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FUTURO



ON 19-21TH OCTOBER 2016 IN PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, THE 12TH EDITION OF CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION FOCUSING ON MODERN AND FUTURE ARMED FORCES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT.

REPORT

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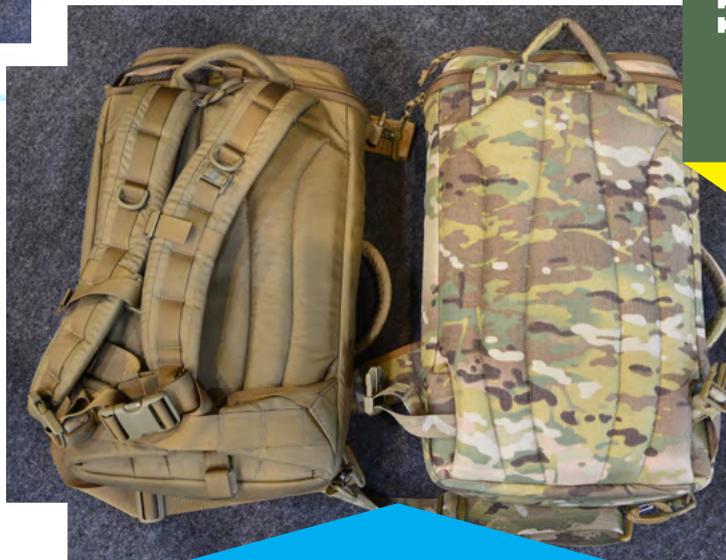
In comparison to last two editions, when the exhibition was separated from the NATO Conference, Future Forces 2016 was way more attractive and the number of exhibitors raised.



INVISTA CORDURA CORDURA brand is a well-known trademark in tactical and outdoor communities. Their durable and rugged fabrics based on Nylon 6.6 can be found in almost every part of tactical gear or hiking gear. Less people know that CORDURA fabrics can be also utilized in the combat uniforms, including the fire resistant clothing. During the Future Forces 2016 we have spotted a prototype combat shirt from USMC EFRCE combat uniform which will replace the currently used USMC FROG II ensemble. Other interesting piece was prototype combat uniform and tactical gear gear with fabrics dyed in Solution Dyed Nylon or SDN in short, where every yarn is dyed to the required color. This allows to achieve a single and unified color on completely different fabrics - there won't be a difference in shades of FR uniform clothing and Cordura 500D webbing as it happens now, when older technologies are used. The colorfastness of SDN fabrics is far ahead of standard fabrics.

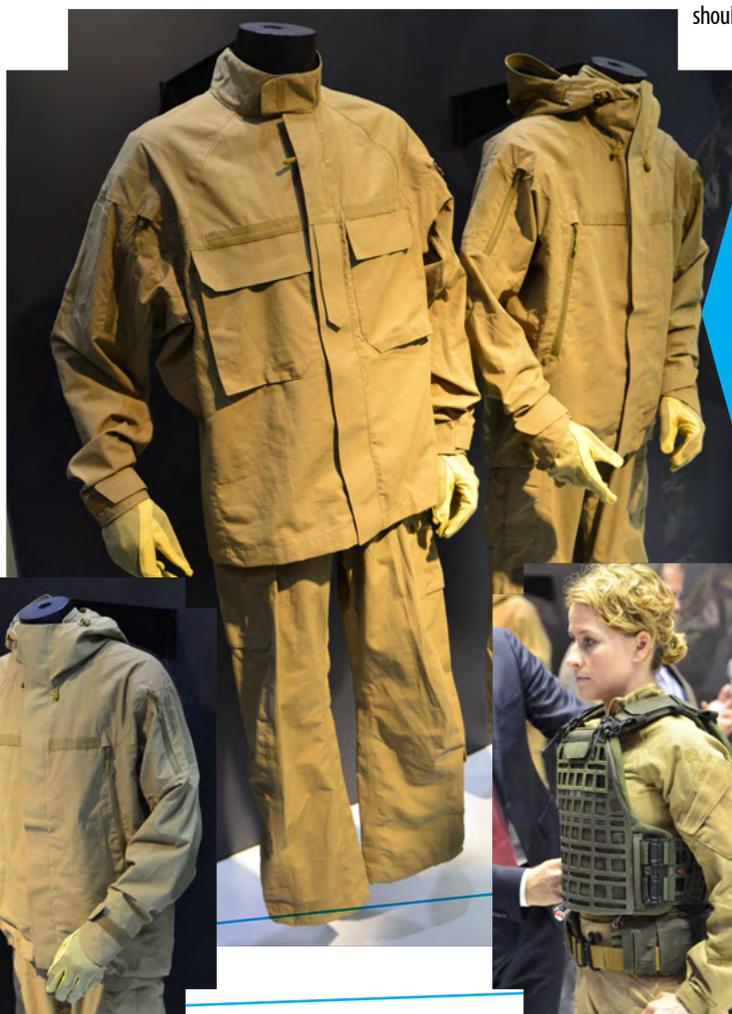


THERMOTEKNIKX This British company specialized in the thermal cameras and devices, most famous from the ClipIR thermal clip-on which could be attached to almost every night vision device, debuted the prototype of FuseIR monocular device combining the image intensifier with thermal camera in single units. The FuseIR has three working modes - night vision, thermal and fusion where the thermal view is layered on the night vision in real time. The similar idea is already in use for few years in AN/PSQ-20 devices but the FuseIR main difference is very compact size, tad bigger than a standard night vision monocular.



CARINTHIA Carinthia from Austria as usual have presented a really wide offer of insulation garment and sleeping bags with G-LOFT synthetic fillament. But there was also a very interesting piece - the Schneetarnanzug, beweglicher Einsatz or Snow camouflage uniform, flexible task which was developed as answer for request of German mountain infantry and special forces units which are operating in high mountains. It is not a standard snow overwhite layered on standard uniform or cold weather clothing but a dedicated outer layer: GORE-TEX hardshell parka and pants in latest German winter camouflage which is a simplified version of standard 5-color Flecktarn camouflage. The number of shades was reduced to three: white background and green and grey blotches. This kind of camouflage clothing is dedicated for units operating in the terrain where the snow cover is constant (high altitude Alpine regions) and works better and is more comfortable than another clothing layer on your back.

KARRIMOR SF The famous Karrimor SF from United Kingdom after a while of being silent, launches new packs for 2017. To the current line up consisting of such models Sabre, Delta or Predathor in different sizes, the new Thor, Odin and Loki packs will be added. They will come in different sizes and with completely redesigned suspension system. One of the version will be just a flat bed with the same suspension system which could be used to carry an oversized load. Last addition will be notebook transport bag designed for ruggedized computers such as Panasonic Toughbooks. The bag can be easily converted to a backpack thanks to hidden shoulder straps.



NFM GROUP The Norwegian NFM Group still can surprise. Just recently they have opened the new production facility in Ukraine and during the Future Forces they have showed the latest development based on the requirements of Singapore land forces. The prototype plate carrier has completely modular design and can be easily converted to the load bearing vest without ballistic plates (the plates pockets are removable). The shoulder harness is based on NFM-specific shoulder yoke responsible for bulk distribution known from the THOR plate carriers. The main fabric is the NFM proprietary, strong, durable and light-weight ALPHA laminate with laser cut slits for pockets and pouches attachment. ALPHA is really strong, we have seen many big guys trying to rip the fabric with bare hands - all failed. On NFM stand there were also components of the 2nd generation GARM combat uniform system



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LUVO The long-standing firearms manufacturer from Czech Republic, the LUVO company (known in the past as CZ Strakonice), had almost every product from their offer available on stand. There were multiple variants of the "Czech ARs" such as LA-10 or LA-15 in many flavours, with different barrel lengths and calibers (9 mm Luger, .223/5.56, .308/7.62 and even .338LM!). LUVO is also manufacturing the under-barrel 40 mm grenade launchers.



BUSCH The German helmets manufacturer (do not mistake with Sestan Busch from Croatia) was showing the lightweight ballistic and bump helmets with bolt-less suspension systems and composite outershell. It is the lightest mode of helmet compliant with protection requirement set by German VPAM institute. The side rails for mounting accessories and the NVD shroud comes as standard.



CB SERVIS CENTRUM Czech distributor of military equipment and firearms such as Desert Tech, Walther or FN Herstal. Small booth but huge number of products were showed including the FN MAG or MINIMI.

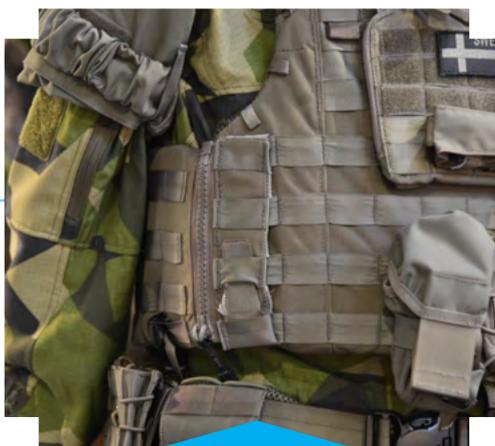




RECON ROBOTICS Recon Robotic Throwbot XT is, as the name implies, the small throwable short range reconnaissance UFV. The operational range is up to 30 meters (in the buildings) and up to 100 meters in the open areas. It can be thrown from the 9 meters and submerged 30 cm deep for minutes. The total weight is around 0.54 kilogram. On-board battery allows for sixty minutes of continuous work on flat surfaces. The Throwbot XT has monochromatic day/night camera with IR illuminator and microphone.



UL-39 ALBI Czech Syleader UL-39 Albi ultralight two-seat jet plane with unconventional power plant, consisting of a reciprocating internal combustion engine driving the fan. It might resemble the L-39 Albatros trainer jet but is smaller and almost completely composite-based construction. The aircraft has tricycle retractable landing gear with steerable nose wheel. UL-39 utilizes the BMW S 1000 RR 142 kW (192 HP) engine taken out of the... racing bike. The top speed is 300KM/H, operational speed is 260KM/H and the maximum range is around 550 kilometers.



SNIGELDESIGN – Snigeldesign is a small tactical equipment manufacturing company from Sweden. The gear from Snigeldesign is rock solid according to the user's feedback and has original design. Maybe in the future we will have an opportunity to try it out.

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PROARMS ARMORY is another big Czech player in the AR-style rifles manufacturing. Those gas piston driven PAR, as they are called, are featuring proprietary block design. From the available feedback it could be assumed that PAR rifles quality and reliability is on par with the Heckler&Koch ones.



MOMENT OF BREATH always like to visit Prague, roam around the city and get to interesting places. This time, the place commemorating the heroic defense of the bombers on R. Heydrich in 1942.

... And something for the body ... „cauldron paratrooper“



TATRA T-KAT, Defence Industrial T-Kat 4x4 SOV is localized version of well-known and proven Israeli Plasan Sasa SandCat armored vehicle based on the Forda F550 chassis. The total weight of the vehicle is around 8.9 tonnes. T-Kat has STANAG Level 3 armor package. According to the Tatra Defence Industrial representatives, if the Czech armed forces would be interested in this vehicles, they can offer local made chassis version.

LUFTHANSA TECHNIK AG was exhibiting a complete Patient Transport Unit NG is featuring a modern design concept, building on proven technologies. It's a joint development together with Aerolite Max Bucher AG, a well-known specialized production and design organization for intensive care equipment in aircraft. The combination of composite panels, aluminum integral structures and special edge protections delivers a low-weight and robust construction. At the same time, load limits were raised and the oxygen system is enhanced. Thanks to its modular design, the PTU NG can be tailored to the specific medical support requirements of each individual customer, offering perfect solutions for medical services of airlines, flying hospitals on special missions and to customized installations on governmental and VIP aircraft.



FENIX PROTECTOR – is the Czech load bearing equipment manufacture. There were numerous tactical vest, LBEs and plate carriers available. Most of them were featuring the laser cut slits instead of standard webbing straps. Equipment is available in a wide spectrum of solids and camouflage pattern, naturally including Czech and Slovak camo patterns.



THE POWER WALK BIONIC POWER – Bionic Power Power Walk is harvester is designed to generate electricity from the natural action of walking, in much the same way regenerative braking works in hybrid cars. With every stride, the harvester's on-board microprocessors analyze the wearer's gait to determine precisely when to generate maximum power with the least amount of effort. The PowerWalk's gearbox converts the knee's rotational speed to a higher speed for efficient power generation and a generator converts the mechanical power produced into electrical power. A state-of-the-art power-conversion circuit then converts the electricity to recharge Li-ion or NiMH batteries.

EXPLORER CASES – transport cases. Multiple variants, sizes and color depending on the application. Air transportable, weather and waterproof rock-solid cases from Italy.



AK-63F, HM Arzenal AK-63MA is a Hungarian-developed upgrade kit for the old but firm AK assault rifle with improved ergonomics and capabilities. Lot of CAA parts there!

BLAST GAUGE BlackBox Biometrics Wireless Blast Gauge (right side). This tiny device designed to monitor and collect blast overpressure and acceleration on the soldier. The new version of the Blast Gauge features Bluetooth connectivity and larger battery which will be enough for a year of continues work. Internal memory allows to save up to 250 record.

