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#### **EDITORIAL**

#### Dear readers,

The second issue of this year with a new graphic layout has been prepared especially for the General Meeting of the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic. Its appendix offers activities and motivations of the Association targeting domestic members, as well as efforts of the Association's presidium to support Czech companies, particularly abroad.

The keynote article is undoubtedly an interview with the Chairman of the Administration of State Material Reserves of the Czech Republic. As usual, we also inform our readers about activities of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic.

In addition, this issue contains presentations of top products of several leading Czech defence and security industry companies.

The next English issue of the Review will be prepared for the forthcoming EUROSATORY fair and I will be looking forward to meeting you at our stand B 713 in Hall 6.

Šárka Cook, Editor in Chief







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## Pavel Švagr:

## Reserves Help not only in Emergencies

Dipl. Ing. Pavel Švagr, CSc., has held the post of the Chairman of the Administration of State Material Reserves since February 12, 2014, i.e. since his appointment by the Government of the Czech Republic.



Since the beginning, he has been making steps toward opening the Administration to media and public. He has started a process that is expected to increase the transparency of the institution's management and performance - e.g. by pegging all new contracts outsourcing protection of emergency reserves to outside suppliers. As to existing contracts, he has been negotiating amendments which would improve the state's position. These amendments are made public as well. Pavel Švagr and his team have also changed the contracting procedure. Instead of contracts for an indefinite period of time, ASMR now signs contracts for only two to three years with an option. Then the contract is tendered again. The procedure thus makes it possible to verify whether a particular contract is favourable for the state, or not.

## Mr. Chairman, what do your reserves contain? What contingencies are you prepared for?

You know, we have to be prepared for everything. Some of the items we have in stock are earmarked for handling floods. These include, for example, makeshift bridges, pumps, driers, flood barriers, or power generators. On the other hand, we have equipment for dealing with extreme drought. We also have stocks of oil and oil products. If there is an interruption of supplies, we have enough to keep our vehicles going for almost three months. And, last but not least, we have stocks of food, such as frozen meat, butter, corn, dried milk, canned meat, sugar, cheese, and other commodities.

#### What would your help actually consist of in the event of a crisis?

OK, let us assume the following scenario. There may be extensive floods or a heavy windstorm. In the first phase, the government would declare the state of emergency, which would mean that our warehouses and depots would open. Our first task would be to provide equipment to the Integrated Rescue System, so that firefighters and paramedics could save as many people as possible.

We have rescue containers in which hydraulic pumps, jacks, and crowbars are stored. They are meant to help firefighters get into collapsed buildings.

In the above scenario, refineries probably would not work and railway lines would be blocked. We would thus release emergency reserves of diesel and gasoline. They are expected to keep the country running for almost three months.

We would also build evacuation camps

for people who have lost their homes. We have special survival containers with a kitchen, bathroom, and lavatory. We also have tents, large and small, cots, sleeping bags, and blankets.

Then it would be necessary to provide water to these people as the floods would also contaminate water sources. That would be the job for our water treatment plants and water bowsers. We also have a high-pressure pipeline that can supply drinking water to a town or village as far as 30 kilometers away.

And, of course, we would have to provide food for the evacuees. We have food stocks that would last one day and a half. As a matter of fact, the Czech Republic is self-sufficient in food, contrary to oil. We have many supermarkets, agricultural cooperatives, and food producers here. Our supplies would bear the first brunt, before the production would start again. To this end, we would have to clear roads and build temporary bridges. We have even those in store. Here you can see that everything is related to everything, and we must be prepared for every contingency.

## That was a fiction, but how often, actually, are the reserves used? We had the last floods in 2013.

You are right in that the Administration of State Material Reserves used to be mentioned mainly in connection with floods, when we were providing pumps, power generators, and other equipment to firefighters. We also sent disinfectants and driers to flooded villages and towns, or lent temporary bridges to them if necessary. It may seem the only time our Administration is needed is when our coun-

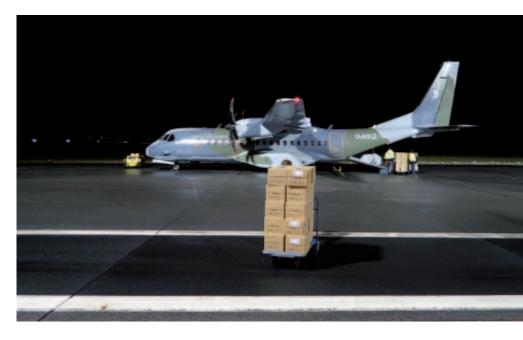
try is hit by floods. But it is not the case. Our equipment is also used in situations other than emergencies.

#### Can you give me an idea what it is about? Can you be more specific?

In 2017 alone, our equipment was deployed in more than a hundred cases. For example, our equipment, namely a decontamination line, was lent to firemen eliminating a pocket of avian flu in Lázně Toušeň. Since the beginning of this year, our equipment has already been used thirty-two times. In the end of March, for example, the mayor of the municipality of Píšť, Opava District, asked our office for help. The drilled wells supplying water to the municipality's water mains had dried out, and there was a risk that 2,000 people would be without water during the Easter holidays. We immediately dispatched two water bowsers and seven drinking water containers there. All within 24 hours. Or in April, when a wall collapsed in Prague's Smíchov quarter, burying a man underneath. We sent a special rescue container there, which contains everything that firefighters need to deal with a situation like this, including pneumatic props, spreaders, or rams.

#### OK, so much for the equipment, but what about, for example, stocks of oil products? Do you use them?

Diesel fuel and kerosene are continuously consumed by the Army of the Czech Republic. We only buy additional stocks in public tenders. This means that the diesel fuel, for example, is not stored for ump-



teen years, but is continuously replaced by fresh deliveries. As to a large-scale use for the benefit of the public, I can offer a relatively fresh example. What will happen if there is a shortage of a product in the market? Its price will skyrocket. However, we prevented something like that back in 2016. At that time, the refinery in Kralupy stopped producing gasoline for almost half a year, and the Czech Republic had to import gasoline from abroad. That, of course, increased the costs of importers and distributors. But the higher costs were hardly reflected in the final price for drivers. All it took was us declaring that we would not tolerate gasoline price speculations and that we were ready to release emergency reserves of

the state. No one dared attempt any dramatic increase of the price and the main motoring season passed without any gasoline price hikes.

#### Do extreme droughts pose a major problem? And what can you use in a situation like this?

Drought-related issues are generally handled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of the Environment, including retention of water in the landscape or construction of new dams and reservoirs. We presently have equipment used to transport drinking water, such as various tanks and bowsers, water containers, or high-pressure pipes which can bring water to a municipality from a faraway source. And we also have water treatment plants. However, we do not have the most essential thing. We do not have any water in our stocks. On the one hand, it is a reasonable thing to do. I wouldn't like to circulate bottled water in our warehouses all the time. It would not be too economical, would it? On the other hand, if I send a tank truck to the mayor of a village which is without water, and he or she has to arrange its filling from the local water and sewage company, I am telling myself we could do more. We are playing with an idea that the Administration of State Material Reserves could have deep drillholes all around the country. These would be sealed and sampled every six months to determine that the water they contain is OK. And if there were a problem with drinking water somewhere, we could provide not only our equipment, but also drinking water.





You also have food stocks that could keep the country running for a day and a half. Isn't it unnecessary? The Czech Republic is self-sufficient in food products, isn't it? You are right, but there are situations in which you need larger quantities of food products at once. For example during floods, when a part of a town is cut off, the mayor can hardly walk into a supermarket and ask for 20 tonnes of canned meat. This is simply not possible. The state is here to take care of the people. We can immediately dispatch trucks laden with food and provide a temporary food supply system. Furthermore, the emergency reserves of food can be used for humanitarian help. We can load an airplane in a few hours and provide help anywhere in the world.

#### Are new security risks also reflected in the structure of your reserves?

Of course, when you look at the TV evening news, you can see that the world is changing. Only a few years ago, hardly anyone could image that terrorists would use vehicles as weapons and run over people in crowded streets or squares. This is why we monitor, for example, the development of portable barriers which can be deployed in a few minutes at the entrance to a square where a Christmas or Easter market, or any other public event which attracts a lot of people for that matter, is taking place. These barriers can stop a moving vehicle and pro-

tect the people in the square. It is perhaps not necessary that every town or city would procure them. I can imagine we, i.e. the Administration of State Material Reserves, would buy them and lend them to wherever a major event is going to take place. It would be much cheaper, the barriers could be used in many towns and cities rather than lie uselessly in a warehouse.

We also cooperate with the Military Technical Institute. We are interested, for example, in anti-drone ammunition which the Institute has been developing. A single drone can put an international airport out of operation for hours. This is

not a sci-fi scenario; something like that actually happened last year in the Prague – Ruzyně Airport. They had to divert airplanes elsewhere. The protection of strategic objects, and not only airports, is also a major issue for us.

And, last but not least, we also cooperate with President of the Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic Jiří Hynek.

For quite some time, the media were covering the Victoriagruppe case, which was related to the Administration of State Material Reserves. Roughly two days´ worth of emergency reserves of oil of the Czech Republic were blocked for almost two years in a German depot off Krailling. Have you already succeeded to bring all the reserves back to the Czech Republic?

Yes, the diesel fuel is back in the Czech Republic, more specifically in warehouses of the company Čepro. It was the biggest-ever logistic operation in the history of our office. All in all, we used 60 trains and two fuel trucks to bring it back. Now there are just 300 cubic meters that need to be sorted out. However, it is in the purview of German customs officers. Some of it may be residues that cannot be pumped out, or evaporation losses, but as I have said, it is a matter for German customs to decide.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the interview and I will be looking forward to our future cooperation.

Eva Soukupová







## The Czech Republic

## Cannot Afford to Lag Behind in the Field of Defence Research and Development

At our last meeting, the topic of our discussion with Tomáš Kopečný, Director of the Department of Industrial Cooperation, was the performance of the Czech defence industry and the ministry's plans regarding the support of its future development. This time, however, we have talked about defence research and development.

I should probably start with a question which concerns perhaps the most important change in the support the state is providing to the development of the defence industry, namely the fact that, as of January 1, 2018, the organizational chart of the Ministry of Defence no longer contains the Division of Industrial Cooperation. What does this mean for Czech companies which have been very positive about the division's activities in the past four years or so, and which

#### have established, together with you, a relatively unique partnership?

Czech defence companies have understandably taken notice of the change, so the beginning of 2018 was mainly a period of explanation for us; we had to convey a message that our department, which had previously covered the whole agenda of defence industry support and defence research and development within the Division of Industrial Cooperation, still existed, albeit with the Division of Armament and Acquisitions, and was going to continue to carry out its tasks as assigned, inter alia, by the Strategy of the Defence Industry Development Support until 2025. It was necessary, one of the reasons being also the existing partnership and trust that you have mentioned. In short, the division ceased to exist, the department has been moved into another division, but the people have remained and continue to perform their tasks with maximum effort and enthusiasm.



However, the fact is that both we and the companies have felt the change and had to deal with it. It is sometimes quite demanding, and I have to accept some critical voices that I hear from companies. Every organizational change such as this one tends to slow down the performance of tasks and requires a quick adaptation. And sometimes one just needs to be patient, although I can confirm my people have been doing their utmost to keep our activities and projects running and to meet all goals that we have jointly planned for 2018.

#### Does this mean that the plans you presented in our last interview are still valid?

Most certainly! Since the beginning of the year, we have organized a number of events, both at home and abroad, mainly projects supporting economic diplomacy and implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for example successful events in Chile, Bolivia, Ivory Coast, and Congo-Brazzaville, but also in the Balkans, where we had a mission visiting Macedonia, Albania, and Montenegro, which included practical demonstrations of Czech products. We are also preparing several incoming missions in the Czech Republic, which will include B2B and G2B seminars with partners, such as Israel and Finland which we are going to start with.

I should not omit a fairly substantial level of support of Czech companies participating in defence fairs all around the world. The most immediate events in this respect are the KADEX fair in Kazakhstan and EU-ROSATORY in Paris, where the Czech stand will be the greatest exhibition presentation of our companies in our post-November 1989 history. In the autumn, there will be altogether three fairs in Asia, in the Philippines (ADAS), Indonesia (INDODEFENCE), and Pakistan (IDEAS); as far as the first two are concerned, we have been assigned national stands where Czech companies will be able to present their products free of charge.

In the European Commission's programme funding multinational research and development projects, we have been promoting priorities suiting our companies practically every day, during very intensive and long negotiations involving the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the Council of Europe. At the moment, it seems that a project eligible to funding under the programme will have to include at least three companies from three different member states. This is why we have started organizing different information exchange formats with member states, the purpose of which is to share, exchange, and connect information about national projects and to establish a joint approach so that Czech companies are as successful as possible in the drawing of the funds and technological development. We are not starting to conduct the dialogue both on the EU platform and bilaterally, with countries such as Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Slovakia, Hungary, or the Baltic states.

#### I would like to ask you about Israel that you have already mentioned - what is the situation about the planned post of a defence diplomat?

It looks very good, all required formalities have already been resolved, the auditioning of candidates is taking place right now, and the post should be filled sometimes in the summer. Israel is indeed an important and outstanding partner for us, and we see a huge potential in mutual cooperation of defence industries and in the field of science and research, which we intend to use as much as possible. The new diplomat is expected to help our efforts. I believe that we will open such posts also in other territories, if the concept outlined above proves meaningful and beneficial.

#### You have mentioned the agenda of research and development; actually, what is the role of your department in this field and what is your personal opinion of the state of defence research?

The research and development section of our department is responsible, first and foremost, for the management and control of different projects and also for fund allocations. Our people sit on the ministry's Science and Research Board, participate in the approval of projects, and subsequently - through project managers - monitor the performance of each research and development project. You must bear in mind that we are service agency of sorts - the projects are proposed and submitted by potential end users, i.e. soldiers.

Unfortunately, there is no direct communication channel between our military and manufacturers and development centers. This is why we have been attempting to set



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up a system which would bring the latest information on the development of defence technologies to members of the General Staff and, at the same time, would help soldiers clearly formulate what they will need from our development teams in the near future.

## Are soldiers interested in research and development projects? And are there, in fact, enough funds to implement them?

We have recently been struggling with an opposite problem; we have been barely able to spend allocated funds because we did not have enough relevant project proposals. It is a systemic problem which we have been actively working on; we have prepared certain measures which should ultimately make defence research and development more effective and help create a comprehensive environment producing high-quality and feasible projects.

#### What specifically can we imagine under these measures?

As I have said, we are after a high level of information of all parties concerned. It is necessary that soldiers have enough information about the latest trends in defence technologies, capabilities of Czech enterprises, research establishments, and universities, in short about what they can obtain at home. On the other hand, companies need at least a general idea about military priorities, i.e. whether soldiers prefer robotic systems, nanofibers, or 21st century soldier's personal gear. The existing information barrier is the main reason why only a few

projects are submitted and why companies often do not have enough room to prepare, submit, and implement them.

The solution comprises several steps. It is necessary that soldiers and researchers regularly meet at a round table to exchange information on trends, intentions, and capabilities. It is not about sharing of classified information – in short, it is necessary to say what is possible and what is not, to avoid future problems and misunderstandings. As soon as companies learn what areas the military are interested in, they can adjust their plans and in-house capacities and capabilities or hire new employees accordingly. And the soldiers, thanks to being aware of what Czech companies and other entities can achieve in research and development, will be able to better formulate their intentions and objectives.

I assume that it is your department which is responsible for eliminating the information barrier.

Yes, but not only. We are of course the facilitator and intermediary through which companies can share information with soldiers and vice versa. Thanks to the trust that we enjoy and the awareness of our existence and activities that most companies involved in the research and development of defence technologies have, we are the ideal channel and point of contact.

This being said, it is necessary to add that the Ministry of Defence should have its own capabilities allowing it to monitor and predict development of state-of-the-art defence technologies, trends in the field of science, research, and development, as well as of capabilities of foreign entities. All of the above is a standard for most European, but also other countries. We can learn, for example, from Israel with her very elaborated system of support of science, research, development, and innovations; Israel is indeed a "start-up nation". In Europe, we can seek inspiration in, for example, Sweden, and it is also very interesting to watch the Republic of Korea, which consistently achieves excellent results.

We have of course been performing some of the activities mentioned above, but with not enough manpower and on the basis of ad hoc requirements from our General Staff colleagues. Thanks to our network of contacts and our reputation, we have already managed to organize specialized seminars and industry days focused, for example, on robotics, unmanned aerial vehicles, or satellite technologies for them. However, if we wish to cover all areas that are necessary, we will still have to add something to our system.

What, then, needs to be done to make the Czech Republic as able to help science and research, and also the defence industry in general, as the countries mentioned above?

It is actually fairly simple – all it takes is establishing, under the Ministry of Defence, an agency similar to Israel's SIBAT and MOFAT, Sweden's FOI, or South Korea's DAPA. It would be responsible for a broad range of activities, starting with the abovementioned monitoring and prediction of developments in defence technologies and ending with predictions of security environment and medium- and long-term threats. All threats can be adequately countered by capabilities which you have to acquire and develop by training and appropriate technologies.

Such an agency would also be able to determine whether domestic industrial enterprises and research institutions, including universities, can meet requirements of armed forces for a specific technology, or whether international cooperation will have to be sought. At the same time, soldiers would have an opportunity to ask which technologies are expected to have to be obtained to effectively fulfil a specific capability.







It is the forward-looking ability to predict future developments which will occur ten to fifteen years from now, and to identify the scientific and technological orientation which should be followed that is of key importance if we want to maintain modern and flexible armed forces with a minimum level of dependence on deliveries from foreign suppliers.

Every country tailors its research and development efforts to its own needs rather than to global trends. How do you see this from the perspective of the Czech Republic and its armed forces?

The question can be approached from several angles. Both national documents dealing with the development of armed forces, security environment, and politics and requirements of international organizations of which we are members play their role in this respect. I am referring particularly to capability requirements of the Alliance. As members of the EU and the European part of NATO, we basically share a common security environment and common threats, albeit with some regional differences.

To be more specific, our particular focus is on robotics, C4ISTAR systems, electronic warfare systems, airspace industry in general, and advanced electronics. Space applications have a substantial overlap into military affairs, and even our armed forces are increasingly aware of the importance of cosmic space, and are adapting themselves accordingly, which fact must also be reflected in the field of research and development.

We simply do not want and cannot afford to lag behind and miss the train. The agenda is extremely important and dynamic, and we as a nation should not underestimate it.

Can we thus expect any specific changes or steps this year which would bring us a little bit closer to the desired state of affairs that you have described?

Implementing system changes is sometimes a long-distance race. I hope we will succeed and be able to talk about specific results of implemented changes in another interview a year from now.

OK, I will be looking forward to a recap interview a year from. Thank you for your time and I wish you every success, and not just in the implementation of your agenda.

Šárka Cook



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## **NEW SPACE TECHNOLOGIES**

### Design and Development of Aircraft and Engineering Office

The company New Space Technologies s.r.o. (NST) was founded as a start-up within Cze--choslovak Group in the year 2016. Over its short time of activity has the company managed to become well-known in the public, mainly due to the development of own unmanned aircraft CANTAS. However, the main activities of NST are within the Engineering Office.

NST continues in long tradition of aviation industry in the Czech Republic and guaran--tees the highest quality of product owing to its skilled engineers. They were involved in many development projects such as Ae-270 Ibis, Raven 257, EV-97 VLA, Sportstar EPOS, VUT 100, L-410 NG or EV-55. The company takes advantage of the newest occupational technologies and processes and is always able to provide effective and individual attitude to every project.

NST is mainly specialized in aircraft design and development, but also in general en--gineering services including 3D and 2D management data. Besides, the company provides development of technical docu--mentation and following 3D model pro--cess. The field of activities is split in two branches - aerospace and defense.

#### **ENGINEERING OFFICE FOR COMBAT AND SPECIAL VEHICLES**

The main activities of Engineering Office are the 3D CAD construction work, testing, engineering, assembling technical docu--mentation and development of testing methods. The company uses the newest software like DS Catia V5, NX Siemens, PTC Creo, Inventor, AutoCAD and PLM DS Eno-

-via for design work purposes. WOL 10

The office specializes in industry design, which is focused on industry machines and special vehicles design conception in-cluding 3D model visualization . Our team specializes in construction and design for combat vehicles concerning to exterior and interiors too (like project WOL10) . All the conception studies can be enhanced by engineering analysis like stress analysis or dynamic analysis. The skilled engineers are also able to carry out development of completely new product in various in-dustry branches and they are capable of providing each phase of development as well as an entire process with supporting service. To achieve the best outcome is ne-cessary to precisely plan each phase of de-velopment with respect to the costumer's needs and mandatory standards. To the fi-nal products belong for example car body columns, dashboards, doors, opening me-chanisms, tools, devices, etc.

NST provides optimization of constructi--on with regard to weight, production cost and production technology and searching for solutions of sectional, composed and control preparations and construction of tools. The production material of each part is optimal chosen according to demanded

> function or to the costumer's needs.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF **AIRCRAFT**

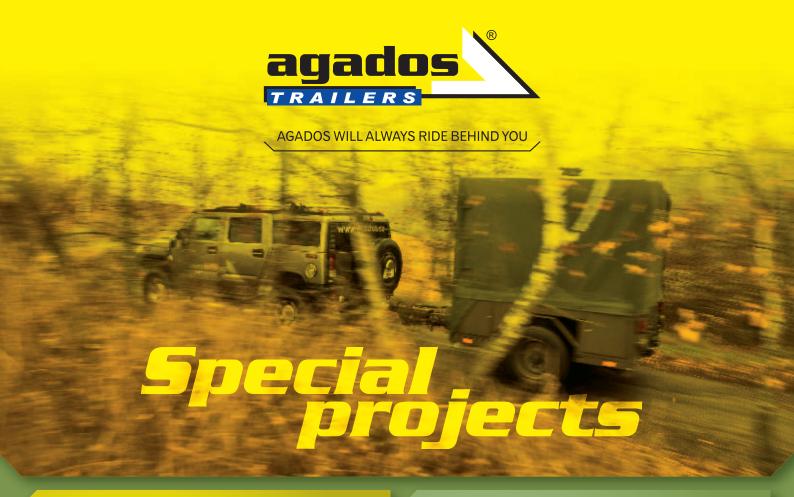
NST carries out com--prehensive process aircraft development including airframe design and develop-ment as well as de-velopment of aircraft systems. Enti-



re airframe and its parts (doors, fairings, etc.) are designed in 3D view with the attention to flight safety and efficiency. An airframe de-velopment includes production of structu-res, which can be made from metal as well as composite materials. Development of aircraft systems is closely connected to the airframe design. All system components are systematically deployed with the pur-pose of eliminating any possible mutual in-teraction. NST Engineering Office is specia-lized in developing all aircraft systems such as flight controls, fuel, hydraulics, cooling system, etc.

#### **CANTAS**

NST engineers are actively involved in many UAS manufacturing projects. Cu--rrently, the major UAS project is CANTAS, which is exceptional for its VTOL capabi--lity (Vertical Take-off and Landing). This unique ability enables take-off from and land on limited room, for example on truck deck, ship and more. The company develops four types of CANTAS - CANTAS Ap, CANTAS A, CANTAS E and CANTAS S. Each type is designed for different area of use and with that is related the different maximal speed, endurance and reach. The aircrafts are suitable for both military and civilian purposes.



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## **OMNIPOL**

## More than 80 years in the defence and security sector

OMNIPOL was established in 1934 as a trading company, focused mainly on barter operations related to the export of engineering products manufactured by the ŠKODA Works in Pilsen. During World War II., the pre-war trading activities of the company were interrupted. Real revival came during the second half of the 1950's.

Since then OMNIPOL has gone through a significant transformation which included not only the structure of the company itself but also areas of specialization. After a period of searching, during the 1990's, for its new identity and corporate mission, the company identified its core business. This was at the beginning of the 21st century, in the field of integration of products and systems and highly qualified business services on a liberalised global market, with a special focus on defence electronics, aerospace and manufacturing technologies.

Even though OMNIPOL still is a traditional trading company with almost 85 years of successful history and excellent reputation mostly on foreign markets, it had to move forward in response to market demands. The services and portfolio of products were adapted to current market requirements. The company has made it an attractive place for young professionals to work. In addition, IT technologies have been updated and there has been a style change, including a change of the logo.

#### OMNIPOL, the main strategic partner in defence industry and engineering

OMNIPOL is mostly known as a leading supplier and consultant in the business of defence, security and aerospace. It belongs to the most famous group of defence - focused companies in the Czech domestic market. Export of products on the global market accounts for almost 90 % of its profits.

OMNIPOL provides a broad range of products and solutions. From passive surveillance systems, namely the VERA-NG, and related software products, data mining, long range passive reconnaissance system called SDD, Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems to modern jet and light combat trainer L-39NG, and the re-engineing version jet trainer L-39CW, including flight simulators and training programs, weapons, ammunition and logistics. OMNIPOL also provides training courses to customers, integration and commissioning products, production and technological cooperation or transfer/sale of the technologies (KNOW-HOW). OMNIPOL can provide "turn-key solutions" according to the demands of its customers. What is necessary to mention is the fact that OMNIPOL also supplies the food industry, specialized mainly on brewing, distilling, dairy, bakery and the sugar industry.

#### **OMNIPOL** and its subsidiaries

As an investment group, OMNIPOL has focused on Czech projects and its intentions were adapted to the changing market needs. That is why OMNIPOL used to own Poličské strojírny a.s., Ramet a.s. or Česká letecká servisní a.s.

In 2011, OMNIPOL bought the ERA a.s., which is a former part of the famous TESLA. ERA was literally saved from near financial collapse due to the slow growth and investment during the period of the previous American owner. ERA has finally managed to restore itself to the maximum possible extent. Now, ERA is a pioneer and leading supplier of next generation surveillance and flight tracking solutions for air traffic management, military, security and airport operations market.

The most well - known products are military passive surveillance system VERA-NG with range up to 400 km which effectively "sees without being seen" or long - range passive reconnaissance system SDD with range up to 700 km. This beyond radar horizon range is achieved by the use of troposperical scatter effect. Currently ERA is working on development of new generation of SDD, SDD-NG.





ERA is also a supplier of flight tracking solutions for air traffic management (ATM systems). More than 150 installations in over 65 countries have been made. The newest success is supplying ATM systems for the biggest Chinese airport in Beijing. In this civil area, ERA is constantly working on MSPSR system which enables tracking airspace using television/radio broadcast transmission.

#### **MESIT**

Recently, MESIT holding has become a member of the OMNI-POL group. MESIT is a traditional manufacturer and developer of aircraft and military equipment, tactical radio communication systems, vehicle communication systems and many more products.

MESIT was founded in 1952 and its main activities today are aircraft instruments, systems and support, modernization of airplanes and helicopters, specialised parts for transport systems, electromagnetic valves, PCB production, CNC precision machining, production of precision casting etc.

With this acquistion, the entire OMNIPOL group has grown to about 1000 employees and 12 companies, including MESIT High School which offers electrical and mechanical engineering education. MESIT has become a fully - fledged member of the OMNI-POL group, together with ERA.

#### From radars to jets

OMNIPOL recently started to invest in prospective projects with high potential, primarily in the area of aeronautics. One of the pivotal projects, together with manufacturer AERO Vodochody Aerospace a.s. OMNIPOL is a 50 % owner and the strategic investor in the L-39 CW and L-39 NG Aircrafts.

The earlier generation L-39 is a key part of Omnipol's history. Not least over a period of 30 years L-39 Albatros, Omnipol was responsible for exporting almost 2800 pieces of this aircraft. It was not only about the export of the aircrafts, OMNIPOL also took care of complex logistic and servicing for customers. Motivation for this kind of investment is due to the continual interest of present customers to keep L-39's in operation. There are more than 700 L-39's still in operation. The very first step

construction of a demonstrator L-39CW which verifies new and modern engine and new avionics. This project gained necessary certification and is offered to customers, who run L-39 as an intermediate stage before switching to L-39NG. Due to the recent acquisitions and strategic investments, OMNIPOL has the potential to be on the top of the Czech defence and engineering industry.

to realise the L-39NG was the

#### An updated architectural treasure

As already mentioned in the introduction, OMNIPOL has recently undergone major

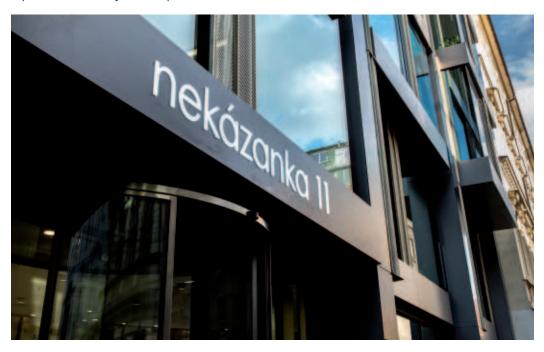


changes, including the reconstruction of the original company headquarters. Designed and built in 1974-1979, the building was already in that period highly esteemed architecture built in the style of "metal brutalism", which is very unique in the Czech Republic. But that is just one reason it is listed among architecturally important buildings from the years 1850-2000.

At the time it was built, the building exceeded period standards not only with its overall quality, but also with internal equipment including air conditioning, modern high-capacity lifts, underground parking with its own washing box, a diesel backup generator in the case of a power outage and large fuel storage tanks. The extensive repairs to the building with an area of over 13 000 m<sup>2</sup> took more than two years. Because the building is a rarity, the skeleton retains its original character, but the interior spaces have been completely adapted to current trends.

OMNIPOL is once again the proud owner of representative headquarters for a company with a long tradition.

Thanks to the changes OMNIPOL has recently undergone, the company is poised for further success and has enormous potential to remain at the forefront of the arms and mechanical engineering industries.



## Pardubice's Explosia is Riding a Wave of Success

It stands in the outskirts of Pardubice, in Semtín. However, its reputation reaches much farther, into every corner of the world. Its name is Explosia. The factory is best known for its plastic explosive named Semtex. However, other products, including gunpowder, rocket motors for aircraft catapults, industrial explosives used in quarries, or hundred-percent combustible propellants for howitzers, are produced behind the walls surrounding the premises of the state-owned trading company as well.

The successes of the Pardubice-based company have been going on for six continuous years. It is also thanks to them that Explosia managed to extricate itself from red numbers it had been burdened with at the turn of the millennium. In 2015, Explosia's sales amounted to over CZK 800 million. The year 2017 was a record-setting year, as the company managed, for the first time in its history, to sell products worth more than a billion Czech Korunas. "For example, we have succeeded to exceed the planned production of modular

propellants used in modern artillery systems, or of special products, such as Semtex Razor, which uses the blast energy for explosive cutting of materials. It was also thanks to the above successes that we could increase our workers' salaries by seven percent on the average," explains Josef Tichý, general manager of the company.

Explosia, a.s., is not stagnating. It plans to keep increasing its turnover and thus also its profits in the years to come. It intends to use its new production capacities to the maximum extent possible, and invest into technologies and production equipment upgrades. The goal is to remain among leaders in the global market of explosives, with an emphasis on its tradition and quality. "Fully combustible propellant modules for large-caliber ammunition are our great strength. This is the market segment where we are going to rank among the five biggest global market players, thanks to new technologies," adds Josef Tichý. The growing sales and profits go hand in







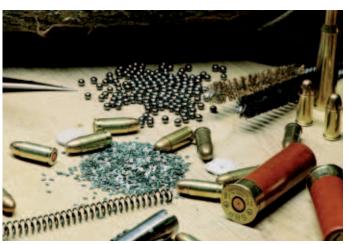
hand with the increasing production and number of people the company can offer jobs. In the last three years, the number of employees has grown by more than 200 to almost 700.

"Our top priority is safety and quality rather than quantity," says General Manager Josef Tichý, drawing attention to one of the advantages which working for Explosia brings. Their chief rule is not the quantity of products per employee; it is primarily the quality and safety of products which leave the Semtín plant. "We do not produce rolls which you can butter and which turn stale in two days´ time. We manufacture products which are strong enough to pulverize rock," adds Martin Vencl, spokesman of Explosia. "Pushing people into meeting some norms is strictly forbidden in our company," explains Lucie Pošvářová. As a member of the Chemical Industry Union, Explosia also maintains shorter working hours – 7.5 hours a day.

Explosia, a.s., is a joint-stock company fully owned by the state. The form of ownership is a guarantee of fair treatment of both employees and business partners. The company has been present in Semtín since 1920. In 1922, it started producing black powder and an industrial explosive named Dynamon on the site of today's plant. The 1930s saw the company changing its name to Explosia. The 1960s witnessed the beginning of production of Explosia's best-known product, as Semtex left the factory's gate for the first time. Explosia will celebrate its hundredth anniversary in two years. We believe the start of the second century of its existence will be as successful as the end of the first one.

Martin Vencl





## **CLUTEX**



#### Cluster of Technical Textiles Brings Together A Number of Companies – Manufactures and Research Organizations.

Many of them deal with projects focused on people and materials protection - some of the projects are solved individually and some as joint cluster projects.

#### We will introduce two of these projects:

#### Fire protection products

In the research and development projects the company Nyklíček a spol. has developed new materials and products intened for protection of individuals and property. These products will be widely used by both ordinary users and rescue and security forces and the army.

Single use evacuation suit is designed to protect the user during evacuation from burning objects. The suit is supplied either separately or as part of an evacuation kit, along with evacuation mask and extinguishing spray.

Evacuation and fire blanket serves to extinguish small beginning fires. It can also be used to protect people and property during fire evacuation.



#### Nanofiber membrane for shoes

Various types of so-called functional materials are used these days in the produ-



ction of army clothes or other textile army equipment including shoes and their accessories. To reach maximum user comfort, these materials must fulfil a number of often contradictory requirements. For example, they must be water-vapour--permeable while at the same time windproof and waterproof. This can be achieved by combining several layers of various, mostly textile materials with different properties and different inner structures and also by surface finishing. The key layer in such composite materials, also called laminates, is always the functional layer - a polyurethane or polyester membrane or a microporous polytetrafluorethylene membrane. The other layers protect this membrane against soiling and mechanical damage and also compensate for its poor mechanical properties.

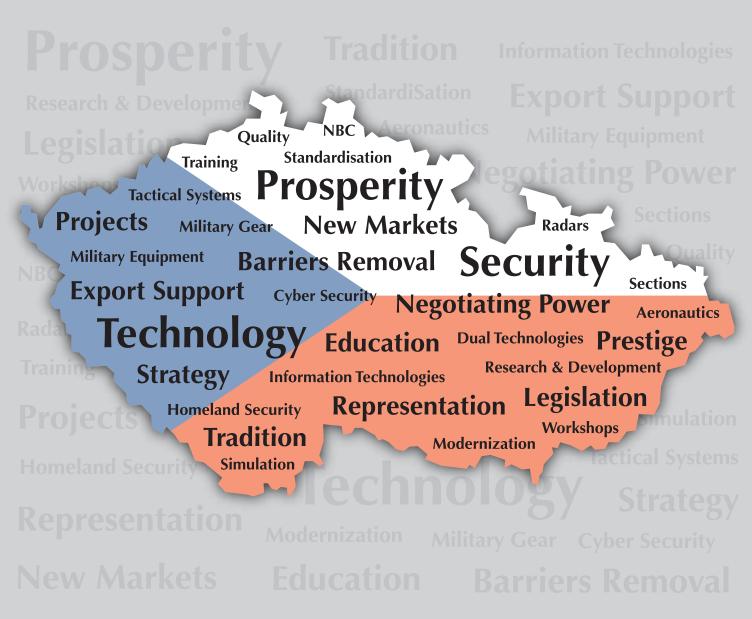
Our laminate with a nanofiber membrane for footwear offers all the above-mentioned properties and also very high thermophysiological comfort. The nanofiber membrane has 25% higher porosity than an ordinary microporous membrane and therefore much better water vapour permeability. Independent testing showed that water vapour permeability was up to 50% higher for the nanofiber membrane. On top of that, a laminate with a nanofiber membrane offers a much higher resistance to flexing which results in better draping quality.







## We Strive to Make the World a Safer Place



#### **Since 1997**

Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic has been a significant national and international player.

www.dsia.cz

## EGO Zlín – System Solutions of Critical Situation

The product portfolio of the Czech company EGO Zlín, which has been doing the internation business more than 26 years, is focused on civilian and military health care, emergency systems, decontamination and complex biological protection.

EGO Zlín has it's own development program which immediately responds to the current world situation caused not only by the occurrence of highly dangerous infections but also by the increasing migration crisis that raises the threat of a possible spread of dangerous diseases or an increasing number of terrorist attacks that indicate a significant threat to the population, because weapons of mass destruction, including biological ones, might be used.

These global threats need to be solved systemically, it is necessary to develop and offer complex systems of protection for individuals and society. As an example of detailed system of complex protection of EGO Zlín in the event of the occurrence of hazardous substances in environment, is comprising from individual protection (protective suits), transport of a patient

suspected of a highly contagious diseases (BIO-BAG) short-term or long-term isolation of the patient (INSULATOR, BIOBOX) to systemic management of bio-waste and with the dead. This year in April was introduced new innovated BIO-BAG, first who saw this new product were pacticipants of Incomming mission from Uzbekistan.

EGO Zlín is a long-time member of respected associations such as DSIA, AVDZP or Czech NBC Team. actively Company participates in Economic **Diplomacy** Projects and annually organizes Incoming missions for foreign partners and leading specialists, for example from the field of specialized hospital care. Thanks to these events and participation in inter-

national fair trades (for example IDEX, IDET, DSEI, LAAD, Defence fairs in CIS countries. etc.), EGO Zlín managed to export to more than thirty countries in the last year. EGO Zlín will present itself as part of the Czech official participation at the EUROSATORY 2018, which will be held in Paris on 11-15





#### **KEY ACTIVITIES OUR COMPANY**

COMMAND, CONTROL & COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

COMM. INTEGRATION 📊



DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM INTEGRATION



INTEGRATED COMM. & CONTROL CENTERS of experience in system inte-Computer-aided Command, integration.







#### KOMCENTRA







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Gumárny Zubří Inc. is engaged in the development, manufacture and marketing of protective full-face masks for military as well as civil uses. In addition, the Company's products range includes OPCH-05 special ventilation chemical insulating suit, developed to meet the needs of the chemical troops of the Czech Army.

#### Our product range includes:

- ♦ Military protective masks model OM-90
- ◆ Civilian protective masks model CM-6
- **Protective filters**
- Bags
- Police intervention helmets
- Plastic bottles
- Single-use protective suit model JP-90

#### Contact:

#### Gumárny Zubří, incorporated

Hamerská 9 756 54 Zubří Czech Republic

Phone: +420 571 662 366 Email: marketing@guzu.cz www.guzu.cz 2018

## EUROSATORY

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## International Activities of the Ministry of Interior – Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic

The text below is intended to give readers an insight into international activities of the Ministry of Interior – Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, with an emphasis on the years 2017 and early 2018. These activities may occur in various forms, including participation of members of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic at international exercises, training courses, or seminars, the Czech Republic´s membership in international organizations, or bilateral cooperation.

#### Civil Protection and Civil Emergency Planning

Insofar as this area is concerned, the Department of Civil Emergency Preparedness and Strategies acts as a representative of the Czech Republic, particularly toward the European Union and NATO, taking part in meetings and cooperating with the Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU and Perma-

nent Delegation of the Czech Republic to the NATO in Brussels. The Department also is, inter alia, the contact point of the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection.

As to the EU Council, Civil Protection issues are dealt with by the Working Party on Civil Protection (PROCIV), the mission of which is to improve Civil Emergency Preparedness at national, European and

international level. The Working Party is led by the presidency of the EU Council.

As to the European Commission, Civil Protection issues are dealt with mainly by the Civil Protection Committee (CPC). The Committee assists the European Commission in implementing Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and the Council on a Union Civil



Protection Mechanism, which has been adopted to enhance cooperation in the area of Civil Protection and to ensure an effective response to disasters inside and outside of the EU. The European Commission also organizes meetings of other expert working groups, which meet on an ad hoc basis and deal with, for example, prevention, collection of data on disasters, training programmes, forest fires, joint communication and information system for emergencies, etc. Participation in these meetings is arranged by the Department of Civil **Emergency Preparedness and Strategies** in cooperation with other relevant departments of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic.

Today's flagship of NATO's Civil Emergency Planning is agenda linked with enhancing resilience of the Alliance's member nations, so that NATO's deterrence and defence policy remains credible even in changing security environment. In 2016, the Allies agreed on further developing their capacities in seven areas of civil preparedness. To make the process more effective, the Allies prepared evaluation criteria for these seven areas early in 2017, which were subsequently approved by the North Atlantic Council (NAC) in February 2017. The Ministry of Interior - Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, as the national authority responsible for civil emergency planning, started the process of national self-evaluation at the 36th coordination meeting of representatives of ministries and central administrative agencies cooperating with planning groups of NATO's Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC) held on November 9, 2017. The process of national self-evaluation of the Czech Republic will be concluded by the end of 2018 and an evaluation report will be submitted to the Civil Emergency Planning Committee.

Civil Protection and Civil Emergency Planning issues are also discussed with other international organizations, such as the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA), or the Visegrad Group (V4).

#### International exercises of Integrated **Rescue System components**

In the international area, the Ministry of Interior - Directorate General of the



Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic focuses on practical cooperation of experts and rescue teams of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic that are predetermined to deal with emergencies resulting from large-scale disasters. The most frequent form of training of rescue personnel are international exercises organized within the Civil Protection system of the European Union. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Interior - General Directorate of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, eight members of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic took part in seven EU international exercises in 2017, acting as experts, observers, or organizers. Furthermore, the Ministry of Interior - Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic dispatched three rescue teams to three international tactical exercises, and 10 representatives of rescue teams to four international staff exercises. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs with its International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) is also an important partner for cooperation and improvement of experts' know--how. Two members of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic took part in exercises organized by UN-OCHA. In February 2017, a European exercise took place in Estonia under the title "Modex-Falck 2017"; it was focused on teams trained to search for and rescue people trapped in collapsed buildings, so-called

Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams. The exercise's scenario was a devastating earthquake which has caused landslides and partial or complete collapse of most buildings. The USAR team dispatched by the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic consisted of members of the Fire Rescue Service of Capital of Prague, a surgeon of the Trauma Hospital in Brno, and dog handlers earmarked for international rescue operations. Other EU Civil Protection modules participated as well - the Central Austria team (SARUV), a team from Hungary, a coordination team of EU experts (EUCPT - European Union Civil Protection Team) and its supporting unit (TAST - Technical Assistance and Support Team). The four -day exercise with the teams deployed without any interruption for 36 hours was focused on mutual cooperation in ruins of buildings and surrounding areas, safety of the teams during movements, and also on communication with the public and media.

The topic of the "CZECH MODEX 2017" international exercise organized by the Fire Rescue Service of the Moravian-Silesian Region in November 2017 were floods in a fictitious state of Modulistan and its "Chacharia" region. Its participants included three high-capacity pumping modules from Poland, Romania, and Italy, a four-member special team for the detection of hazardous substances from the Netherlands (Environmental Assessment Unit), and the EU coordina-

#### FIRE RESCUE SERVICE I msline.cz

tion team (EUCPT - European Union Civil Protection Team) and its supporting unit (TAST - Technical Assistance and Support Team) comprising experts from Lithuania and Latvia. The purpose of the exercise was, in particular, to verify cooperation and coordination capabilities of the Fire Rescue Service of the Moravian-Silesian Region during floods, as well as the coordination of foreign humanitarian and rescue assistance provided by other nations within the EU Civil Protection system. The CZECH MODEX 2017 exercise involved 48 hours of continuous deployment of the teams, and was organized with the assistance of experts from the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic.

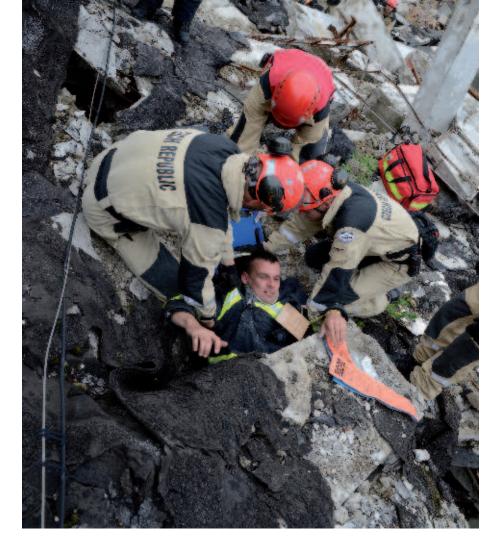
To enhance capabilities of Nordic EU modules, the Finnish Crisis Management Center organized an international exercise for commanders of EU USAR modules in the town of Sodankylä (800 km north of Helsinki, north of the Polar Circle). The exercise was focused on survival and operation in extremely cold conditions. After theoretical preparations, its participants underwent three days of training at temperatures ranging between -8°C and -20°C, to verify their newly acquired knowledge, such as how to protect oneself against subzero temperatures, how to build a fire, how to maintain vehicles and equipment, or how to sleep and move about in the snow. The participating nations included, in addition to the Czech Republic, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Poland, Lithuania and Latvia, Hungary, Italy, and Greece. The instructors were soldiers from the Sodankylä Jaeger Brigade, a unit designated to conduct combat operations in Arctic conditions.

#### Important events and visits abroad

In September 2017, an international fire--fighting sport contest took place in the town of Villach, Austria. It was attended by 50 members of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic and approximately 270 voluntary firefighters. The Czech Republic won the highest number of medals and became the most successful of 28 participating nations.

In May 2017, a meeting titled "Global

Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction" took place in Cancún, Mexico. One of the main item on the agenda was early warning and monitoring of risks. Partici-



pants from the whole world presented their national approaches and achievements in the area of disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

In June 2017, a meeting of the Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) took place in New York, during which the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic organized a parallel event on disaster risk reduction (DRR). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs asked the Ministry of Interior -Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic to attend the event and to deliver a presentation on practical experience of the Czech Republic in this field.

In November 2017, a meeting on the amendment of the "UN-OCHA Field Manual" took place in Prague, which was attended by 14 selected experts of UN agencies from France, Poland, Switzerland, and the Czech Republic, including the Czech ambassador to the United Nations.

In the Framework of Czech membership in the V4, three meetings were held in 2017. In May 2017, the 17th meeting of

Directors General for the Civil Protection of the V4 countries took place in Czestochowa, Poland. In August 2017, there was another meeting, also in Poland, which was focused on sharing of experience in the field of Prevention and education. In November 2017, the Ministry of Interior - Directorate General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic hosted a V4 meeting the purpose of which was to share experience in the field of provision of psychological and social assistance to people affected by a disaster and provision of post-traumatic care to fire-fighting and rescue personnel.

Since 2015, the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic has been implementing a project of foreign development assistance with the Office for Civil Protection and Emergencies of Moldova, which focuses on operations and interventions involving the presence of hazardous substances. Detailed information can be found in Issue 4 of 2017. In 2018, the project will concentrate on protection against floods.

- FRS CR -

## International cooperation

## Arranged by the Population Protection Institute

The Population Protection Institute (hereinafter "the Institute") is part of Ministry of Interior/ General Directorate of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic. The Institute is winner of the EXCELLENCE - National Quality Award of the Czech Republic, and is an organization which is not only well-known in the Czech Republic, but also respected in the field of protection against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) agents by experts all around the world.

The Institute ranks among leading CBRN training institutions of the world. International cooperation in this field can be divided as follows: cooperation within the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and bilateral cooperation.

As to the OPCW training courses, the Institute's instructors organized two very important events in 2017. The first of them was the "Assistance and Protection Course for Instructors" in May. The training course comprised four main blocks: theoretical lectures, practical training, table top exercises, and a final practical exercise during which the trainees were required to deal, with emergencies involving a leakage of an unknown chemical warfare agent or an industrial toxic chemical. Overall exercise summarized the following activities: assembling of rescue teams, application and use of protective suits, detection and reconnaissance of the contaminated area, sampling, decontamination, and final evaluation. The training course was attended by sixteen specialists from 16 countries (Armenia, Brazil, Ecuador, the Philippines, Grenada, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Romania, Rwanda, Greece, Sri Lanka, Spain, Tanzania, and Uganda). The participants from Africa are also a part of the "Strengthening chemical emergency response, planning and management for the EAC Partner States" project, organized by the Institute under the auspices of OPCW for member states of the East African Community (EAC). The quality of the training courses is improving every year, added value is given by presence of foreign specialists, from different institutions, for example from the German "Akademie für

Krisenmanagement, Notfallplanung und Zivilschutz" (Academy for Crisis Management, Emergency Planning, and Civil Protection -AKNZ), from Paraguay (Ministry of Defence), from Luxembourg (Airport Police). The specialized lectures contributed to an overall awareness of different options how a specific chemical emergency can be dealt with. The training course held in May 2017 was the 20th training course organized by the Institute for OPCW. The special importance of the event is also illustrated by the final ceremony that was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, other Czech institutions, and embassies of the participating countries. General Director of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic Brig. Gen. Drahoslav Ryba congratulated the graduates to a successful completion of the training course.

Next important OPCW event named "Practical training for first responders from East African Community" took place in November 2017 in Uganda. It was also delivered by Czech instructors as a part of the long-term project called "Strengthening chemical emergency response, planning and management for the EAC Partner States" Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. The planned output of the project is enhance a regional chemical protection and build a regional training center where will be trained instructors from member states from the East African Community. The center will be the first regional training center of its kind in the world, and the Institute can be proud to have been selected as one of the best training organizations to train African instructors.





Experts of the Institute also participate in events organized by NATO / Civil Protection Group / CBRN Minimum Standards and Non-Binding Guidelines Working Group. Lecturers of the Institute train or evaluate "International CBRN Training Curriculum for Trainers of First Responders to CBRN Incidents Course", which took place for example in Vilnius (Lithuania), Almaty (Kazakhstan), AKNZ in Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler (Germany), or the JCBRN Defence Center of Excellence in Vyškov (Czech Republic).

Thanks to the international training programs, the Institute establishes and maintains bilateral cooperation with many training organizations around the world. Cooperation between the German AKNZ and the Institute, where German experts regularly lecture at OPWC training courses organized by the Institute and Czech lecturers repeatedly train participants of NATO courses that take place at AKNZ, has been going for many years.

The Czech Republic is viewed as a country with the most advanced system of protection against chemical agents. Czech responsible organizations help other countries which have not have yet a proper system of chemical response. Since 2016, international assistance has been targeting the Republic

of Paraguay, where local firemen operate solely on a voluntary basis and where any international assistance is enthusiastically welcomed. In March 2018, the Institute's lecturers organized a training course named "Czech Advanced Course on Emergency Preparedness and Response for First Responders from Paraguay" in Paraguayan capital Asunción. The training course was the second event of its type in Paraguay; the basic training course was held in Asunción in 2016. Due to an extraordinarily high level of interest in advanced training, the second course, which was heavily focused on practical aspects of chemical response, was organized on request of General Rafael Valdez Peralta, President of Paraguayan firefighters, and with a permission of the General Directorate of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic. The event was attended by 30 first responders and took place under the auspices of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

The training course was focused on effects of chemical agents, protection of first responders, detection, sampling, and decontamination. Different activities were coordinated and practiced, and there were also trained several different scenarios of leakage of a toxic chemical agent. The Czech experts were delivering their lectures in English, and they were simultaneously translated into Spanish. Some of the lectures were dedicated to the development of the CBRN protection system in Paraguay, namely to an explanation of the function of the Integrated Rescue System of the Czech Republic and its possible usage into a Paraguayan response system. Information about the training course was published in a local newspaper Ultima Hora and its internet version (see http://www.ultimahora.com/entrenan-cbvp-materiales-peligrosos-n1139895.html).

Courses organized by the Institute invariably receive a very positive evaluation every year. The main benefit for the Institute and the entire Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic is the fact that the knowledge that the trainees acquire in the Czech Republic are further spread in their home countries, which ultimately contributes to higher level of chemical safety worldwide.

Prepared by: LTC Ladislava Navrátilová, Ph.D., Photos: the author's archive

## 18TH NATO DAYS IN OSTRAVA & 9TH CZECH AIR FORCE DAYS





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## Czech Companies

## at DSA 2018 Defence Exhibition in Kuala Lumpur

On 16th-19th April, 2018, over 40 representatives from sixteen Czech companies (Omnipol, ERA, Retia, Česká zbrojovka Uherský Brod, Sellier & Bellot, Mesit Defence, Mesit Aerospace, Ray Service, Optokon, Lemax, Oritest, 4M Systems, AVEC Chem, Excalibur Army, Meopta, LANEX) participated in the international defence exhibition DSA 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Pavilion was provided by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic under the Official Participations of the Czech Republic programme.

History of DSA, which takes place biennially, started in 1988. This year's sixteenth installment marks the 30th anniversary of this exhibition, which is widely recognized as one of the top five in its field in the world. The exhibition was held for the first time in the brand new Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre - MITEC. The exhibition area spanning 43 000 m2, hosted 1500 companies from 60 countries and estimated 50 000 of trade visitors.

This year, the Czech pavilion of 218 m2 showcased the sixteen Czech companies, such as Česká zbrojovka Uherský Brod (firearms), Sellier&Bellot (ammunition), Excalibur Army (system integrator, upgrades/overhaul of military vehicles, Meopta

(military and civilian optics), Retia (radiolocation), MESIT Defence, MESIT Aerospace (cummunication systems for military vehicles, planes and helicopters), OMNIPOL (system integrator), ERA (passive flying object detection), AVEC Chem (air purification and breathing protection systems), Lemax (portable searchlights), LANEX (ropes), ORITEST (detection of chemicals), 4M Systems (tactical equipment), Optokon (ruggedized optical networking solutions) and Ray Service (electrical systems for armed forces and aerospace). Czech companies were represented by more than 40 delegates from the Czech Republic and their local representatives.

The Czech pavilion was visited by a multi-

tude of notable officials from Malaysian, as well as other regional armed forces. The guests included as the Malaysian Chief of Defence Forces Gen. Mohamed Affandi bin Raja Mohamed Noor, Malaysian Chief of Air Force Affendi bin Buang, Inspector General of Royal Malaysian Police Mohamad Fuzi Harun and Malaysian Deputy Chief of Army HJ Ahmad Hasbullah bin HJ Mohd Nawawi. Czech business people have also met with leading representatives of defence forces of Thailand, Brunei, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and others. The Czech pavilion was also visited by the Crown Prince of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah, who showed a vivid interest in the products of Česká Zbrojovka Uherský Brod.

The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Kuala Lumpur supported the Czech participation at DSA 2018 by providing logistical support for the whole duration of their visit. Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Malaysia, Rudolf Hykl, hosted at the Residence a networking cocktail for the Czech participants, their local representatives and business partners, with more than 70 guests attending.

The Czech pavilion was financed from the Official Participations of the Czech Republic programme of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. The keen interest of the Czech companies required more exhibition space to be purchased with the financial contribution of the CzechTrade agency.



Vojtěch Hromek Embassy of the Czech Republic Kuala Lumpur N/C

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#### Registration of the students

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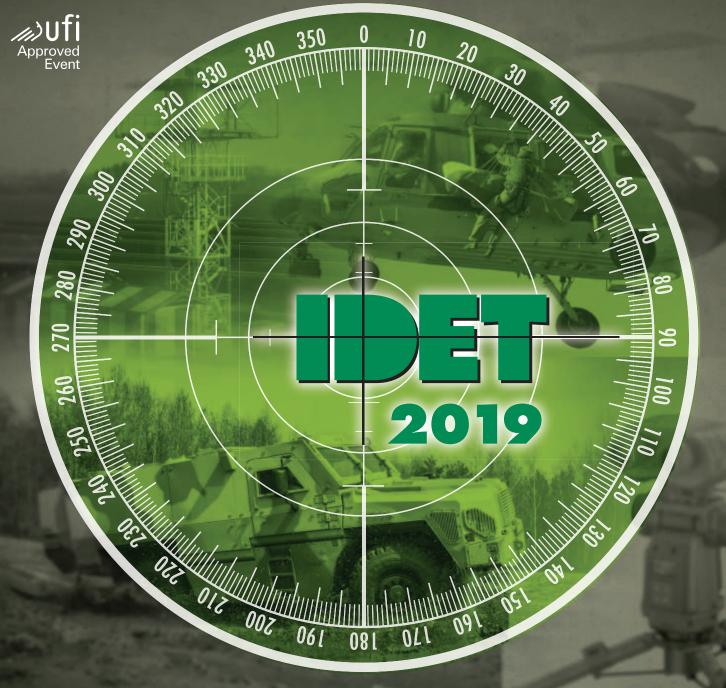




MINISTERSTVO VNITRA ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY



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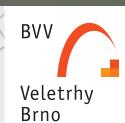


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