



DVD 2007

Protected Patrol Vehicles On Show

BY BOB MORRISON

MXT-MVA

International Truck and Engine Corporation is actually the fourth largest truck manufacturer in the world, but few of our UK readers are likely to have seen many of the vehicles in its large military range. The company's MAXXPRO 4x4 wheeled armoured personnel carrier demonstrators, possible UK MPPV (Medium Protected Patrol Vehicle) contenders which we hope to cover in a future issue, were unavailable to be shipped across the Atlantic for just a two-day show, but the smaller MXT-MVA model and the pick-up truck it is based on were both on display.

The MXT-MVA is a 5/6-man armoured vehicle with four side doors to the cab and a full-width plus tailgate to the rear cargo loadbed. It appeared at DVD 2007 in its basic armour form, but an appliqué armour package can be added to increase ballistic protection to full combat zone levels. Unveiled at Aberdeen Proving Ground in the States last August, MXT-MVA is powered by a 300HP V8 diesel engine, allowing it good on-road speed and excellent off-road capability. This vehicle is tipped as a possible replacement for the US Army Hum-vee fleet, and could possibly meet some of the requirements of the stalled, but still pending, UK OUVS programme.



Main Image: Several variants are possible on the MXT-MVA chassis – note also remote weapon stations (International photo)

1: The rounded International front end gives MXT-MVA a comparatively benign appearance

2: MXT-MVA can carry up to six troops and has a large open loadbed

3: Over the sinusoidal (axle-twisters) at Millbrook, the off-road capability was easy to see

4: Commercial pick-up truck on which MXT-MVA is based – came is a proprietary digital product

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CHEETAH



Main Image: Powered by a 300hp Cummins engine, Cheetah made short work of the Millbrook incline

1: Demonstrator has a roof rack, but in-service vehicles would have a remote weapon station

2: Cheetah at speed – note the massive underbody clearance and V-shaped anti-mine hull

3: Mastiff, based on 6x6 Cougar, is Cheetah's larger brother in service with UK forces

4: Cheetah has two side doors plus a single rear door for troop access and egress

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over Cheetah, the latest model in their range.

Classed as a Medium Mine Protected Vehicle (MMPV) by the manufacturer, Cheetah is claimed to be in the same class as the RG-31 and is intended for light recon and forward command and control roles. In addition to its two-man crew, this light armoured vehicle can carry four to six troops, dependent on equipment carried. A remote weapon station can be mounted on the roof, though the vehicle which appeared at DVD did not feature one.

It is believed that the V-shaped monocoque hull is constructed of a composite armour and it has been confirmed that an appliqué armour package can be speedily attached when necessary. Power is supplied by a Cummins diesel engine and unladen weight is around seven tonnes in basic armour configuration.