

► VEHICLE SYSTEMS

New at Eurosatory 2024

17. Juni 2024

Keiler NG – Rheinmetall's tactical Armoured Breaching Vehicle for fast opening of barriers in combat

Operational experience from the war in the Ukraine shows that obstacle warfare has regained importance on the battlefields of the future. With the Keiler Next Generation (NG), Rheinmetall is presenting a new armoured breaching vehicle (ABV) at the Eurosatory 2024 for the fast opening of barriers in combat. It fulfils all current tactical requirements and is characterised by high future viability.

The highly protected and mobile Keiler NG ABV is equipped with a mine plough, a rocket-assisted mine clearing line charge and a magnetic signature duplicator.

This combination enables the Keiler NG to breach even deep enemy obstacles in all terrains.

The Pearson mine plough, which is over four metres wide, enables a mine sweep speed of up to 250 metres per minute on

unstable ground. For solid ground, the rocket-assisted mine clearing sweeping line charge (MICLIC) "Plofadder" system from Rheinmetall Denel Munition is available. This system is capable of opening 160 metres long and nine metres wide breach in mine fields and obstacles within minutes. Fired in overlapping bursts, the two Plofadder systems of the Keiler NG alone make it possible to overcome mine fields of 250 metres in depth. The integrated lane marking system marks the created lanes for the following forces, even in limited visibility or at night.

Thanks to the quick-exchange front-end interface, the mine plough can be quickly replaced with a dozer blade. This means that the Keiler NG can also clear anti-tank obstacles, fill in trenches or create emplacements and prepared positions if required. It also has an integrated crane so that it can carry out conversions, resupply and retooling independently. For self-protection, the Keiler carries the ROSY rapid obscurant system and the Remotely Controlled Weapon Station Natter 12.7.

The crew of the Keiler NG consists of two soldiers. The possibility of remote-controlled deployment is already taken into account in the system's concept, as is the fitting of an active protection system and interfacing on the digitalised battlefield.



► Key facts

- Highly protected and mobile system for rapid tactical clearing of mines and opening of barriers
- Mine plough, rocket-assisted detonation cord system, magnetic signature duplicator
- Lane marking system
- High compatibility with the Leopard 2 family

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The Keiler NG is based on the chassis of the Kodiak armoured engineer vehicle and thus belongs to the Leopard 2 family. On the one hand, this contributes to the high agility of this 63 ton platform: Top speed 65 km/h, climbing capability 90 centimetres, gradeability 60 percent, trench crossing capability more than 2.50 metres. On the other hand, being part of the Leoben family has a positive effect on interoperability, logistics and training. Existing Kodiak Army engineer tanks can be converted into a configuration similar to the Keiler NG using equipment kits, while existing Kodiak verification guides accelerate the operational readiness of the Keiler NG.

We look forward to presenting the Keiler NG to you at our stand E115/F115 on the outdoor exhibition grounds in Paris from 17 to 21 June 2024.