

**F**rom 20 to 24 February Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) hosted the 10th

International Defense Exhibition, IDEX 2011, which presented armaments and military equipment for Land Forces, Air Force, Navy and Air Defense Forces. This is one of the most representative international shows of weaponry and security technologies and the largest event in the Middle East region. This year IDEX attracted over 1000 companies from 49 countries whose exhibits were displayed in 31 pavilions. The most large-scale exhibitions were showcased by the UAE (120 companies), United States (60), United Kingdom (60), France (40), Russia (37), Germany (30), Italy (12), China (13) and India (8).

The Russian delegation, headed by FSMTC Deputy Director M.V. Petukhov, included 33 defense industry organizations, including 10 operators involved in MTC: Rostekhnologii State Corporation, Rosoboronexport, Almaz-Antey Air Defense Concern, GNPP Bazalt, FNPTs Pribor, NPO Mashinostroenia, KBP, GNPP Splay, NPK Uralvagonzavod, and PO NPZ.

To more convincingly demonstrate the characteristics of Russian armaments and military equipment, Rosoboronexport, for the first time in the history of its exhibition activities, used an interactive system based on the latest three-dimensional modeling and visualization technologies (3D technologies). A panoramic widescreen display enabled the viewers to find themselves in a combat reality in real time and feel to be involved in what was happening. Additional monitors provided detailed specifications on a variety of weapons and military equipment.

As it turned out, this is one of the best training simulator systems developed by the TRANSAS Corporation. The software for this project was developed by the Kronshtadt Company with the assistance of Rosoboronexport during three months using the Common Virtual Battlefield technology. This technology makes it possible not only to create a virtual battlefield in both 2D and 3D formats, but also to integrate 3D training simulators and



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modeling systems from different manufacturers, as well as to set a battle plan and simulate tactical actions in real time. It is possible to display not only a variety of tactical situations on the screen, but also to “look” inside the vehicle bodies, to observe, for example, how loaders work, to see how many ammunition left, to assess the skills of unit and vehicle crew commanders and so on.

At this exhibition, Tula-based Splay presented for the first time a six-barrel version of its well-known Smerch multiple rocket launchers (MRL) which is operational with the armies of several countries. The new launch vehicle was developed on a KAMAZ chassis, has a maximum road speed of 90 km/h, weight (with loaded missiles) of 24.6 tons, and six missiles can be fired within 20 seconds. It has accommodated all the potential customers’ wishes expressed at the previous show. Compared to the baseline 12-barrel vehicle, it is cheaper, lighter, and more cross-country capable.

Ural truck manufacturer presented its latest 2010 model – the Ural-6370 heavy-duty AWD truck. The use of basic components from leading European manufacturers has resulted in the truck reliability and quality levels

comparable to the best foreign counterparts.

The signing of a contract by Rosoboronexport to upgrade 135 BMP-3 infantry fighting vehicles operational with the UAE Land Forces can be noted as one of the exhibition’s commercial results. The contract is to be implemented by Tractor Plants Concern’s Kurganmashzavod, a specialized manufacturing company, in cooperation with subcontractors. The total contract value is over US\$ 70 million.

Tractor Plants has developed a comprehensive BMP-3 upgrade program especially for the UAE military, which will markedly improve the combat effectiveness and survivability of the vehicle when operated under hot climatic conditions. The program includes the installation of a driver and operator’s digital assistant, a digital ballistic computer, an ATGM loader, an air conditioner-generating unit, the AST-B automatic target tracker, as well as modification work on the 100mm gun-launcher for firing higher-performance ammunition.

Establishing service centers for Russian military equipment, whose sufficient number is in operation around the world, is another new

thrust area for strengthening Russian defense industry's position in the MTC sphere. Almaz-Antey Air Defense Concern is undertaking active efforts in this area. This is also driven by the fact that interest in Russian air defense systems has grown once again. Thus, a number of Latin American countries expressed a desire to acquire S-300V SAM systems.

It is worth noting a large number of various armored vehicles displayed at IDEX 2011 in hardware. Ukrainian defense industry showed the Oplot tank equipped with a 125mm gun, a 7.62mm coaxial machine gun, a 12.7mm AA machine gun and a combined protection system against all types of anti-tank weapons. German developers stole the spotlight with their "revolutionary" Leopard 2A7+ MBT, an in-depth upgrade of the Leopard 2A4.

Belarusian NPP Tetraedr's T38 SAM system with Stilet missiles became a highlight of the show. According to the developer, the new SAM system has an open architecture that allows, after certain modifications, the use of any missiles, including the Western-made ones. The T38 can be placed on the alert right now. Another no less interesting novelty from this enterprise was the 3A multi-function robotic weapon system.

Unfortunately, our companies displayed no new armored vehicles in hardware or exhibited those that are in service with the UAE armed forces. Despite this, our armored vehicles have already proven their reliability and combat effectiveness whatever was said about them.

As part of IDEX 2011, the first Middle East Exhibition for Naval Defense, Maritime and Coastal Security, NAVDEX 2011, was held, which demonstrated the latest technologies in shipbuilding, naval weapons, counter-piracy systems, coastal zone security, and communications.

Russia was represented by the United Shipbuilding Corporation, whose stand exhibited products from CMDB Almaz, Zelenodolsk PKB, CMDB Rubin, and Khabarovsk Shipyard. Foreign customers were offered virtually the entire range of combatant ships, from coastal patrol boats to frigates and submarines.



● Kurganmashzavod JSC's exposition



● Products of Zelenodolsk Project Construction bureau at the stand of the

United Shipbuilding Corporation



● Belarusian NPP Tetraedr's T38 SAM system

Russian developers and manufacturers of these diverse platforms offer them as an effective means of warfare at sea featuring the reliability and ease of maintenance. High efficiency is achieved by equipping

them with modern weaponry, including battle management, surface and underwater situational awareness, strike missile, air defense, ASW systems and much more.