



BENJAMIN SEVŠEK, M.SC. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
HEAD OF PRODUCTION AND TRADE IN ARMS DIVISION

SMALL, BUT EFFICIENT

THE SLOVENIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY

The Slovenian defence industry has developed over the last 60 years. In this period it has specialised in the high-tech production of parts, assemblies and special equipment. Nowadays the Slovenian defence industry is following the process of joining NATO by adopting NATO standards and agreements, by adopting high-quality production standards, and by internationalising and specialising in designated areas.

The defence industry is following armed forces development programmes in equipping Slovenian Crisis Reaction with defence products and services compatible with the level of NATO. The defence industry is following armed forces development programmes in the areas of the equipping of Slovenian Crisis Reaction Forces with armoured personal carriers, clothes, equipment, protection and modern communications systems. Moreover, the defence industry is modernising armoured vehicles and artillery, producing military trucks, artillery systems, supporting fire control, observation, simulation and training systems. Many products are well known and successfully used by other armed forces as well.

Taking into account Slovenia's position at the crossroads of Europe, good road, rail, sea and air traffic connections, the industrial infrastructure and a highly educated and skilled work force, Slovenia and the Slovenian defence industry offer good maintenance and logistics facilities in the Maribor, Ravne, Ljubljana and Koper regions.

There are many defence manufacturers in Slovenia; most of them are worthy of mention here in connection with different production areas.

Soldiers' and especially Alpine infantry equipment. The successful Fotona company



The Metrix, world-class hand-held rangefinder binoculars with electronic compass.



Opto -electronic devices, fire control systems for tracked vehicles and artillery, laser warning devices, range - finders, etc.

of Ljubljana manufactures world-class hand-held rangefinder binoculars with electronic compasses (Metrix).

AREX Sentjernež manufactures load-carrying and NBC equipment and soldiers' equipment. Veplas Velenje manufactures helmets and ballistic vests. Comet Zreče manufactures ballistic plates and vests. Uni&Forma Trzin manufactures uniforms. IKA Ajdovščina manufactures protective clothing. Beti Metlika manufactures special underwear. Alpina Ziri manufactures Alpine boots. Porenta Skofja Loka manufactures rucksacks. Svila Maribor and Tekstilna Ajdovščina manufacture military textiles.

Armoured vehicles and artillery systems. We shall stress here the importance of STO Ravne na Koroskem, a manufacturer, under licence, of the Valuk 6 x 6 light armoured vehicle and, in collaboration, 155mm howitzers, mortars and various components. STO is an expert in the modernisation of different types of tracked vehicles, and offers maintenance and logistics facilities for tracked and artillery vehicles.

FOTONA Ljubljana manufactures opto-electronic devices, fire-control systems for tracked and artillery vehicles, laser warning devices, rangefinders, etc.

Rotis Trzin manufactures special bearings and gears.

Communications equipment. Iskra Transmission of Ljubljana manufactures low-capacity military microwave radio and optical fibre systems, and military telecommunications system integrations.

ERO Ljubljana manufactures telecommunications-related equipment. Trival Antene manufactures military antennas, masts and accessories for radio telecommunications.

Cross-country military vehicles. TVM Maribor, an experienced successor to the TAM company, manufactures new types of cross-country military truck (3-5 tons). TVM offers experienced personnel and facilities for maintenance and logistics for wheeled vehicles.

Soldiers, load carrying and NBC equipment.





Armored vehicles.

ELQ Ljubljana manufactures single-axle, lower-capacity freight trailers. Iskra Avtoelektrika manufactures electric and electronic components for transport and armoured vehicles. LIV Postojna manufactures special-purpose hydraulic cranes and lifting devices.

Electronics, training devices, components. The Ministry of Defence & VR Elektronika Vrhnika manufacture measurement devices for the maintenance of tanks, anti-armour guided rockets and electronic simulators. Em. Tronic Maribor manufactures indoor shooting ranges for tanks, artillery and man-portable air-defence systems. Inzeniring plus of Ljubljana manufactures weapons-mounted laser training systems.

Aviotech Ptuj manufactures UAVs for surveillance and target purposes. Spinel Velenje manufactures firearms training ortoscopes. Hermes Softlab Ljubljana and Aster Ljubljana both develop software for military applications. Metrel Horjul manufactures electric regulation and measuring equipment.

3-5 t military cross country vehicle.



Valuk - 6x6 light armored vehicle (produced under license).

Parts for weapons, equipment, simulation ammunition and explosives. The Ministry of Defence in Ljubljana manufactures cold-forging barrels and different parts for small arms.

UNIOR Zrece manufactures special production machines and special tools. JE&GR Zagorje ob Savi manufactures parts for weapons and equipment. Gostol Gopan Nova Gorica manufactures kneaders and shears for powders and explosives. Arex Sentjerneje manufactures plastic training ammunition. Coal Petisovci manufactures white-pallet training ammunition. KIK Kamnik manufactures military mines and explosives training devices. TAB Mezica manufactures special-purpose batteries.

Emergency, rescue and security constructions, equipment. Trimo Trebnje manufactures living and support activities containers for military, humanitarian, emergency or rescue needs in different climate conditions. Expo Biro Maribor manufactures tents, storage facilities and different aluminium or steel construction halls. Ikor B manufactures special-purpose light containers. Induplati Jarse manufactures military, humanitarian, emergency or rescue tents.

VTZ Ljubljana manufactures security-sensor-protected palisade fences. Medicop Murs-

Cold forging barrels and different parts for small arms.



Communications equipment: military low capacity microwave radio and optical fiber systems, military telecommunications system integrations.

Weapons mounted laser training systems.



ka Sobota manufactures medical equipment. Tosama Domzale manufactures sanitary materials.

Through procurement programmes and through the policy of joining NATO, the Slovenian government stimulates the enhancement of cooperation and internationalisation of the defence industry. The defence industry is seeking long-term international cooperation for the equipping of the Slovenian armed forces, and foreign customers.



Anti personnel and anti-tank practice mines.

