

KNDS FRANCE presents its VBCI MK2 8x8 French Infantry Fighting Vehicle

On September 25, 2024, representatives from **KNDS FRANCE** presented its VBCI vehicle. The focus of the presentation was on showcasing both new and used Vehicles, highlighting the capabilities and potential benefits of these armored vehicles for the Hellenic Armed Forces.

The **VBCI MK2** is the latest iteration of the highly successful **8x8 French Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV)**, built on the experience of real combat operations. It serves as the primary combat system for the **French Army** and represents the culmination of lessons learned from previous engagements.

Key features of the VBCI MK2 include:

- **Enhanced Protection:** Advanced armor and defense systems provide superior protection for the crew and passengers, ensuring survivability in high-threat environments.
- **Improved Mobility:** The vehicle is designed for optimal performance across various terrains, offering excellent maneuverability in both high-intensity combat and peacekeeping missions.
- **Increased Payload:** The VBCI MK2 can carry more troops and equipment, enhancing its operational versatility.

UNRIVALLED OVERALL SURVIVABILITY

- **Ballistic protection provided by the aluminium alloy**
- **hull with modular add-on armour including top attack**
- **High protection against mines**
- **Protection against IEDs (blast, splinters)**
- **Protection against RPG (modular add-on armour)**
- **Stealth (low radar and thermal signature)**
- **Soft-kill protection (infra-red jammer system, smoke-grenade launchers)**
- **NRBC protection**
- **COMBAT PROVEN**
- **Deployed in Afghanistan, Lebanon, Central African Republic and Mali**
- **High efficiency and reliability in any type of field and with the most extreme weather conditions**
- **High firepower in every condition**
- **High mobility performance of a tracked vehicle off-road and of a wheeled vehicle on road**
- **Air transportable: C17; A400M**
- **Crew comfort for a fully equipped Infantry squad**

- (Air conditioning system, large interior volume, suspension...)

INNOVATIVE SERVICE SUPPORT CONCEPT

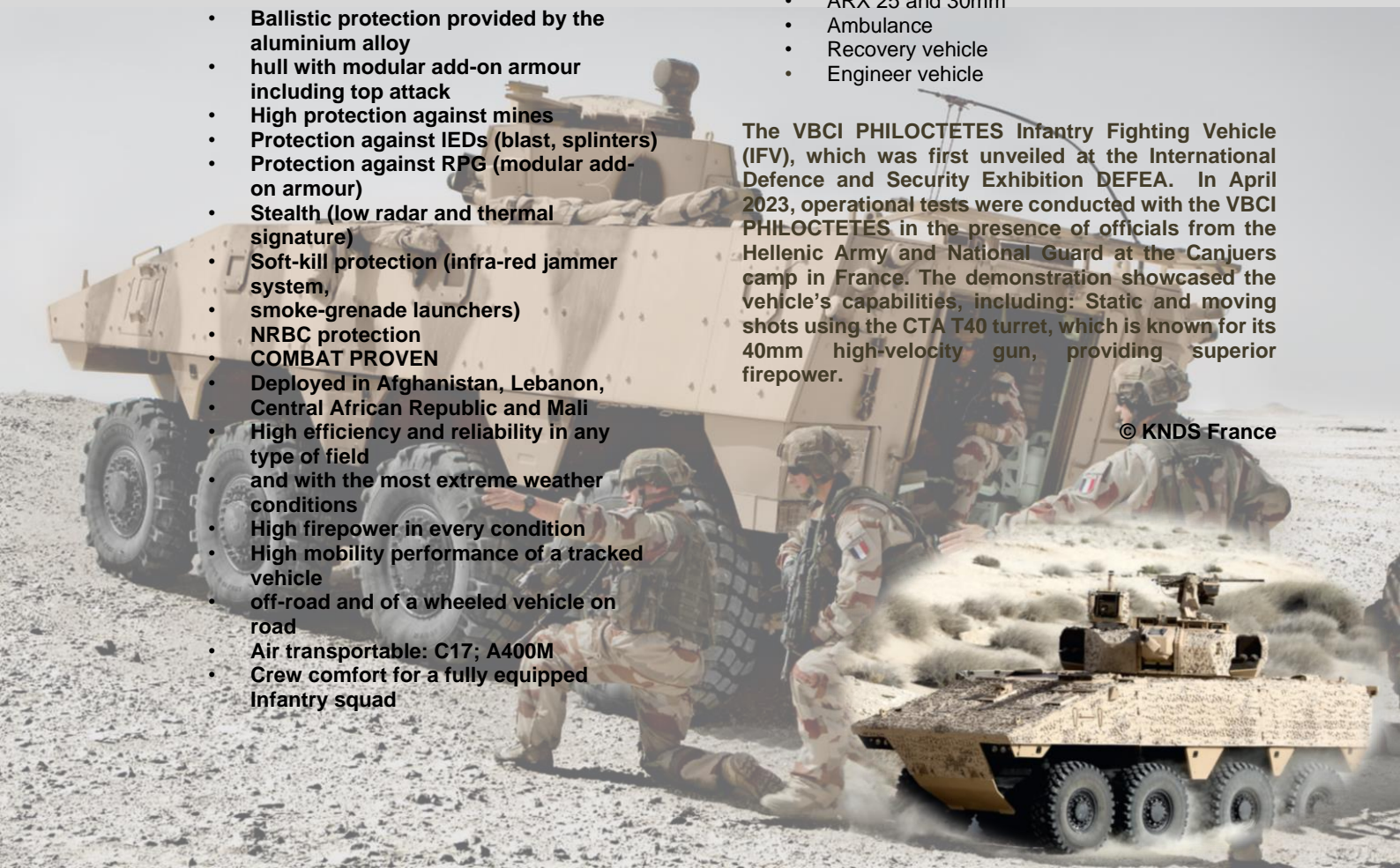
- Low "Life Cycle Cost" resulting from high reliability,
- optimized maintenance and the use of MOTS/COTS components.
- Powerpack
- Firing and driving simulators
- Logistic support service up to performance based contracts

A RANGE OF VEHICLES BASED ON A SAME PLATFORM

- Designed for long-term growth potential (survivability, payload, power supply) for a total combat gross vehicle weight up to 32 tons
- Variants:
 - Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV) with one-man 25mm turret, two-men 40mm turret and 30mm turret (two-men and RWS available)
 - Armored Fighting Vehicle with 40mm up to 105mm turret
 - Armored Personnel Carrier with RCWS 0.5,
- ARX 20, ARX 25 and 30mm
- Mortar vehicle
- Anti-tank missile vehicle
- Command Post vehicle with RCWS 0.5, ARX 20,
- ARX 25 and 30mm
- Ambulance
- Recovery vehicle
- Engineer vehicle

The VBCI PHILOCTETES Infantry Fighting Vehicle (IFV), which was first unveiled at the International Defence and Security Exhibition DEFEA. In April 2023, operational tests were conducted with the VBCI PHILOCTETES in the presence of officials from the Hellenic Army and National Guard at the Canjuers camp in France. The demonstration showcased the vehicle's capabilities, including: Static and moving shots using the CTA T40 turret, which is known for its 40mm high-velocity gun, providing superior firepower.

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VBCI features and specifications

- Weight And Dimensions
- Empty weight: 19 tons
- Payload: Up 13 tons
- Dimensions (chassis): - Length: < 8m - Width: < 3m
- Height: < 2.5m
- Usable interior volume: Greater than 13m
- Carrying capacity: up to 11 men
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Protection

- Ballistic:
 - Modular up to 30mm APFSDS ammunition
 - Light alloy hull, internal splinter protection, modular
- add-on armour plates
- Mines/IED's: Superior to STANAG 4569 AEP 55 Level 4
- Mine blast absorption modules. Anti-blast seat
- RPG: Optional Kit
- Periscopes protection: Protected from laser
- Fire suppression system: Engine and crew/personnel
- compartment
- Missile protection: Infrared decoy (optional)
- Self-protection: Smoke grenade launcher systems
- (optional)

Armament

- **Weapon systems: RWS 0,5, ARX20, ARX25, one-man**
- **25mm turret, 30mm, 40CTA, to 105mm turret.**
- **Mortar, Anti-Tank missiles**

- Running gear: I drive, 2 front steering axles
 - 1 rear steering axle (optional)
 - 1 axle declutchable for road use
- Engine: Diesel 600 HP - Automatic gearbox (7+2)
- Suspension: Mixed oleopneumatic/mechanical with long travel
- Tyres:
 - Central tyre inflation system
 - Run flat device
- Speed/range: 100km/h / 750km (60mph/470 miles) (standard conditions)
- Forging/obstacle clearance:
 - Step: 80cm - Trench: 2m
 - Forging: 1.20m without preparation/1.50m with preparation
- Strategic transport transport: Road - Rail - Air transportable (C17, A400M)

Ergonomics & Human Factors

Field of view:

- Driver: 180° (day/night vision)
- Commander: 360° (day/night vision)

Interior layout: Interior layout compatible with the size of the future I.T. equipped infantry soldier (covering 95% of population)

Stowage: External and internal

Vetronic Systems

Battle Management System: Open electronic architecture (CAN, Ethernet) ready to be equipped with all C4I systems

