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CHANGING GEARS

Military modernisation is the new catchword in Malaysia

ARMOURED IMPETUS

Combat vehicle upgrade remains a balancing act

HARD TARGET

New technologies trending in small arms market

FIDAE
SHOW
REPORT





in marksmanship, enabling ordinary riflemen to score a first hit on target with the first shot, compared to 8-10 shots they needed with standard sights. The system operates with standard rechargeable batteries that can sustain operation for up to 72 hours.

Smart Shooter Acting as an independent weapon control system, Smash uses multiple sensor processing to determine the shooter's aiming relative to the designated target, including range measurement, tracking of target motion, target visibility and aiming lead, providing the shooter with simple 'no fire' indication when they are likely to miss the shot. When the soldier is cleared to fire, the actual shot will be fired only when the conditions ensure a hit. The user can bypass the system with a flip of a button, to use the weapon in manual mode. A major advantage of the Smash is the ability of squad riflemen to hit targets with high probability, at ranges of 100 yards and beyond, thus performing as marksmen. With such performance they can engage targets at standoff range, thus increasing the lethality, survivability and overall efficiency. ■

New Advancements

Another improvement that could dramatically improve the soldier lethality is related to fire accuracy, utilizing advanced weapon fire control. Similar to a weapon delivery system in fighter planes, or tank fire controls, a 'smart trigger' would enable the soldier to shoot only when the weapon is aimed to hit the intended target. Shots can also be avoided in circumstances they endanger friendly forces. Automatic event recording, including pre-shot and post shot clips can be stored of the weapon for debriefing and assure the soldiers had legal justification for fire events (this function could likely minimize the chances of weapon abuse. Such a device is the Smash, developed by Smart Shooter, that has recently completed certification by the Israel Defense Forces. Smash can be installed on any firearm using the accessory rail and few small modifications adding trigger control and pushbuttons on the forward grip.

Once installed, Smash dramatically improves the warfighter's shooting accuracy and efficiency, ensuring the first shot hits the intended target, even in high stress conditions and following extensive physical effort. The Israel Army has recently contracted Smart Shooter to launch serial production of the sight, as part of a procurement of 2,250 sights. The new sight enables the shooter to designate any target (such as a person, vehicle or object, like a vehicle's wheel) and hit it with high probability, from the weapon's maximum effective range. Through four years of testing the sight has demonstrated significant improvement

