90 in the national day parade in Tallinn, Estonia on 24 February. Photo credit Estonian Defence Forces

BAE Systems and the Estonian government have signed contracts to maintain and sustain the country's fleet of CV9035 Infantry Fighting Vehicles (IFVs).

The long-term agreements cover configuration management for new IFV capabilities, as well as maintenance, repairs, and spare parts. The contracts between the Estonian Centre for Defence Investment (ECDI) and BAE Systems cover 44 CV9035 vehicles acquired from the Netherlands in 2014.

"The armoured maneuvering capability program is one of the most important capability development projects of the last decade in Estonia, which will increase the combat capability of Estonian Defence Forces remarkably," said Margus Padjus, project manager of the Procurement Department at ECDI. "The CV9035

Infantry Fighting Vehicles that the Estonian Ministry of Defence bought from the Netherlands was the first step in this project. To ensure utilization of the vehicles would be as efficient as possible, ECDI entered into the long-lasting life-cycle support contract with BAE Systems Högglunds. I am convinced that our CV90s will be professionally and reliably supported by BAE Systems Högglunds.”

Estonia is one of seven nations, including four NATO allies, operating more than 1,200 CV90s. The CV90 is a leading, adaptable, and combat proven vehicle.

“We welcome Estonia to the family of nations who rely on the CV90 for critical ground combat capability,” said Tommy Gustafsson-Rask, general manager of BAE Systems Högglunds. “We are fully committed to supporting Estonia and ensuring this new capability and cost-efficient solution will be effectively integrated in a manner consistent with other NATO users.”

## Robots

### Kratos Converts Russian T-72 Tank to Unmanned Operation



SAN DIEGO, -- Kratos Defense & Security Solutions, Inc., a leading US National Security Solutions provider, announced today that its Micro Systems, Inc. business unit, part of the Kratos Unmanned Systems Division (KUSD), has successfully converted a Russian T-72 Tank to operate unmanned.

In response to a need by the U.S. Army for a tank target, Kratos/Micro Systems converted the T-72 to be controlled by its Army Ground Aerial Target Control System (AGATCS). AGATCS is a vehicle and datalink agnostic control systems that has been interfaced to a wide variety of U.S. Army air, ground, and sea surface target vehicles.

Converting the T-72 presented a unique set of challenges not normally encountered with conventional vehicles. The dual tiller steering system required high levels of force and displacement. The operating environment was harsh as well, with high levels of vibration, temperature, and dust. Working together as an integrated team, personnel from Kratos/Micro Systems and the Army's Targets Management Office addressed and resolved these issues. Remote control was facilitated by the ability of AGATCS to control a wide variety of vehicles with highly disparate control requirements.

Kevin Ferguson, Sr. VP of Kratos Micro Systems,

said, "Micro Systems is proud to support the U.S. Army's Targets Management Office with new capabilities to provide highly threat representative target vehicles to support their efforts to develop capabilities to keep our homeland and warriors safe."

## Contracts

### 319 GRIFFON and 20 JAGUAR vehicles ordered from Nexter, Renault Trucks Defense and Thales by the DGA as part of the SCORPION program



Versailles -- The French Procurement Agency (DGA) placed the first production order with Nexter, Renault Trucks Defense and Thales for 319 GRIFFON and 20 JAGUAR vehicles as part of the Multi-role Armored Vehicle contract. This contract includes logistic support and the associated training.

A crucial stage in the SCORPION programme, the awarding of this conditional tranche will thus launch the production of these new vehicles after only 27 months of development.

The GRIFFON Multi-role Armored Vehicle and the JAGUAR Armored Reconnaissance and Combat Vehicle, both of which benefit from a high level of protection, respectively replace the VAB and the AMX10RC, the SAGAIE ERC and the VAB Hot, used intensively by the Army for over thirty years. They will enable the French Army to have a state-of-the-art combat tool with the best protection technologies and the best possible use to be made of digitized data on the battlefield.

The Nexter, Renault Trucks Defense and Thales teams are perfectly aligned in order to achieve the contractual milestones and to meet the qualification and production commitments, with the first deliveries of the GRIFFON in 2018 and of the JAGUAR in 2020. Pooling of know-how and innovation capabilities creates the strength to design "connected" vehicles for tomorrow's collaborative combat, featuring a high level of protection, optimum adaptability by means of the vehicles' ability to be reconfigured according to the operational requirements, great mobility, and leading edge weapon systems.

The SCORPION programme provides for the delivery by the Temporary Business Grouping of 1,668 GRIFFON vehicles and 248 JAGUAR engines to the French Army, as well as the associated logistic support

facilities.

Jean-Franzois Pellarin, Director of the SCORPION programme within the Temporary Business Grouping and the representative for the EBMR contract, stated "We are proud of this new sign of confidence on the part of the French Procurement Agency and can't wait to start producing this new equipment, which will project the operational capabilities of the Army to the future ".

