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## **Rheinmetall to modernize Polish gunnery and driver training simulators**

Tanks continue to form the steel backbone of mechanized combat operations. In June 2016 the Polish armed forces turned to the Düsseldorf, Germany-based Rheinmetall Group to modernize their simulation technology, which is already spearheading the upgrade of Poland's fleet of Leopard 2 main battle tanks.

Rheinmetall's Simulation and Training business unit is currently bringing four tactical combat simulators (known as AGPTs) and four tank gunnery simulators (or ASPTs) up to speed on behalf of the Polish armoured corps. The upgrade combines Rheinmetall's TacSi technology and a game engine-based image generator. Moreover, in future it will be possible to network these simulators, enabling complex gunnery and combat simulations.

Rheinmetall will also be supplying the Polish military with a new driver training simulator for use as an autonomous driver and procedure trainer. The Canadian armoured corps is already employing identically engineered Rheinmetall simulators with great success.

The project is being carried out in close cooperation between Rheinmetall Polska and Rheinmetall Landsysteme (the original equipment manufacturer) and Polish defence contractors. Transfer of the modernized simulators is scheduled to take place at the start of 2018.

The industrial consortium formed to modernize the Polish Leopard 2 MBT comprises the companies Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa (PGZ) and Zakłady Mechaniczne Bumar-Łabędy S.A. (ZMBL), with Rheinmetall serving as strategic partner. Under this project, the 128 Leopard 2 A4 tanks bought by the Polish Army from surplus Bundeswehr stocks in 2002 are being upgraded to match the performance of the new standard Leopard 2 PL.

Visitors to I/ITSEC 2016 can experience for themselves the extreme realism of Rheinmetall driving simulation technology at Stand 1000 in Hall A2.

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