

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

## **Milrem Robotics and John Cockerill Defense signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of robotic combat systems**

***Abu Dhabi, IDEX 2021*** - Milrem Robotics and John Cockerill Defense signed this 18<sup>th</sup> February a Memorandum of Understanding, committing the two companies to mutual development and technical coordination in the area of robotics; specifically, for the development of mobile lethality systems as they apply to robotic or unmanned ground vehicles.

The agreement is wider than just providing for the firing of a lethality system from a robotic vehicle but involves the technologies that will allow the implementation of such systems into manned unit formations.

We are excited to be mutually developing a vision for a wingman vehicle that adds to the combat capability, flexibility and firepower of conventional units. The Milrem Robotics / John Cockerill Defense team looks to be at the vanguard of the European Shared Defense Technologies.

Kuldar Vaarsi; CEO of Milrem Robotics: *“The role of robotics will be to augment manned units and provide superior situational awareness, mobility and firepower. Robotic combat systems will help keep our troops from harm's way. John Cockerill Defense is an exceptional lethality systems provider with clear understanding of new requirements arising from robotic platforms. Closer cooperation helps us jointly improve the efficiency of future robotic combat systems.”*

Thierry Renaudin, President of John Cockerill Defense: *“We at John Cockerill are enthusiastic about working together with Milrem Robotics. They have shown themselves to be fully committed to the unmanned ground vehicle concept, both for civilian and military use. A company with this laser focus gives us a glimpse into the future roles and missions of these technologies. I am excited to look around the corner at the future of armored vehicles.”*

### **About Milrem Robotics:**

Milrem Robotics is the European leading robotics and autonomous systems developer with offices in Estonia, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands. The company's flagship product the THeMIS unmanned ground vehicle has altogether been delivered to ten countries of which seven are NATO members, including France, Norway, the UK, and US.

Milrem Robotics recently launched the Type-X Robotic Combat Vehicle, intended to support mechanized units. Milrem Robotics is also the leader of a consortium that was awarded 30,6 MEUR from the European Commission's European Defence Industrial Development Programme (EDIDP) to develop a European standardized unmanned ground system (UGS).

During the project, titled iMUGS, a modular and scalable architecture for hybrid manned-unmanned systems will be developed to standardize a European wide ecosystem for aerial and ground platforms, command, control and communication equipment, sensors, payloads, and algorithms.

**About John Cockerill Defense:**

Member of the bicentennial John Cockerill Group, John Cockerill Defense is the technological leader in multifunctional, high-effect turrets in the 25-120mm range for light and medium weight armored vehicles.

John Cockerill Defense develops and integrates complete and innovative solutions: design, production, integration and upgrade of weapons systems, operational and tactical training, Agueris® simulation systems (virtual immersive, mobile, embedded and inter-connectable), through-life support and innovative functionalities. Marketed under the Cockerill® brand, John Cockerill Defense weapons systems combine superior firepower and lightweight for high-mobility armored vehicles, guaranteeing performance and protection.

[www.johncockerill.com/defense](http://www.johncockerill.com/defense)

**Press contacts:**

**John Cockerill Defense** : Xavier Delhaye – [xavier.delhaye@johncockerill.com](mailto:xavier.delhaye@johncockerill.com) - +32475 30 28 58

**Milrem** : Gert Hankewitz - [gert.hankewitz@milrem.com](mailto:gert.hankewitz@milrem.com)

**John Cockerill, Catalyst for Opportunity**

Driven since 1817 by its founder's entrepreneurial spirit and thirst for innovation, John Cockerill Group develops broad-scale technological solutions to meet the needs of its time: the preservation of natural resources, making a contribution to greener mobility, producing in a sustainable manner, combating insecurity and facilitating access to renewable energy. Its offering to businesses, states and communities is exemplified in services and associated equipment for the energy, defense, industry, environment, transportation and infrastructure sectors.

With more than 6,000 employees, John Cockerill achieved sales of €1.26 billion in 22 countries on five continents in 2019.

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