

CMS-1 Commander Sight for the CV90 IFV



Electro-optical system manufacturer EVPÚ Defence a.s. is one of the prominent Czech defence and security companies that will be exhibiting at EUROSATORY 2024 in Paris. As the highly anticipated defense exhibition approaches, we sit down with the company's Sales and Marketing Manager, Eva Miechová, to explore EVPÚ Defence's recent accomplishments and the exciting developments they have in store for this prestigious event.

In the ever-evolving landscape of modern warfare, military electro-optical solutions are increasingly in demand and customer expectations and technical requirements are growing. How does this impact EVPÚ Defence?

Our company's operating model is based on a flexible approach to customer requirements and a commitment to providing tailored solutions that also make economic sense. While a high degree of customisation can sometimes be a little time-consuming in

the beginning, customers end up paying only for what they will use. Offering such flexibility requires a great deal of creativity, innovation and technical proficiency, and over the years we have built a reputation for providing just that. Our recent large-scale military projects, such as the supply of laser and radar warning systems for vehicles used by the Hungarian and Japanese armies, commander and gunner sights for the Slovak BOV 8x8, and commander sights for the Czech army's CV90 vehicle, serve as evidence that our approach

continues to be attractive for world-class system integrators as well as real-life end users.

You mention the Czech CV90 programme, which has been widely discussed in the media. Can you tell us more about the commander sight that will be part of CV90's equipment?

The majority of the Czech army's CV90s are to be equipped with our CMS-1 commander sight. This is a panoramic sight, typically mounted on a turret, which enables the vehicle commander to carry out observation, reconnaissance and target acquisition. The fact that it provides a complete 360° overview of the battlefield positively influences the speed of response to threats and the efficiency of decision-making during operations. The whole CV90 vehicle is designed for high mobility and agility, allowing it to operate effectively in various terrains and weather conditions, and the commander sight must of course reflect that. CMS-1 offers a combination of a day zoom camera, a cooled thermal imaging camera and a laser rangefinder on a gyrostabilized platform. The sensors are housed in a ruggedized, shock- and vibration-resistant body, and ensure that the system is



■ GLADIUS MINI RCWS with a 7.62mm machine gun on the Ford F-150 Raptor



■ GLADIUS 12 is a compact RCWS suitable for both land and naval applications and designed to be installed on vehicles, vessels, or stationary platforms

capable of performing its tasks 24/7 in all climate, weather and light conditions, from cold semi-arid plains and deserts to hot and humid urban areas.

What does participation in this programme mean for you as a domestic producer?

A project of this scale is always a great responsibility and we are deeply appreciative of the level of trust the system integrator has placed in us. We stand to gain valuable experience both technically and from the standpoint of supporting processes necessary for the smooth running of such a long-term project. With several important projects recently



■ CMS-1 commander's sight is a stabilized panoramic multi-sensor electro-optical system, specifically designed to be mounted on various APCs and IFVs



■ GLADIUS 12 RCWS is a modular concept, which allows the integration of 7.62 – 12.7mm machine guns and 30 – 40mm automatic grenade launchers

launched, we already have plans to expand our production capacity and are recruiting new colleagues to join teams across the company. This means creating more local jobs and supporting the local talent – because Uherské Hradiště lies in the heart of a region with strong defence industry ties, this is both a pleasure and a challenge. People sometimes don't realize it but all the roles in our company are quite specialized and require thorough training. For example, it takes up to a year to train a new cable workshop team member!

What are your current plans?

The immediate goal we are currently working on is to fine-tune our new wearable laser and radar warning system, which we would like to present at EUROSATORY. It is the first piece of personal equipment for military personnel that we have ever developed. Attached to a helmet, it alerts soldiers to being detected by means such as laser rangefinders, target designators, beam

riders and radar waves. The basic concept is similar to our existing LAWAREC system for vehicles. We have prepared a number of other defence systems for the EUROSATORY exhibition, including the above-mentioned commander sight at our stand and the GLADIUS 12 remote-controlled weapon station which the visitors will be able to control from the cabin of a MARS military vehicle at the stand of our marketing partner and military vehicle producer SVOS. We are very much looking forward to meeting both our existing partners and new faces who would like to explore joint opportunities!

Photos: EVPÚ Defence

EVPÚ Defence products will be showcased in Hall 5A, no. A-520 (EVPÚ Defence) and Hall 6, no. G-83 (SVOS).