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Rheinmetall Oerlikon Searanger 20 and SAPPIE-T ammunition: 20mm naval weapon technology for the 21st century

One of the key tasks of naval forces is to protect maritime infrastructure from symmetric and asymmetric threats. This is the mission Rheinmetall had in mind when it developed its remotely controlled Searanger 20 weapon station and insensitive SAPPIE-T 20mm ammunition. Both are on show at the Düsseldorf-based Group's stand at DSEI 2015.

The remotely controlled Searanger 20 can be mounted on any boat or ship, serving for example as main armament on patrol boats or secondary armament on surface combatants.

Fully stabilized, this 20mm medium-calibre system combines a high rate of fire with excellent accuracy. It can operate in single shot, burst or rapid single shot mode, which makes it especially well suited for engaging swarms of individual targets at distances of up to 2000 metres around the ship.

The Searanger 20 is remotely controlled from an operator console, significantly enhancing the safety of the crew. Its sensor unit features state-of-the-art electro-optical sensors for day-night surveillance and an integrated video tracking function. Furthermore, stabilization and the ballistic programs in the fire control unit enable effective engagement of targets from a moving ship platform.

Rheinmetall's newly developed 20mm SAPPIE-T (20 x 128 mm) ammunition is the ideal match for the Searanger 20. SAPPIE-T stands for "semi-armour piercing pyrotechnically induced effect and tracer". This round combines armour-piercing characteristics with a cascading pyrotechnic impact inside the target, yet contains neither explosives nor fuse. It lends itself extremely well to combatting targets in a maritime environment, and is also safe and easy to transport and store (UN Classification 1.4 C).

Visitors to DSEI 2015 can find out more about the Searanger 20 and SAPPIE-T at the Rheinmetall Group stand.

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