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Rheinmetall electro-optical equipment for enhanced combat performance

Rheinmetall's tried-and-tested laser light modules, including the state-of-the-art Vario-Ray (LLM-VR) and the LLM-01, are used by many armed forces and law enforcement agencies worldwide. Mounted on their small arms, these devices enable operators to detect, identify and mark targets. They therefore enormously enhance combat performance.

Weighing less than 244 grams, the Vario-Ray can be attached to small arms of all types with a Mil-Std 1913 rail, and remotely operated using a trigger cable. It features a powerful white light lamp, a red light laser marker, an infrared laser marker and an electrically focusable infrared illuminator. The light source is selected via a rotary switch. All of the light sources are infinitely variable, while the lasers can all be adjusted via block calibration.

During the next few years the British Ministry of Defence will continue procuring Rheinmetall's Vario-Ray laser light module for its infantry forces. Vario-Ray, officially dubbed the "Laser-Light Module Mark 3" by Her Majesty's Armed Forces, forms part of a comprehensive programme to modernize the British infantry. In the competition to secure the order, it had to overcome a number of well-known rivals.

The framework contract, with a total value of £28 million (approximately €33 million), encompasses the supply of tens of thousands of these innovative devices. In the near term more than 7,000 units are to be delivered in a first lot.

The LLM Vario-Ray complements the tried-and-tested LLM-01, already widely used by armed forces and law enforcement agencies worldwide and likewise made by Rheinmetall. Vario-Ray also forms part of Germany's new "Future Soldier – Expanded System". Visitors to Eurosatory 2014 can learn more about Rheinmetall's powerful laser light modules at the Rheinmetall pavilion.

Also on show are various night observation devices, including GN night vision goggles and the KN 200/250 night vision sight. These make it possible to detect potential threats in the dark and in conditions of poor visibility and adopt appropriate countermeasures. As a result, they are particularly well suited to border control and security operations.

At its Eurosatory pavilion Rheinmetall also will be presenting the high-performance Vingtaqs II long-range reconnaissance and surveillance system. Along with such features as electro-optical sensors for day and night operation and rangefinding, the Vingtaqs II is equipped with a battlefield radar system. Largely automated, the system is ideal for ground surveillance operations, including optical identification of targets.

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