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The HX Recovery from Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles on view at IDEX 2013

Highly mobile – multi-mission-capable – theatre-proven

No logistics, no tactics! Now more than ever, today's fast-moving armies need to be sure that their supplies keep rolling. Contemporary asymmetric conflicts lack clearly defined front lines, confronting commanders and manufacturers of modern transport, command and multi-mission vehicles with new requirements regarding mobility, functionality and survivability. The systems of the HX family, made by Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles (RMMV), rank among the most cost-effective in their class.

At IDEX 2013 in Abu Dhabi, RMMV is displaying an HX 81 with an integrated multipurpose recovery system. It features a V8 engine with an output of 500 kW (680 HP) and a torque of 2700 Nm.

A match for modern mission scenarios

All HX vehicles are "military off the shelf" (MOTS) products specially developed for military applications. Their main priority is high mobility and reliability even in the harshest terrains.

Many other militarised vehicles are based on commercial construction vehicles. By contrast, the HX family combines tried-and-tested components from major commercial vehicle series with a toughened low-torsion ladder frame and other technologies designed to meet the specific needs of the military. This includes armour, self-protection systems, extreme fording capabilities, multi-fuel engines and blackout lighting. Right from the start, these trucks are designed not merely for greater durability and better off-road mobility, but also to operate in a wide range of climate zones. Moreover, they can be equipped with protective modules and/or weapon stations for self-protection.

Another specific characteristic of the HX family is high commonality and interoperability. This results in total ease of use as well as streamlined logistics and maintenance, since many of the components and assemblies are common to all the vehicles and fully interchangeable. In the UK, the net effect has been to reduce a previous logistic vehicle parts inventory stock from 30,000 line items to less than 7,000.

Operation of the vehicles is largely identical. The same applies to maintenance and repair of the vehicles, engines and drivetrains. This produces considerable synergies when it comes to training crews and maintenance staff as well as substantially simplifying logistics for the entire fleet of vehicles.

The multi-fuel capability and excellent supply arrangements (all maintenance-significant spare parts are NATO-codified) are further important features of the HX family.

Additional protection

Depending on customer requirements, all of the HX vehicles can be unprotected (standard), or equipped with a modular armoured cabin (MAC) or a fully integrated armoured cabin (IAC) to meet the highest STANAG or Mil-Standard specifications with regard to ballistic and mine protection. Installation of the MAC takes only six to eight hours, and can be performed by two trained technicians with the help of a lifting device.

Deployed around the world for decades and theatre-proven

Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles has a long history in developing and supplying military vehicles systems to armed forces worldwide.

The military-off-the-shelf concept of the HX family remains as compelling as ever, and these vehicles now form the logistic backbone of numerous armies around the globe.

In 2007 the British armed forces took delivery of the first of over 7,000 vehicles of the HX family, including 4x4, 6x6 and 8x8 versions. These support vehicles are replacing the old Leyland and Bedford trucks as well as the Foden recovery vehicles, which the SX 8x8 vehicle family is superseding.

The British have relied on the HX and SX vehicle families in Afghanistan since early 2008, having previously used them in Iraq. The response from all levels has been extremely positive.

RMMV – outstanding systems and service from a single source

Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles, partly owned by Germany's Rheinmetall Group, one of the oldest and most trusted names in the global defence industry, will be on hand at IDEX 2013 in Abu Dhabi, along with a wide array of other products and technologies designed for today's armed forces.

As one of the world's leading suppliers of defence technology systems, Rheinmetall supplies military forces with a comprehensive portfolio of readily available modular products.

At the beginning of 2010, Rheinmetall and MAN Nutzfahrzeuge joined forces to found RMMV. Drawing on their respective core competencies in automotive engineering and military technology, these two long-established companies have created a globally operating supplier of wheeled military vehicles. RMMV produces a complete range of protected and unprotected transport, command and mission-specific vehicles for the world's armed forces. Moreover, RMMV supplies not only systems but also service from a single source. From 1st to 4th level support, everything is possible, including on-site repair and maintenance in-theatre.

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