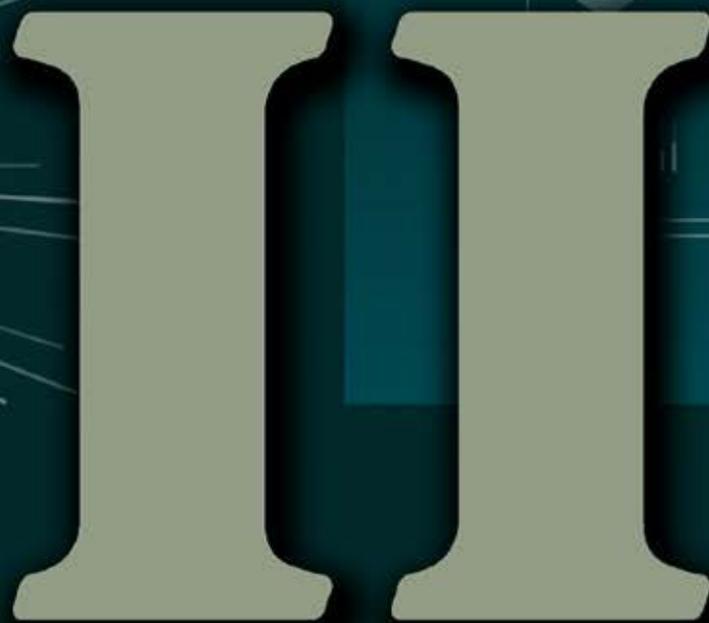


Day 2 • 24 February 2026

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A large, stylized Roman numeral 'III' in a light green color with a dark drop shadow, centered on the page. The background features a dark teal color with white technical line art, including a circular pattern of stars on the left and a complex circuit-like diagram on the right.

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Photo:
German Federal
Police

Mönch Verlagsgesellschaft mbH (Mönch Publishing Group)



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(Photo: Bundeswehr)

Keynote Address

Lieutenant General Dr Christian Freuding

SD publishes here a synopsis of a keynote delivered by the Chief of the German Army, Lieutenant General Dr Christian Freuding, on behalf of the “Chief Munich Security Breakfast” held on 12 February 2026 in anticipation of the Munich Security Conference (MSC). Serving as Inspector of the Army since 1 October 2025, he provided insights into the threat situation that shapes European security since about four years: “You are aware of the threat situation; we have discussed it often in recent years. We continually see that Russia, in its own perception, is already in conflict with the West, is already waging it – currently in a hybrid, covert manner, testing our military capabilities and our ever-increasing resilience. And the Russian military, despite the heavy losses it suffers in the war against Ukraine, is growing and it is growing quickly. Thus, looking into the future, a full-scale war in Europe at least cannot be entirely ruled out, if we are not prepared. If we are not capable to deter.”

When analyzing the Russo-Ukrainian War, it is apparent that the habitus of the war of the future is about to set ultimate growth potential but also limits to everybody on the battlefield – from the individual warfighter to all echelons of command. Completely new technology (e.g., Artificial Intelligence; AI) and tactics (for gaining operational readiness) will thus create a challenging factor for the actors on the future battleground. The General explains: “The battlefield of the future in the land domain is networked, data-driven, asymmetrical, transparent to the point of being glassy and influenced by AI. At the heart of warfare will be data-centric warfare. Data as a central resource, essentially the ammunition of warfare. The battlefield of the future will be defined by competing

protective shields – A2/AD [Anti Access/Area Denial] bubbles that will be dynamic and multidimensional; and which are the fundamental prerequisite for manoeuvre operations.” One of the most evident effects of the booming A2/AD strategy is the use of asymmetric tools to keep enemy forces away from the theatre, or to make their operations difficult, slow and dangerous. “The goal is to maintain one’s own protective shield permanently while simultaneously penetrating that of the enemy, to overwhelm the enemy with a multitude of orchestrated effects in all dimensions and then defeat him with highly dynamic warfare,” the Army Chief underlines. He adds: “If this succeeds, the initiative can be gained even with a clear quantitative superiority of the enemy. That said, it is not only high-tech that will matter. On the battlefield, we will always experience a simultaneity of past, present and future – from trench warfare to classic combined arms warfare to multi-domain operations. Thus, we also need large numbers of low-cost systems, for example small UAS [Unmanned Aircraft Systems], but also larger numbers of traditional high-value systems like battle tanks.”

As to industry’s role, Lieutenant General Freuding concludes: “What I learned in Ukraine is, once and again, that defence industry can have a free-market competition and still work together towards a common goal. And it is not only because we share the common goal of freedom but because there is more than enough market share for all players. As the Chief of the German Army, I have defined four lines of operation in the Army we will follow: operational readiness – growth – innovation – leadership culture.” (str)

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Robin Bennett (R2 Wireless Ltd. / CVP GmbH)

Seeing the Invisible: Electromagnetic Spectrum Awareness as a Foundation for Security, Defense, and Critical Infrastructure Protection

In a world shaped by crowded signal environments, contested electromagnetic domains, and the rapid spread of unmanned and connected systems, situational awareness can no longer depend solely on visual observation, radar, or telemetry-based sensing. Police forces, military units, and operators of critical infrastructure are increasingly confronted with actors who communicate through encrypted, spoofed, anonymized, or GPS-independent systems. One principle, however, remains unchanged: every active electronic system emits RF energy. The ability to detect, interpret, and act on that energy is quickly becoming fundamental to operational security.

R2-ODIN addresses this challenge with passive, software-defined electromagnetic sensing that is designed for real-world use across commercial, industrial, police and defense environments. By combining advanced signal processing with edge-based artificial intelligence, R2-ODIN transforms complex RF activity into precise, real-time, actionable intelligence. Users can **detect, classify, and geolocate** emitters without relying on predefined signal libraries, known protocols, or fixed spectrum allocations - an essential capability in dynamic and adversarial environments.

Through operational deployments with frontline military formations, NATO-aligned forces, and critical-infrastructure operators **R2-ODIN has demonstrated that spectrum awareness is mission-critical**. The solution is imported, manufactured and marketed through CVP GmbH and partners in Germany and other European countries, enabling security personnel to uncover hidden communications, drone control links,

command nodes, and other RF sources, even under GPS-degraded or electronically contested environments.

These capabilities support both protective missions, such as perimeter security, border monitoring, and infrastructure defense, as well as forward reconnaissance or targeting roles within modern multi-domain operations.

A key strength of R2-ODIN is its passive, scalable architecture. The system can be deployed as a wearable unit, vehicle-mounted solution, fixed installation, or payload for autonomous (i.e. drone) platforms, while integrating smoothly with complementary sensors, emerging sensor fusion platforms, effectors, and established command-and-control systems. Built on NDAA-compliant commercial hardware with very low size, weight, power consumption, and cost, R2-ODIN can be fielded quickly and expanded as requirements evolve. As a software-defined sensing layer, it also enables flexible "sensing-as-a-service" models across diverse hardware environments.

As the electromagnetic spectrum becomes a decisive dimension of modern security, foundational sensing infrastructure will shape who can respond first, safeguard assets effectively, and preserve operational freedom. R2-ODIN marks an important step toward that future and is turning invisible signals into clarity, speed, and informed action wherever security truly matters.

Visit R2 Wireless Ltd. in Hall 6 at booth # 6-454.



People Talk DroneShield “As Drone Technology Evolves, Counter-drone Capabilities Must Keep Up”

*Compact and intuitive:
the RfPatrol Mk2 is a next-generation wearable
solution offering airspace awareness for military,
law enforcement and executive security personnel.
(Photos: DroneShield)*

Hall 7A
Booth 440

Now more than ever, it is a critical aspect of a security plan, providing more comprehensive protection from unmanned aerial vehicles or drones. The dilemma: drones – whether commercial or military – can be procured quickly and in large quantities. But creating suitable defence mechanisms presents challenges. Even though, the financial outlay often appears manageable, the selection of commercially available solutions for drone detection and defence – C-UAS (Counter-UAS) – is difficult, and attempts are made to “upgrade” the few existing systems with a few simple adjustments. The challenge with C-UAS, however, is the early detection of micro-drones. These comprise a wide range of nano- and micro-drones flying at low altitudes (<100m to 6,000m), whose unambiguous detection by optical, acoustic and radar sensors prove difficult.

Mike Schut responds to deep-dive questions on the emerging drone issue in an exclusive for SD. He is Commercial Director at DroneShield, which is a publicly listed company with headquarters in Sydney, Australia and Warrenton, Virginia (USA). DroneShield specializes in C-UAS technology leveraging RF sensors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), sensor fusion and Electronic Warfare (EW).

SD: DroneShield seems to be significantly expanding its business, delivering solutions and services that are in strong need by governmental organisations, militaries and authorities around the globe, as well as commercial customers. What is on offer?

Mike Schut: DroneShield is a global leader in counter-drone and EW solutions. As one of the pioneers in the counter-drone sector, we have rapidly evolved alongside the shifting threat landscape. Our mission is to protect people, infrastructure and critical assets from the threats posed by drones.

We offer a full range of counter-drone solutions designed to detect, track and mitigate drone threats. These include dismounted systems,

on-the-move solutions, fixed site installations and software-driven products. Our solutions are tailored for seamless interoperability with a number of widely-used user interface protocols, ensuring easy deployment for operators.

Our fixed-site solutions provide a layered defence, recognizing that no single sensor or technology is a silver bullet. DroneShield provides counter-drone solutions that focus on radio frequency sensing, AI and Machine Learning [ML], sensor fusion, EW, rapid prototyping and manufacturing to military specification.

SD: You have set out to broaden C-UAS/C-UxS solutions and apparently made some interesting developments for mission-critical deployments and conflict. Where are you focusing now?

Mike Schut: Our focus is on delivering the capabilities our defence and security partners need most. What really sets DroneShield apart is our cutting-edge AI-powered radio frequency detection engine designed to detect known and unknown drones in real time. It delivers unparalleled situational awareness and adaptable defence for military, security, public safety and critical infrastructure operations.

As drone technology evolves, counter-drone capabilities must keep up. This goes beyond the physical hardware. DroneShield releases quarterly software updates across a number of products, to ensure they continue to meet mission requirements. These regular updates improve operational clarity, reliability and real world usability as drone threats continue to evolve.

Our team is also focused on developing the next generation of counter-drone products. This is being designed and developed with end-user functionality in mind, and we look forward to being able to share more later in 2026.

SD: You have announced developments (e.g., RfPatrol-Plugin for the TAK ecosystem) for various applications, including government and defence users. What does that entail?

Mike Schut: In everything we do, DroneShield is focused on delivering for end-users. This means we are continuously identifying and building interoperability with commonly used interface protocols, including our RfPatrol-Plugin for the TAK ecosystem and SAPIENT compatibility across DroneShield sensors.

We continue to identify and build interoperability with other trusted partners where it makes sense, to make it easier for government and military operators to deploy DroneShield technology quickly.

SD: Do you see more opportunities in Europe, specifically in the field of counter-drone protection for critical infrastructure?

Mike Schut: DroneShield is a global company, with headquarters in Europe and Australia. We recognize that the ReArm Europe Plan/Readiness 2030 initiative has accelerated in recent years, driving renewed investment and urgency across the drone and counter-drone markets. Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine has driven an increase in the use of drones in modern warfare, with both countries racing to mass produce and deploy them.

The counter-drone market is inherently linked to drone proliferation. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has increased the need for counter-drone technologies and the market has responded accordingly. DroneShield is proud to support Ukraine through the deployment of hundreds of systems to Ukrainian forces.

Beyond the battlefield, the threat has expanded into the civilian domain. European nations supporting Ukraine have been subjected to hybrid activities by hostile state actors, targeting critical infrastructure such as airports, energy facilities and ports. Drones have also been spotted at military bases across Europe.

This shift has driven both investment and legislative action. European governments are increasing funding for counter-drone capabilities and they are authorizing law enforcement and other regulatory agencies to use them. Protecting critical infrastructure is a necessity, as Russia's recent attacks on Ukraine's energy network have demonstrated.

DroneShield is uniquely placed to protect critical infrastructure from drone incursions. We deliver real-time, AI-powered drone detection and counter-measures, for critical infrastructure with multi-layered, easy to

operate, C-UAS solutions. With a dedicated and growing European team, DroneShield continues to expand its footprint in the region.

SD: When tackling today's and tomorrow's UAS threats, how can your solutions be deployed for military use, specifically Special Operations Forces and dismounted troops?

Mike Schut: Drones have reshaped modern warfare. They can be used to deliver explosives, undertake battlefield surveillance and have changed the traditional concept of a frontline. Feedback from our strategic partner in Ukraine has allowed us to improve capabilities in order to meet mission requirements.

DroneShield has a number of dismounted products that are essential for tactical, flexible and rapid drone defence in dynamic environments. This includes our RfPatrol Mk2 – a lightweight drone detection device that provides advanced AI-based detection and signal classification capability – and our DroneGun Mk4 – a lightweight countermeasure.

Complementing these dismounted systems is the DroneSentry-X Mk2, which brings a robust, software-defined counter-UAS solution to Special Operations Forces [SOF] and mobile units. Designed for deployment on vehicles, maritime platforms or temporary fixed positions, DroneSentry-X Mk2 Detect and Defeat delivers real-time detection, identification, tracking and defeat from a single, integrated unit.

Tying these capabilities together is DroneSentry-C2, our unified Command-and-Control platform. Whether used from a command post, integrated across a vehicle fleet, or carried into the field via our ruggedized DroneSentry-C2 Tactical tablet, it provides operators with a coherent, real-time operating picture. By fusing inputs from RfPatrol Mk2, DroneSentry-X Mk2 and other connected sensors, DroneSentry-C2 allows teams to detect, track and respond to UAS threats with far greater accuracy and coordination. Its AI-driven threat analysis and flexible deployment options make it equally effective for small unit missions and larger, multi-site operations.

Together, RfPatrol Mk2, DroneSentry-X Mk2 and DroneSentry-C2 provide SOF and dismounted troops with a layered defence against today's and tomorrow's UAS threats. They offer mobility when required, static protection when needed and a clear, unified picture of the battlespace, enabling operators to act quickly and confidently in the face of evolving drone activity.

SD: What does the future hold for DroneShield? Where do you see additional opportunities, specifically as to your C-UxS portfolio?

Mike Schut: Although the technologies are inherently linked, there is a big difference between UAS and C-UAS. DroneShield is the only publicly listed pure-play C-UAS company in the world – our focus is entirely on counter capabilities.

Over the coming years, we will launch our next generation of hardware across our product families. This is essential to ensure our products remain at the forefront of advanced C-UAS technology that is powerful, precise and reliable.

Drone manufacturers globally are investing substantially into making jamming-resistant drones. To some in the C-UAS industry, this is seen as a threat. At DroneShield, this is an opportunity. Innovation is what drives our team of over 350 world-class engineers, product developers and technicians. We are constantly in a cat-and-mouse game with drone technology and we are determined to stay ahead.

(str)

◁ **Hemispheric coverage:**

DroneSentry-X Mk2 is a software-defined detection and adaptive disruption system, designed for mobile, field expedient pop-up and fixed site protection.



Special Report – Tactical Communication Reaching New Heights for Communications Network Modernization

While European NATO nations look to rapidly evolve their C5ISR capabilities in light of increasingly aggressive actions from adversaries, L3Harris' portfolio of ready-now capabilities is available to support communication network modernization efforts to meet a myriad of unique requirements. Poland, the Netherlands through FOXTROTT, the United Kingdom (UK), Czech Republic, Baltic region and many other Western Countries haven chosen L3Harris capabilities as the backbone of their new C5ISR systems and the interoperability throughout NATO. Also, the Bundeswehr relies on the quality and interoperability of the L3Harris radios with the PRC-family; thousands of FALCON III PRC-117G and PRC-160 radios have already been procured as part of the Digitalization of Land-Based Operations (D-LBO) project. In addition to the Army, the German Navy now also uses these tactical radios on its ships. The PRC-160 radios have been largely distributed to combat units as manpack systems, including the 1st Airborne Brigade (*Luftlandebrigade 1*). Furthermore, the PRC-163 and PRC-167 of the FALCON IV family are used for special forces projects.

Military forces around the world are reviewing their readiness as the global security landscape continues to evolve and the threat environment shifts to high-intensity warfare scenarios after decades of emphasis around counter-insurgency strategies. With looming threats from large state actors, many nations are quickly increasing both the quality and size of their capabilities. Since most countries want or need to complete the modernization of their Armed Forces by 2029 or 2030, they



The AN/PRC-167 FALCON IV offers troops new capabilities: here it can be seen with the Mission Module on top, which will allow the PRC-167 (and PRC-1639 a 3rd channel. In the near future this module will also be available for international customers. (Photo: L3HARRIS)

can only rely on combat-proven and currently available Military-of-the-Shelf (MOTS) systems. Development projects take too long and involve corresponding risks. Solutions that are available today, integrated through a defence prime contractor with in-depth insight into the true needs of



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◁ **Left:** *The AN/PRC-160 Manpack in use with the US Marine Corps.*

(Photo: US Marine Corps)

Right: *The Individual CORVUS Node (ICN)*

is the smallest and lightest, and is designed to protect infantry and dismounted troops.

(Photo: André Forkert)



△ **The AN/PRC-117G, seen here a vehicular configuration, has been ordered by the Bundeswehr.**
(Photo: L3HARRIS)

defence organizations through decades of support, can lead to the expedited force modernization in order to stay ahead of adversarial nations' capabilities.

"L3Harris Technologies is the premier industry leader in delivering comprehensive network modernization solutions for nations around the world, including NATO land forces," says **Kevin Steubing**, Vice President, International Sales and Business Development, L3Harris. "We specialize in enhancing coalition collaboration effectiveness and shortening the planning, decision and action cycle. This increases military force survivability through our innovation of emerging capabilities and our partnerships with industry players with niche, force-enabling solutions."

Enhancing coalition collaboration effectiveness: Leveraging readily available MOTS-equipment from a collaborative industry consortium and its own flexible, interoperable C5ISR network of situational awareness capabilities, integrates disparate solutions into cohesive networks that enables interoperability between disparate user networks. All these efforts need to be unified within a secure network leveraging open-system architectures, can complement legacy networks or provide entirely new systems toward a full Command, Control, Computers, Communications, Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C5ISR) solutions.

"Our network flexibility, enabled by state-of-the art radio technology at the core, is a prerequisite for effective ISR, Electronic Warfare (EW) and air-to-ground integration, as well as a seamlessly integrated all-domain common operational picture," **Greg Zoughbi**, Director, Business

Development, at L3Harris, explains, adding that, "Our comprehensive C5ISR solutions enable the manoeuvre forces in the field to enhance NATO and coalition collaboration effectiveness thereby increasing military forces' survivability. We can seamlessly connect any user to any effector anywhere. Whatever a customer's communications network problem is, we have a solution."

During recent exercises L3Harris showcased how best-of-breed capabilities from across the market can deliver expedited threat identification-to-elimination effect with serving as the foundational backbone for the ecosystem. The shown network connected all echelons of a land force representation from a Brigade or Task Force headquarters element down to the single dismounted soldier, including specialists like Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC). The combined system provided ground and satellite communication connectivity through various frequency bands with high-capacity and resilient waveforms, on the ground and through the air, as well as low-Earth orbit SATCOM. The system provided a comprehensive common operational picture as well as electronic warfare measures to support sensing, monitoring and protecting the network as a whole.

Even external coalition forces and other (civilian) partners could be integrated through Type 3 radios. The ecosystem allows independent but connected red and black communication systems within the tactical force structure. And even Electronic Warfare (*Elektronische Kampfführung*; ELoKa) capabilities through the CORVUS systems out of the UK can be added to the C5ISR system. As a scalable, open, next-generation EW architecture, CORVUS enables multi-role, multi-platform and multi-function CEMA capability. Agile and flexible, the CORVUS architecture ensures this capability is not only limited to solving current conflicts, but



◁ **Left:** *The RF-9820S-ER (Embedded Radio) radio can be used to integrate unmanned systems such as Milrem Robotics' TheMIS Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) pictured here.*

Right: *The RF-7800W-AT30X Electronically Beam-Steered Smart Antenna offers high-throughput broadband communication-on-the-move, protecting the squad by only transmitting its signal in specific areas, and not, for example, in the direction of the enemy, which makes enemy reconnaissance more difficult. The antenna is seen here mounted on a Defenture Mammoth, like the German Kommando Spezialkräfte will get as an AGF2.*
(Photos: André Forkert)

able to evolve alongside technologies and emerging threats. CORVUS is available currently in three sizes, for the use by dismounted soldiers, the integration in light 4x4 vehicles or for bigger EW vehicles with a much wider range. The CORVUS software can sense, shield or act.

Shortening the planning, decision and action cycle: Faster and more-informed decision making delivers rapid results for land forces and their national interests within their borders and abroad. L3Harris solutions provide ease of use in planning, configuration and monitoring integrated communications networks with rapid information flow for the distributed and concentrated effect of military assets.

“We strive to achieve full-blown disruptive C5ISR solutions to address core requirements our customers have,” says Greg Zoughbi. “Teaming with other industry players allows us to complement our solutions to create a well-rounded system. L3Harris recognizes the importance of combining our core, industry-leading competencies, including highly resilient communications solutions, with those of other industry leaders to deliver innovative capabilities to support our customers’ needs with more agility and speed.”

Increasing military force survivability: Ensuring the safety of troops requires tested, integrated and battle-proven technology in addition to reliable and resilient connectivity in a PACE (Primary, Alternative, Contingency, Emergency) network for land forces. L3Harris has built a legacy on delivering state-of-the-art technology that leads to iterative steps into new ways of performing tactical communications. It is the balance between legacy experience and insight from solving customer problems for decades, commitment to software-defined and open architectures, intentional innovation and reaching out across industry to identify and team with partners with key specialties that helps L3Harris fill critical capability gaps for nations around the world – for today’s fight and into the future – that makes L3Harris the “go-to” solutions provider, according to Kevin Steubing.

The future is now: The L3Harris FALCON family of radios delivers network-centric communication for superior command and control. They are battle-proven for secure, reliable mission-critical voice, data and video. As FALCON handheld, manpack and in-vehicle solutions they connect the echelon from the tactical edge to the aerial tier. The latest generation is the FALCON IV family of radios. They offer real-time voice, data, full-motion HD video and crossbanding for mission-critical communications in a single, integrated platform. Warfighters need to move fast, while simultaneously making best-informed, split-second decisions to drive mission success. The converged L3Harris capabilities in FALCON IV tactical radios are engineered to deliver the decisive edge in every arena of operations — today and well into the future. The PRC-163 and PRC-167 of the FALCON IV family deliver a real-time common operational picture. There benefits are being a dual-channel, simultaneous crossbanding radio, each channel with independent voice, ISR video and data capabilities. They swiftly connect every echelon for a more informed and faster decision-making process. Talk groups prioritize information on a need-to-know basis, and the second channel can act as a critical redundancy. The extended wideband increases Situational Awareness throughput including HD Full Motion Video. And they offer self-forming, self-healing tactical MANET networking, which simplifies communication and enhances edge warfighter agility.

The radios include a broad portfolio of waveforms for Line-of-Sight (LOS) and Beyond-Line-of-Sight (BLOS) connectivity. The latest Electronic Counter-Countermeasures (ECCM) technologies support clear, reliable communication, even in contested environments. Through MUOS-ready technologies and legacy SATCOM capabilities, they ensure warfighter connectivity in austere and extreme environments, around the world.

During Enforce Tac, the FALCON III and FALCON IV family, as well as the CORVUS family of EW-systems can be seen at L3Harris German partner **JK Defence & Security Products GmbH**.



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People Talk

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich, MEN Metallwerk Elisenhütte GmbH



We develop our solutions tailored to specific user needs

Based in Nassau in the State of Hesse, Germany, MEN Metallwerk Elisenhütte GmbH is considered one of the most important manufacturers of small-calibre ammunition in Germany and Europe. Since its acquisition by the Brazilian company Companhia Brasileira de Cartuchos (CBC) in 2006, MEN has been able to increase its market share in this segment to over 50 percent. More than 80 percent are being achieved with the German Bundeswehr as the main customers and European NATO member states. The products comply with the highest NATO standards, and they meet the highest demands. The ammunition can thus be used in the entire climate spectrum. SD spoke with **Ann-Kathrin Hommrich** about the current trends in the field of lead-free ammunition, the constantly changing customer requirements and specifications, as well as the constant need for adjustment on the side of the manufacturer.

SD: *MEN Metallwerk Elisenhütte GmbH develops, produces and supplies high-quality small-calibre ammunition. Which products will you be showcasing at Enforce Tac this year?*

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich: Enforce Tac 2026, we will be presenting a selection from our existing portfolio in the areas of military and law enforcement. These products exemplify our many years of expertise, our high quality standards and our consistent customer focus. Visitors will gain a comprehensive insight into proven solutions that have already established themselves successfully in the market.

In addition, we will be presenting our latest innovations, with which we are specifically responding to new requirements and developments in the market. These innovations combine technological advancements with practical applicability and underscore our commitment to developing not only high-quality but also future-oriented products.

This year's new products include:

- 9mm x 19 MCP 2.0 – a cartridge with a bonded expanding bullet that meets the FBI test protocol
- 9mm x 19 Green Ball and Green Ball LE – two cartridges with lead-free full metal jacket soft-core bullets, designed for military and law enforcement use
- 7.62mm x 35 DM11 and 7.62mm x 35 DM21 – both full metal jacket soft-core cartridges, one for supersonic and one for subsonic operation; these are the standard ammunition for the German Armed Forces in the G39 rifle
- And to complete our family of subsonic expanding bullets: (a) 9mm x 19 Subsonic QD – a cartridge with a heavy, mass-stabilized expanding bullet; (b) .300 AAC Blackout Subsonic QD – a cartridge with a lead-free, mass-stabilized expanding bullet

SD: *Customer demands are enormous. Testing, validation and quality assurance (using state-of-the-art testing equipment) are integral to MEN's operations! But what about logistics solutions, since the products ultimately need to reach the customer?*

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich: For us, quality does not end with manufacturing or successful quality control of our products – it naturally encompasses the entire logistics process. Our work is only truly successful when the product arrives at the customer's location on time, safely and in perfect condition.

Here, we rely on a network of diverse freight forwarders, with whom we have enjoyed close and trusting partnerships for many years, in some cases even decades. These long-standing collaborations guarantee not only high reliability and flexibility but also a deep understanding of our products and their specific requirements and quality standards.

Furthermore, we acquired a 'bunker park' approximately two years ago. This provides us with additional, generously-sized storage capacity and allows us to make our processes even more efficient and independent.



SD: *The fundamentally different customer requirements must also be considered – from Police to Military. For example, the German Police developed the “Technical Guideline for Police Ammunition” as the basis for ammunition procurement in Germany. Police officers traditionally use indoor shooting ranges, which clearly differs from military requirements. What needs to be considered for the respective training scenarios?*

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich: In fact, the requirements of the Police and Military differ significantly, which is why cartridges must be designed for the respective training scenario.

In the Police Sector, the focus is primarily on urban operational scenarios. Training often takes place at indoor shooting ranges or in specially designed training centres. Here, aspects such as realistic training, health and safety, etc. are crucial. Wherever possible, we have focused the development of our products on low-emission and heavy-metal-free components. Our portfolio now includes many cartridges that we label as ‘Green Ammunition.’ Every product bearing this logo is lead-free and contains only low-emission components – examples in 9mm x 19 calibre include our PTP 2.0, Green Ball LE, and PFP cartridges.

For larger calibres, especially those of modern mid-range weapons, law enforcement shooting ranges are often not equipped. This stems from the fact that until a few years ago, the classic 9mm x 19 submachine gun was still used as a ‘mid-range weapon.’ However, MEN also offers suitable solutions for this, such as cartridges with polymer bullets that have a smaller hazard zone.

Military training scenarios, on the other hand, are much broader. They range from classic marksmanship training to complex combat simulations in the open air, sometimes in challenging environments and under varying climatic conditions. Here, factors such as system robustness, scalability and integration into existing training infrastructures, as well as the representation of comprehensive tactical situations play a crucial role.

A soldier must engage targets at longer ranges with an assault rifle or submachine gun in urban or rural environments. These distances cannot be realistically simulated on indoor shooting ranges. Furthermore, military weapons have significantly faster rates of fire compared to those used by law enforcement. Therefore, standard cartridges with full metal jacket soft-core bullets or special blank cartridges are typically used for military training scenarios. For example, the German Bundeswehr uses our low-emission cartridges: 5.56mm x 45 DM41A1; 7.62mm x 51 DM111A2;

5.56mm x 45 DM18A1; and 7.62mm x 51 DM68A1. For us, this means: We develop our solutions tailored to specific user needs – for indoor training environments as well as dynamic, large-scale military training scenarios. The crucial factor is always to reflect the respective operational realities as realistically as possible while simultaneously ensuring the highest safety and quality standards.

SD: *But the highly specific requirements of snipers must also be considered. What differences exist between Police and Military applications?*

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich: The demands placed on snipers are extremely high in both the Police and Military Sectors – however, they differ significantly in their objectives, environment, and operational realities.

In a Police context, the primary focus is on precise, situation-dependent threat prevention in urban areas. Operations often take place from concealed positions, at clearly defined distances and under strict legal frameworks. Accordingly, training focuses on maximum precision, controlled firing, unambiguous target identification and decision-making under considerable psychological pressure. Aspects such as background and perimeter security and communication within the operational structure are essential here.

Military snipers, on the other hand, operate within a significantly broader range of missions. In addition to precision at sometimes very long distances, factors such as camouflage, reconnaissance, observation over extended periods, changing positions in the terrain and cooperation with larger tactical units play a central role. The training requirements therefore take into account a wide variety of environmental conditions, variable distances, ballistic factors and complex tactical scenarios. For example, law enforcement focuses more on expanding cartridges with high energy transfer at the target, while the military focus is more on high penetration power, as both soft and hard targets must be effectively engaged.

Ultimately, both law enforcement marksmen and military snipers will find what they need in our portfolio of precision cartridges with a wide range of bullet types, including full metal jacket soft core, armour-piercing, open-tip match and expanding bullets. For instance, MEN supplies the 7.62mm x 67 calibre cartridges for the Bundeswehr’s snipers with a full metal jacket soft core bullet under the designation DM121A1 and with an armour-piercing bullet under the designation DM131.

SD: *For years, effective calibres for close-range applications have been a priority for special forces. Urban scenarios demand short, easy-to-handle weapons that offer high flexibility and mobility. What type of ammunition does MEN offer to meet these requirements?*

Ann-Kathrin Hommrich: In urban close-range operations, in addition to the compactness and manoeuvrability of the systems, controllability, precision and risk minimization are paramount. Accordingly, maximum range is less important than a balanced ratio of effectiveness and background threat. Our portfolio includes various cartridges in 9mm x 19, 5.56mm x 45, and .300 AAC Blackout calibres. Currently, the focus is on the ‘mid-range weapons’ concept – specifically 5.56mm x 45 and .300 AAC Blackout calibres. We would like to highlight the .300 AAC Blackout calibre in particular, as we believe it is especially well-suited for inner-city law enforcement operations. In this calibre, we currently offer two supersonic expanding cartridges with lead-free bullets and increased energy output, differing in their body armor penetration:

- .300 AAC Blackout QD 7.1g – with body armour penetration
- .300 AAC Blackout QD 8.0g – without body armour penetration

We also offer a subsonic expanding cartridge with a lead-free bullet, one of our latest additions:

- .300 AAC Blackout Subsonic QD

Furthermore, we also carry cartridges for special law enforcement applications, such as our .300 AAC Blackout Hard Core, a hard-core cartridge with a tungsten carbide core. This cartridge allows the user to operate effectively in challenging situations, such as penetrating hard targets like body armor with SK4 protection. (str)



Green Ammunition:
Every product is lead-free and contains only low-emission components – examples in 9mm x 19 calibre include the PTP 2.0, Green Ball LE, and PFP cartridges.
(Photos: MEN Metallwerk Eisenhütte GmbH)

AI vs. MI: „No AI can do what I can!“ A heretical approach to the sense and nonsense of using artificial intelligence

By Daniel Kromberg

When someone asks me, with a challenging undertone, whether my job won't soon be replaced by artificial intelligence (AI), I shake my head and reply: „No AI will ever be able to do what I can.“

This isn't meant to be technophobic, vain, or even self-important, but simply an expression of a deep inner conviction. AI can already do a lot, and quickly. AI can replace humans where they are too expensive and therefore inefficient relative to the task at hand. Thus, the use of AI is simply a continuation of every company's efforts to be competitive and maximize its own profits. It fits into a long line of developments that began with the invention of the wheel and extends through the division of labor, industrialization, and automation to the present day.

The Natural Legacy of Industrialization

The euphoria of industry triggered by these profound developments was, however, always accompanied (and often hushed up behind closed doors) by the cheers of company executives: „Hooray, we can once again lay off some of our perpetually ailing, generally lazy, incessantly complaining ‚human capital‘ and replace it with achines that do the job faster at a fraction of the cost!“

This is precisely where the magic of AI lies: it does some things faster and cheaper than the whiny human who did them until now – but not necessarily better. Some things should remain in human hands and pose a risk of companies losing market share. For example, if someone calls their bank and has a problem that the telephone AI doesn't understand, the frustration is enough to drive them to switch to an alternative provider, simply because, in all its technological backwardness, the latter still puts „real people“ on the phone. Then it might not even matter that the person you're speaking to is barely understandable due to their awful accent – because at least they're a human being and

Hard to replace:

The author in front of the Jerusalem panorama, where he had the opportunity to support a defense technology client during a press trip in January 2026.

therefore on equal footing. In this way, perceived backwardness becomes a competitive advantage.

AI vs. MI in the Military Context

In a technical context, however, where interpersonal interaction is often unnecessary, the algorithm becomes a lifesaver. As a decision-making aid in the face of an overwhelming flood of data, as in modern military scenarios, human intelligence (MI) regularly reaches its capacity limits and operational processing limits. However, in the future, the focus will not be on reducing human labor, but rather on redistributing it; the so-called „swivel chair interface“ will disappear in favor of highly qualified planning, operating, and maintenance personnel who deploy large numbers of autonomous systems. This offers a particular opportunity for countries with smaller populations to gain military clout.

But beware: Especially in the military sphere, where the element of surprise is crucial in battles and wars, the predictability of one algorithm can be dangerous for another. However, the individual human being, with their gut feeling, their hunches, their moods, and the sum total of their irrationalities, will never be fully captured by any AI. Therefore, in the future, they will not be the last resort, but rather a trump card that armed forces, companies, and societies must recognize and learn to play to their advantage.

Conclusion

This text was created exclusively using MI because it would have taken far too long with AI, and the result would have been inferior. This, in turn, is due to the fact that creating prompts for this non-recurring task would have been too extensive and inefficient compared to writing these lines „by hand“ based on years of experience. Therefore, the author is not worried about impending unemployment due to the spread of AI.

About the author:

Peter Daniel Kromberg, MBA (Marketing), is, among other things, co-founder and owner of the agency STUBE 318 Public Relations Services, which has been advising companies in the defense industry on press and public relations since 2007. www.Stube318.de



Reviewer Sentrycs Showcases New Portable SCOUT Counter-UAS System

Ondas subsidiary **Sentrycs**, is exhibiting in Nuremberg, showcasing its solutions for the highly critical market segment of drone defence – Counter-UAS (C-UAS). Sentrycs, based in Israel, is widely regarded as a leading global provider of counter-drone solutions based on protocol manipulation, also known as „Cyber over RF.“ The delivery of Sentrycs' standard C-UAS solution to a German state police authority underscores both Sentrycs' growing role in the European law enforcement market and the increasing demand for legally compliant, non-intrusive drone defence. The announcement comes ahead of the product launch of the new portable Sentrycs SCOUT system at the Enforce Tac trade show in Nuremberg.

Sentrycs' field-proven system is designed to detect, identify and take control of unauthorized drones without the use of jammers or kinetic energy. Developed for the demands of Police forces, the system enables precise neutralization by securely taking control of unauthorized drones and guiding them to predefined landing zones. It also identifies drone serial numbers and operator locations in real time, enabling comprehensive, intelligence-based situational awareness. Unlike traditional jamming methods, Sentrycs' protocol-based approach operates without interfering with existing communication networks and is therefore particularly suitable for densely populated urban areas.

The delivery of the Sentrycs' standard solution to a German state police comes against the backdrop of increasing drone activity in Germany. In 2025, according to the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA), more than 1,000 suspicious drone flights were registered, including those near military installations, airports and security-relevant government sites. These incidents highlighted a critical operational gap: detection alone did not provide authorities with compliant means for effectively neutralizing threats.

The man-portable SCOUT system on display at Enforce Tac 2026 enables the rapid deployment of passive detection, tracking, identification and cyber-based neutralization capabilities in a lightweight, portable format, independent of stationary infrastructure. Scout provides a real-time situational awareness picture and rapid, precise intervention capabilities in diverse operational environments. Simultaneously, the system supports secure operations in regulatory-sensitive areas and reduces operational and regulatory risks. Typical applications include tactical self-protection, convoy escort, personal protection, border security and the protection of critical infrastructure. Building on the same core technology proven in stationary Sentrycs installations, SCOUT is designed for demanding operational conditions. (str)

Hall 10
Booth 404



The portable Sentrycs SCOUT counter-drone system on display at Enforce Tac 2026 has been developed to detect, identify and control unauthorized drones without the use of jammers or kinetic energy. (Photo: Mönch Publishing Group/ Stefan Nitschke)

Briefing MBDA, ARX Landsysteme Showcase Their New ENFORCER Gereon Concept



Through the combination of autonomous navigation, flexible armament (ENFORCER and ENFORCER X) and fleet-level coordination, the Gereon RCS UGV significantly increases survivability. Photos: Mönch Publishing Group/Stefan Nitschke

At its booth at Enforce Tac in Nuremberg, **MBDA** is presenting the ENFORCER Gereon concept demonstrator for the first time. This joint concept study by MBDA and **ARX Landsysteme** envisions equipping the Gereon RCS Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) with the ENFORCER guided missile system (ENFORCER and ENFORCER X). Integrating both systems onto the Gereon robotic system creates a completely new

capability: scalable and precise engagement of concealed positions, as well as lightly and heavily armoured moving targets at ranges of up to approximately 2,000 metres. The system's effectiveness can be scaled against a broad range of targets; thus, collateral damage remains low and the risk shifts from humans to machines. According to MBDA, ENFORCER Gereon will be available for rapid delivery after the order is placed. (str)

The Gereon UGV, pictured here at the German Army Infantry School in Hammelburg, is operated by a human operator at a safe distance and under cover, ensuring safe approach to the critical zone without endangering the operator. (Photo: ARX Landsysteme)



News – Teledyne FLIR
EM Expands Neutrino ISR Series
with Longest-Range SX8 ISR 50-1000 Model

Hall 7
 Booth 426



NDA-compliant, AI-ready and ITAR-free infrared camera module provides superior performance, reliability and simplified integration for long-range surveillance and counter-drone applications.
 (Photo: Teledyne FLIR)

Teledyne FLIR FLIR, a Teledyne Technologies Incorporated company, today announced the launch of Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000, the latest addition to the rebranded Neutrino ISR Series (formerly the Neutrino Ground ISR Series). With a 20x continuous zoom (CZ), the high-performance model represents the longest-range solution to date in the entire Neutrino ISR lineup. “The Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) market in 2026 continues to expand to accommodate new applications and changing needs. The Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000 is engineered to meet the most demanding long-range requirements for border surveillance, perimeter security and counter-UAS (C-UAS) missions,” said **Jared Faraudo**, Vice President of Product Management, Teledyne FLIR OEM. “The Neutrino ISR 50-1000 has the longest detection, recognition and identification (DRI) ranges in the Neutrino ISR series with vehicle detection at 34 km, recognition at 23.5 km and identification at 20 kilometres.”

The Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000 is a turnkey solution for integrators developing mid- and long-range ISR systems. Combining Teledyne FLIR OEM’s world-class Neutrino mid-wave infrared (MWIR) camera modules with fully integrated CZ lenses delivers a complete, differentiated solution. The single-source camera, lens and electronics delivers market-leading performance while reducing development risk, costs and time to market.

Market-Leading Performance and Reliability: The Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000 utilizes a cooled 1280x1024 thermal resolution Neutrino SX8 MWIR sensor with an 8 µm pixel pitch, providing optimal thermal sensitivity and high-performance imaging. The 50 mm to 1000 mm CZ lens is

factory integrated to simplify integration and optimize performance. The system features a long-life Teledyne FLIR FL100 linear Stirling cooler with a mean time to failure (MTTF) of greater than 27,000 hours, backed by an industry-leading two-year warranty.

Seamless Integration and AI Ready: To simplify development and reduce time to market, the module incorporates market-leading image processing and interface electronics with AgileCore™ imaging electronics from InVeo Designs LLC. The industry-standard interface offers flexible connectivity options for seamless integration into networked systems, including Gigabit Ethernet, Camera Link and HD-SDI. The Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000 is also Prism™ AI ready, supporting Teledyne FLIR OEM’s advanced AI models for detection, tracking and classification. Integrators can also leverage Prism ISP libraries for enhanced data fidelity through features such as super-resolution, atmospheric turbulence mitigation, and contrast enhancement.

The Neutrino SX8 ISR 50-1000 is NDA-compliant and ITAR-free. It is classified under the U.S. Department of Commerce jurisdiction as EAR 6A003.b.4.a, providing greater flexibility for development with foreign customers. Integrators also have access to a comprehensive software development kit (SDK), integration support, and documentation from the highly qualified technical services team at Teledyne FLIR OEM.

Teledyne FLIR OEM, a Teledyne Technologies Incorporated company, is the world’s largest volume manufacturer of ITAR-free and NDA-compliant infrared (IR) sensor and camera modules. As a vertically integrated supplier, Teledyne FLIR OEM delivers thousands of thermal imaging modules and related software tools daily for defence, automotive, uncrewed, professional and artificial intelligence applications designed to improve decision support and situational awareness. (str)

Reviewer THEON Supports New Delivery Order for US Marine Corps Squad Binocular Night Vision Goggles (SBNVG) Programme



THEON International Plc announced its continued support for the Squad Binocular Night Vision Goggle (SBNVG) programme through a new delivery order for the US Marine Corps (USMC). Operating alongside its US partner, This fourth delivery order ensures the continued provision

◁ *THEON continues its long-standing role as a premier supplier of night vision binocular semi knock-down kit, components to its US partner, whose US facility handles final production and delivery of the full SBNVG solution to the US Marine Corps. (Photo: THEON Group)*

of SBNVG systems, with production and deliveries now extending through 2027. The order is issued under the multi-year Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) contract awarded in 2023, which carries a total potential program value of approximately US\$500 million.

“This latest delivery order further affirms the US Marine Corps’ enduring confidence in the superior performance, reliability and technological excellence of our night-vision binocular,” stated **Dr. Michalis Kolotos**, Director of US Operations for THEON. “In an era of global emerging threats, the SBNVG/PVS-31D remains the definitive, battlefield-proven choice for the modern warfighter. As we continue this partnership, THEON remains committed to delivering the tactical overmatch required in the most demanding environments, while ensuring full sustainability and long-term mission readiness,” he added.

To date, more than 25,000 SBNVG systems have been delivered to the USMC, solidifying THEON’s position as a trusted and indispensable provider of next-generation night-vision technology. THEON Group started its operations in 1997 from Greece and today occupies a leading role in the sector thanks to its international presence through subsidiaries and production facilities in Greece, Cyprus, Germany, the Baltics, the United States, the Gulf States, Switzerland, Denmark, Belgium, Singapore and South Korea. (str)

Reviewer Luggage Solutions – Peli Products Announces the Launch of its New Aegis Series for the European Market

Hall 7 Booth 645



◁ *With the introduction of the two backpacks PX18 Travel Pack (left) and PX25 Travel Pack (right), Peli is further expanding the Aegis series. (Photos: Peli Products)*

The new collection is designed for travelers who value durability, reliability, and practical organization. The Aegis series complements the ATX collection, which **Peli Products** introduced in September 2025, and strengthens the brand’s position in the travel segment with exceptionally robust and durable luggage solutions. Designed for commuters, weekend getaways, and frequent flyers, the PX18 and PX25 models offer rugged materials, structured protection and smart organizational solutions for the growing European travel market. The PX18 (46 x 31 x 18 cm) is ideal for urban travelers and light luggage, while the PX25 (52 x 34 x 22 cm) provides more storage space for multi-day trips or extensive gear. Both models combine modern design with reliable performance and the durable quality for which Peli is known. Key features of the Aegis PX18 and PX25 travel packs include:

- Weather-resistant hard-shell front for enhanced protection
- Padded laptop compartment for devices up to 16 inches
- Thoughtful interior layout with multiple mesh pockets and a quick-access top compartment

David Douillet, Director of Consumer Sales at Peli, said: “European travelers expect gear that supports their lifestyle without slowing them down. When developing the Aegis PX18 and PX25, we placed particular emphasis on comfort, structure, and protection. These models are designed to simplify travel and meet the demands of modern mobility. We are proud to expand our consumer portfolio with products that offer long-term value and reliability.” (str)

News Handheld Raman Spectrometer Saves Time, Improves Safety and Prevents Exposure to Dangerous Substances While Reducing the Risk of Igniting Explosive Chemicals



◁ **Maximum flexibility in chemical analysis:** The Pendar X10 Handheld Raman spectrometer rapidly identifies dangerous substances and unknown chemicals deep inside drums and through containers or windows. Pendar X10's smart algorithm enables rapid identification of white powders (5 to 10 seconds) and dark and brightly colored materials (~30 seconds). (Photos: analyticon instruments GmbH)

An unknown substance, a suspicious container – in moments like these, clear answers are needed without risk. The Pendar X10 handheld Raman spectrometer from **analyticon instruments**, headquartered in Rosbach vor der Höhe near Friedberg (State of Hesse), sets new standards in mobile analysis: it reliably identifies solid and liquid substances from a safe distance. In combination with the technical design of the device, this prevents the conversion of hazardous substances – a decisive advantage over other analyzers. With four possible application variants, the Pendar X10 adapts to any situation:

- Handheld: lightweight, compact, and ready for immediate use – ideal for a quick overview on site.

- With lab attachment: for safe and precise analysis of even the smallest samples in the laboratory or in the field.
- On a tripod: for convenient distance measurements between 30 cm and 2 metres when substances must not be touched.
- In robot systems: can be integrated into remote-controlled solutions.

In the laboratory or directly at the point of use: The Pendar X10 combines versatility and precision with ease of use. It achieves the greatest possible safety when analyzing unknown substances. (str)

Reviewer Hexonia GmbH – Premier Supplier for the German Armed Forces

Hall 7
Booth 430

HEXONIA GmbH, based in Nettetal (North Rhine-Westphalia), has equipped the German Armed Forces with more than 1.3 million clothing components and 1 million sets of protectors for the KBS SK (Combat Support System), as well as a total of 305,000 sets of ballistic underwear for the MOBAST (*Modulare ballistische Schutz- und Trageausstattung*) system, consisting of a shirt, trousers and neck warmer. Hexonia ranks among the most important suppliers to the Bundeswehr.



In 2022, the Ministry of Defence (BMVg) announced the full outfitting of soldiers with personal equipment by the end of 2025 as one of the first measures of the accelerated procurement programme, which was introduced to strengthen alliance and defence capabilities.

In this context, **Bw Bekleidungsmanagement GmbH** (BwBM) issued a tender for 150,000 sets of KBS SK (Combat Suit for Female Soldiers) and 305,000 sets of MOBAST to fully equip the German Armed Forces with modern, functional clothing within three years. For the KBS SK system, the manufacturer received orders for various products, including the combat jacket; long combat jacket; combat trousers; combat shirt; integrated knee and elbow protectors; hard-shell protectors; suspenders; the padded insulating layer; and the multi-layer wool underwear.

“Over the past three years, we have had one important goal in mind: on-time delivery as part of the accelerated full outfitting programme, says

Hexonia was commissioned as the sole supplier of ballistic underwear for the Bundeswehr's MOBAST system. (Photos: Hexonia)

Sabine Albert, Managing Director of Hexonia GmbH. To achieve this, Hexonia has invested extensively in facilities, personnel and digitalization to expand its production capacities accordingly. She adds: “I am proud that with the latest delivery, we have successfully completed both orders and will continue to be an important partner of the German Armed Forces.”

In 2025, Hexonia received further orders for the KBS SK with the feminization project – the development of combat fatigues for female soldiers, as well as the delivery of combat jackets, combat trousers and the integrated waterproof liner. (str)

Hall 9
Booth 365



Ronald Gerschewski
has been the Managing Partner
of WELP Holding GmbH
in Georgsmarienhütte
since July 2017.
(Photo: WELP Group)

Tête-a-tête With

Ronald Gerschewski, Managing Partner, WELP Holding GmbH

Security forces, organisations, politicians and VIPs rely on special protection vehicles from **WELP Group**. The group – with seven locations in Europe – offers worldwide customers a wide range of solutions from a single source, from initial concept to series production, from prototypes to small and special production runs. The changing requirements of domestic and international customers are seen as the driving force and motivation for the rigorous implementation of the clearly defined business model. WELP Group's strong innovative capacity offers it a unique perspective, allowing it to be a reliable player in the security and protection industry, even in economically challenging times. This is evident in WELP Group's newest vehicle concept shown this year in Nuremberg – the Drone Defence Vehicle – based on the Toyota Land Cruiser 300 with high ballistic and explosive protection. In an interview with SD, **Ronald Gerschewski** explains that the company has deliberately positioned itself independently of the traditional automotive market in the area of special protection vehicles. The focus is clearly on highly specialized solutions, engineering expertise and system integration.

SD: Europe is considered one of, or even the key region for the WELP Group. Will you further strengthen your business activities here, and which other countries and customer segments are of interest?

Ronald Gerschewski: Europe is and will remain a key region for the WELP Group. In recent years, the demand for security and protection solutions in Europe has increased significantly – not least in light of the war in Ukraine – so we are continuing to strategically expand our activities here. The French market is also particularly attractive for us, and we have established a new branch there due to several ongoing projects.

Furthermore, we see potential in the Middle East and in cooperation with the United Nations.

SD: Intensifying (strategic) cooperation with partners could play an even greater role here. What plans does the group have?

Ronald Gerschewski: Strategic partnerships are becoming increasingly important for us. We already have a strong, established partner network, which we are continuously expanding and which is also reflected at our joint booth at Enforce Tac in Nuremberg.

At the same time, we are strategically building new alliances in new markets and are constantly seeking additional sales partners in operational countries to act as a link to customers and facilitate market entry. Our goal is long-term partnerships that enable us to offer integrated, scalable security solutions as a complete system.

SD: How is the WELP Group positioned in the field of special protection vehicles – especially given the negative developments in the automotive industry?

Ronald Gerschewski: In the area of special protection vehicles, the WELP Group is deliberately positioned independently of the traditional automotive market. Our focus is on highly specialized solutions, engineering expertise and system integration. The demand for security is stable – and our business model is geared towards this.

wt: What innovations will you be exhibiting at Enforce Tac 2026?

Ronald Gerschewski: In Nuremberg, we are presenting the Drone Defence Vehicle, an innovative drone defence protection vehicle based on the Toyota Land Cruiser 300. The concept vehicle combines an integrated counter-UAS [C-UAS] solution for the detection, tracking and



The Drone Defence Vehicle on display at Enforce Tac 2026 is based on the Toyota Land Cruiser 300 and is designed to detect, track and disrupt drones. (Photos: Carsten Vennemann)

neutralization of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles [UAVs] with high ballistic and explosive protection up to VPAM VR7/VR9.

An integrated operator station allows the drone defence system to be controlled directly from the protected vehicle, enabling a rapid response to dynamic threat situations. This makes the system particularly suitable for the mobile protection of critical infrastructure, convoys and government and military operational scenarios.

wt: You are presenting yourselves in Nuremberg under the name "Security Forum meets Enforce Tac," as you did last year. What does that mean?

Ronald Gerschewski: At Enforce Tac 2026, we are exhibiting for the second time under the name "Security Forum meets Enforce Tac." The format has proven successful and represents a networked exhibition and

close collaboration with our partners. A total of eleven sub-exhibitors will be presenting at our booth. The goal is to further deepen existing collaborations and simultaneously initiate new partnerships – both at the supplier and business relationship levels.

All participating companies operate in the security and defence sector and have been working successfully with us on joint projects for many years. The exhibitors include Advanced Performance Parts; Creaform; CTS Crashtest Service; Eibach; Europlast-Nycast; the Fraunhofer Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems IKTS; HP Jamming Solutions; Isoclima; ITO Logistics; Krempel; and Rommel.

Under the common theme "Protecting Vehicles Together," we will demonstrate how collaborative partnerships along the value chain can lead to innovative solutions for vehicle protection. (str)




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News – Diehl Defence Ramps Up All-in-One C-UAS Solution

Hall 7A
Booth 340



◁ Gunnar Pappert (right), Diehl Defence's Senior Vice President Business Unit Land Systems, and David Voskuhl, Vice President Corporate Communications & Public Relations, are pictured here next to the new vehicle-based C-UAS solution on display at the company's stand at Enforce Tac 2026. (Photos: Mönch Publishing Group/ Stefan Nitschke)

▽ Moment of revelation: A new vehicle-based C-UAS solution comes to light at the stand of Diehl Defence in Nuremberg.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – or drones – have transformed the landscape of defence security and warfare. Drones can decisively influence the course and outcome of battles. Recent drone deployments – in the Russo-Ukrainian war – is inspiring industry to develop and market concepts and products to detect and stop deadly drone attacks. The coordinated use of drones – as a reconnaissance drone or effector ('kamikaze' drone) – should be considered here. In Ukraine, this has come true in an impressive way.

At the very beginning of Enforce Tac this year in Nuremberg, **Diehl Defence** unleashed its new C-UAS system, named GARMR, an all-in-one C-UAS solution that can be deployed by light mobile forces to defend against the spectrum of drone threats. As military convoys are increasingly coming under threat, as shown in Ukraine, a system of this kind can be used to protect individual targets and vehicles, which are essential to military operations. Diehl Defence, a European and global leader in air defence technology, is eager to continue to further develop systems for the C-UAS role in an unpredictable combat environment. The



A combination of tube (rapid-fire) weapons and long-range effectors are being used to defeat the deadly drone threat.

defence manufacturer already demonstrated a modular C-UAS concept, Sky Sphere, which consists of a Kinetic Defence Vehicle (KDV) and a long-range effector called CICADA. With the advent of the new C-UAS solution showcased in Nuremberg this year – which is based on rapid-fire weapons and long-range effectors (like CICADA), the threat posed by kamikaze drones in particular can be mitigated. A strict pathway in developing complete C-UAS systems like GARMR will transform Diehl Defence into an era where the role of the modern C-UAS is about to change – adapting to the steadily increasing performance of enemy threats. (str)

News – Meprolight Unveils the MVO™ Optics Family for the Defence Market



*Each riflescope meets MIL-SPEC standards.
(Photos: Meprolight)*

Meprolight, an **SK Group** company and a leading global provider of electro-optical (EO) systems for military, law enforcement, and civilian applications, showcased its Meprolight® Variable Optic (MVO™) family of professional riflescopes for the defence market at Defence & Security Thailand (10-13 November 2025). The MVO™ riflescopes offer exceptional precision, clarity, and rugged reliability in a wide range of tactical and professional shooting scenarios.

The MVO™ family, already in service, includes three advanced models:

- the MVO 1-8x28, a low-magnification (LPVO) riflescope for dynamic short- to medium-range engagements;
- the MVO 3-18x44, a versatile medium magnification riflescope (MPVO) optimized for tactical applications and competitions, and
- the MVO 6-36x56, a high-performance solution (HPVO) specifically designed for precise long-range shooting.

Each riflescope meets MIL-SPEC standards, is based on a robust 34mm main tube, and is completely waterproof and fogproof. It can

withstand at least 30 minutes of full immersion in one meter of water. The riflescopes are designed for extreme temperatures from -40°C to +70°C and tested for use with high-recoil calibres to ensure optimal performance even under the harshest conditions. The high-quality, multi-coated glass from **SCHOTT** in Germany offers over 92% light transmission, providing exceptional image sharpness and contrast in low light, glare and mirage.

Features include red and green reticle illumination with eight brightness levels, compatibility with night vision devices, and automatic shut-off after twelve hours. The smooth magnification ring has an optional adjustment lever. Precise windage and elevation adjustments are verified through shooting tests and collimator calibration.

“In today’s operational environment, clarity, reliability, and rapid target acquisition are critical. The MVO™ product family was developed to enable users to operate in any environment and under any conditions – with optics that offer absolute precision and uncompromising durability,” explains **Golan Kalimi**, Senior Vice President of Meprolight. “Whether in close combat or at long range, MVO™ ensures that no detail is missed and no shot is compromised.” he added. *(str)*



Hall 7A
Booth 520

Each optical system was developed using advanced simulations and precise lens design, offering a consistent eye relief, comfortable viewing distance and a wide field of view for improved situational awareness.

Dialogue With Dr. Peter Podesser, CEO, SFC Energy AG “We Have Definitely Created Capability”



◁ *Dr Peter Podesser – pictured here with Federal Minister of the Interior Alexander Dobrindt (right) at the 25th anniversary of SFC Energy on 25 September 2025 – joined SFC Energy AG as CEO in 2006. He is responsible for the Clean Energy segment and the functional areas of strategy, sales and marketing, research and development, investor relations and purchasing. Before his appointment as SFC Energy's CEO, he held leading management positions, including President of Oerlikon Wafer Processing (now OC Oerlikon), Switzerland and USA, and CEO of RHI Asia Pacific Ltd. (now RHI Magnesita), Singapore. Dr Podesser holds an MBA and Ph.D. in Strategic Planning from the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU). (Photo: SFC Energy AG)*

SFC Energy is an international technology leader, providing reliable hybrid energy systems for public security, defence, industry and critical infrastructure. Positioned as a leading international provider of methanol and hydrogen fuel cells for stationary, portable and mobile hybrid power supply solutions, **SFC Energy** has significant potential to address military needs in particular. What makes the company's product solutions so interesting for military demands is their NATO qualification. Originally established as a startup, SFC Energy, based in Brunnthal near Munich, addresses a growing energy demand, particularly in areas where a grid connection is not always available or where the grid is not yet, or no longer, sufficiently stable, as *Dr Peter Podesser*, CEO of SFC Energy AG, emphasizes. This is ensured by technology that is completely complementary to existing energy systems.

Dr Podesser points out that with integrated complete systems – battery, solar and fuel cells – the company offers customers a reliable hybridization strategy without requiring them to change their existing infrastructure. *“We believe hybridization was a fundamental step. It lowered the barrier for customers to adopt new technologies, as everything evolved incrementally. As we became a system supplier, the logical next step was to focus on what customers truly need: reliable and stable electricity,”* he explains.

A complete system means mastering the power electronics, voltage conversion and engineering of the packaging and outer casing – regardless of the climate zone. Dr Podesser gets straight to the point: *“Ninety percent of our systems are complete systems.”*

Here, too, hybridization plays a key role: the fuel cell only operates when the battery is below a defined charge level and when solar power is no longer available, according to Dr Podesser. He says the second point is something the company had to learn very early on: Who is the right customer? Who is capable of and willing to take such innovative steps? *“Firstly, it is a product that requires a higher initial investment than conventional energy sources. The fuel cell is roughly two and a half times as expensive as a standard generator – commercial advantages evolve*

through lower maintenance cost during lifetime. Secondly, introducing a new technology always carries a risk. Therefore, our approach has focused on customer groups where energy availability is critical, meaning price sensitivity is a significant factor, but it is not the primary decision criterion,” he elaborates.

For the German Armed Forces, for instance, it is essential to cope with their steadily increasing portable, off-the-shelf energy needs – the use of hydrogen, methanol and fuel cells. Dr Podesser says: *“It took a great deal of effort to establish fuel cells as an alternative and complementary energy source to conventional ways of energy supply with Diesel, as well as photovoltaics.”* He acknowledges: *“It took us several years longer than expected.”* This might well be related to existing, complex procurement procedures and the long procedures of qualification. *“We are now pleased that our technology, our product, is qualified NATO-wide.”* Dr Podesser claims that the defence business now accounts for between 10 and 20 percent of SFC Energy's business. *“Considering the geopolitical situation, we expect growth to exceed the levels seen over the past ten years,”* he explains.

And this is where SFC Energy's top-level innovative strength comes into play: the manufacturer continuously works on the further development of its portable and remote energy supply systems – and thus on further reducing weight while doubling performance. The example of the JENNY 600S portable fuel cell, which has been deployed by the German Armed Forces and many international customers, shows that the user receives a system solution that offers a significant weight reduction. Soldiers carry only 1.7 kg instead of 7 or 9 kilograms.

So, SFC Energy's message at Enforce Tac 2026 is that military forces – and specialised troops in particular – will heavily embark on two factors: weight reduction and low signature (be it noise or temperature). Dr Podesser says: *“For example, a three- or four-day mission could see a reduction of up to 80 percent in battery weight. This, of course, allows for carrying other necessary equipment to gain tactical advantages or complete missions more successfully and quickly.”* He adds: *“The new applications we see in this area extend to communication, enabling satellite communication with small units, and portable power supplies – not using a conventional generator, which poses a threat due to its noise and temperature signature. This also includes charging UAVs [Unmanned Aerial Vehicles] or UGVs [Unmanned Ground Vehicles]. Power that is neither audible nor detectable is a tactical advantage.”*

Consequently, SFC Energy focuses on a buzzword that is now ubiquitous: dual-use. *“It is part of the company's DNA and strategy itself,”* Dr Podesser underlines. And it will be consistently further developed: *“Everything we develop today in the civilian sector, we naturally try to also qualify in the military sector and vice versa.”*



Military operations are extremely challenging: EXTRAGUARD upper material technology enables military GORE-TEX combat boots to remain light even when worn for hours in wet conditions. (Photo: Mönch Publishing Group/ Stefan Nitschke)

Hall 7A
Booth 537

Briefing GORE-TEX – The Revolution is Here

The specialist for technical functional materials presents technological milestones for military and police personnel at Enforce Tac this year. Among the novelties is the **GORE-TEX** EXTRAGUARD upper material. It combines, for the first time, the advantages of a robust upper material with those of lightweight, breathable textiles – thus paving the way for the production of a completely new class of GORE-TEX tactical boots. The new concept study from the GORE-TEX brand shows what is possible with EXTRAGUARD product technology in the design and construction of combat boots for military applications and tactical boots for police and government scenarios: the protection of a combat boot, the comfort of a sneaker.

To be clear, conventional military boots are rather heavy and not very comfortable. In addition, the water-repellent impregnation wears off as the product's service life increases. Another problem is re-drying: it can take many hours before combat boots are completely dry again. If the boots have to be worn again when wet, this can draw heat from the body – resulting in cold feet. The EXTRAGUARD upper material technology offers

several advantages: when dry, it is 40 percent lighter than dry leather of the same thickness. As EXTRAGUARD upper material absorbs less moisture from the outside, it remains light even when wet for long periods and dries considerably faster. EXTRAGUARD upper material is also flame-retardant. A real breakthrough for more protection, comfort and minimal maintenance. The EXTRAGUARD upper material unfolds its full benefits in combination with the GORE SEAM® tape and the GORE-TEX bootie. The EXTRAGUARD upper itself consists of three layers: a highly abrasion-resistant and flame-retardant outer protective layer; a functional layer for physical protection; and an inner construction layer with low water absorption. During the manufacture of GORE-TEX combat boots, it is sealed with GORE SEAM tape so that no moisture can enetrate through the seams. The upper material is integrated into the boot with the internal, durably waterproof and breathable GORE-TEX bootie. The GORE-TEX bootie construction ensures that the boot is permanently waterproof, even if the water-repellent waterproofing wears off or the upper material is damaged. (stn)

Briefing CeoTronics Autonomy in Demanding Environments

Complex mission situations require innovative and flexible communications systems. In doing so, **CeoTronics** is presenting the latest development at Enforce Tac – CT-VoiceControl®. It is on offer as the world’s first voice control for mission-critical communication, representing a functional extension for CT-ComLink® products. Developd for police, fire departments, defence forces and industrial security application, the new product enables 100 percent hands-free operation of selective functions, according to **Peter Hügél**, Head of Marketing at CeoTronics AG. The voice control is ideal for demanding operations where no hand is free for manual activation of important features or configuration of application-relevant modes.

CT-VoiceControl is being launched on the latest generation of CT-DECT Multi – the digital solution for wireless, full-duplex team communication in demanding environments. According to CeoTronics, CT-VoiceControl enables users in full-protective suits to control their microphones (on/off) and switch communication circuits via CT-BaseSelect, which ensures that communications and processes remain secure even in high-risk areas (e.g., CBRN/BSL4 laboratories).

It is interesting to note that CT-VoiceControl is universally adaptable: individual voice commands can be generated for a wide variety of application scenarios and installed on CT-DECT systems or other CeoTronics products via software update. *(str)*

The key advantage of CT-VoiceControl is maximum data sovereignty, meeting the highest security requirements. (Photos: Mönch Publishing Group/Stefan Nitschke)



The EnforceTac Jobzone brings defence and security career opportunities together in one central hub. As a Jobzone partner, DefenceCareer presents its specialized portal, connecting skilled professionals with industry employers and showcasing current vacancies – including positions from EnforceTac exhibitors – directly on site.

You can find the Jobzone in Hall 10.0, Booth 537, right next to the Inno Stage



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