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AKYA

EuroTrophy's proposal to provide active protection to the armored vehicles of the Spanish Army

José Mª Navarro García, June 27, 2022

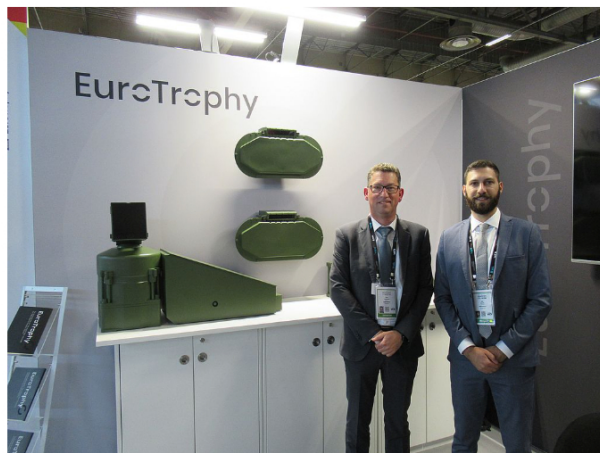


During the recent **Eurosatory** trade fair, we were able to talk to Dan Kalfus, General Manager of **EuroTrophy**, the company responsible for marketing the **Trophy** active protection system in Europe.

Among the topics we discussed was the need identified by the **Army** to equip its main armored vehicles with active protection systems based on lessons learned from current conflicts.

This was also one of the conclusions of the **event** "The Army's combat vehicles of the 21st century" which took place on April 19th, organized by the Army's Logistics Support Command and Grupo Edefa.

It was then recognized that the Army's main armored vehicles needed a system like this to guarantee **crew protection** against modern battlefield threats. Priority would be given to the **Leopard 2E main battle tank**, followed by the **Pizarro Infantry/Cavalry Fighting Vehicle**, and then the **Dragón 8x8 Wheeled Combat Vehicle**.



Dan Kalfus (first from the right) at the EuroTrophy stand at Eurosatory (author)

Dan Kalfus provided us with details on the feasibility of integrating the Trophy active protection system into the Spanish Army's Leopard 2E main battle tanks, a task already being

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Vázquez de Coronado, the Spaniard whose expedition discovered the Grand Canyon and the Rocky Mountains

Francisco Vázquez de Coronado's expedition discovered the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River and the Rocky Mountains, as well as the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas in what is now the United States. He was born in Salamanca in 1510 into a noble family...



The Navy's Tenth Squadron will cease operating the SH-60B helicopter and will be reinforced with more SH-60Fs.

The Navy's Tenth Squadron of the Fleet Air Arm (FLOAN) will cease operating the legendary SH-60B helicopter as the new MH-60Rs are incorporated throughout 2027, although it will also...



The Hungarian Air Force receives two new Gripen fighter jets

Swedish manufacturer Saab has just delivered the first two IAS 39C Grönan fighter jets of the

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undertaken by Krauss-Maffei Wegmann on the same German tanks. Furthermore, the other partner in the *joint venture*, alongside technologist Rafael, is General Dynamics European Land Systems, responsible for the Spanish main battle tanks, which would facilitate the integration process.

Compared to other systems, Dan Kalfus highlighted its **maturity**, accumulating over 1 million hours of service, its low false alarm rate, and the minimal risk to personnel on foot, crews, or nearby civilians.

This would be carried out in Spain with the participation of the Spanish subsidiary of Rafael **Pap Tecnos** and would represent a strengthening of the national industry in a critical and constantly developing area, hand in hand with the main contractor **General Dynamics European Land Systems – Santa Bárbara Sistemas**.

This would provide a higher level of protection against rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs), missiles and other threats, primarily to vehicles being deployed on **international missions**, such as the Leopards participating in **NATO’s enhanced Forward Presence (eFP)** mission in Latvia.



The elements that make up the Trophy system (author)

In this way, EuroTrophy would be in a position to **formalize a proposal** on the work to be done to integrate the Trophy active protection system into the tanks, considering this system the most suitable for the needs of the Spanish Army after its entry into service in 2011, more than one million hours of service and the four countries that have integrated it into their tanks, with Germany choosing it for its Leopard 2, which would facilitate the work to be done on the Spanish tanks.

Let us remember that the Ministry of Defense has been studying the active protection systems available on the market for years, having studied the **Trophy** option, as we analyzed back in **2018**, including at least one visit by a delegation to a demonstration in Israel, after confirming the interest in October **2017** given the problems detected in the Turkish Leopard 2 tanks in the Syrian conflict.

Eurotrophy

Let us remember that EuroTrophy is a joint venture based in **Germany** formed by two of the world’s leading manufacturers of battle tanks, Krauss-Maffei Wegmann (**KMW**) and General Dynamics European Land Systems (**GDLS**), and the technologist of the Trophy active protection system, the Israeli **Rafael Advanced Defense Systems**.



Trophy installed on an American Abrams tank (Rafael)

The company provides Trophy integration into vehicles and related lifecycle support services. Trophy is a hard-kill system that can be integrated into all types of platforms, both wheeled and tracked, and has been integrated into 15 different vehicles to date. It is a solution already selected by Israel, **the United States**, **Germany**, and **the United Kingdom** for their main battle tanks

It is a mature, easy-to-integrate system that offers complete protection in both single and multiple-shot scenarios, whether stationary or moving, and in diverse environments such as urban, wooded, desert, or snowy areas. (**José Mª Navarro García**)

Cover photo: A German Leopard tank already equipped with the Trophy (Rafael)

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four additional aircraft ordered for the Hungarian Air Force to Kecskemét Air Base. The aircraft, bearing serial numbers, arrived on delivery flights at Kecskemét Air Base.

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OPINION



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