

June 17th, 2008
Contact: Frank Schweitzer
Tel. +49 (0)631-3616 252
Email: f.schweitzer@gdels.de

General Dynamics European Land System present newly developed REB-ABLK bridge system for the first time at EUROSATORY 2008

PARIS - **General Dynamics European Land System (GDELS)** present during EUROSATORY 2008 the last member of a wide range of highly mobile bridge systems of his General Dynamics European Land System-Germany operation in Kaiserslautern/Germany with the REB_ABLK mounted on a PIRANHA III. REB-ABLK stands for Rapidly Emplaced Bridge-Adaptable Bridge Launching Kit, which emphasizes the two main features of this product – Mobility and Flexibility.

REB-ABLK on PIRANHA III

Originally developed for the U.S. Army's Stryker units the REBS Rapidly Emplaced Bridge System is transported on and launched from a power-independent Bridge Adaptor Pallet (BAP) which can be loaded on any PLS truck with a payload capacity larger than 10 tons. The BAP together with the bridge itself is C-130 air-transportable. REBS provides crossing capability for combat vehicles up to MLC50 for gaps up to 13 m (42' 7.8").



After intensive tests and field trials REBS received full material release and type classification by the U.S. Army in 2007 and has already been fielded to three operational units. Three more units will be equipped with REBS by the end of 2008.

To enhance the mission options and the flexibility of REBS the ABLK Adaptable Launching Kit was developed. Adaptable on wheeled and tracked fighting vehicles without the need to remove the weapon station or other equipment it enables the crew to launch the REB under armor protection.

REB-ABLK temporarily equips combat forces with their own gap-crossing capability. Carried on logistics trucks of the combat unit itself or provided by support units the ABLK can be adapted onto the armored fighting vehicle by its crew to react flexible to a change of mission right on the battlefield. Transported on a Bridge Adaptor Pallet and launched from the PLS truck in an assembly area or in a covered position close to the actual crossing site, REB is picked up by the ABLK-equipped armored fighting vehicle. The REB is then driven to the crossing site and launched over the obstacle in less than 2 minutes.

After the bridge has been deployed over the obstacle the ABLK can easily be removed from the armored fighting vehicle, which then can continue to be operated in its actual role. Pick-up of the bridge can be done by an ABLK-equipped armored fighting vehicle or a PLS truck with a REB Bridge Adaptor Pallet from either side of the gap.

The new REB-ABLK stands for reliability, mobility and flexibility in advanced bridging technology.



General Dynamics European Land Systems, headquartered in Vienna (Austria.) is a business unit of General Dynamics Corporation, and conducts its business through four European operating units located in Spain, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. With more than 3,250 highly skilled technical employees, GDELS companies design, manufacture and deliver Land Combat Systems to global customers, including wheeled, tracked and amphibious vehicles, armaments and munitions. More information about the company is available online at www.gdels.com.

General Dynamics, headquartered in Falls Church, Virginia, employs approximately 82,900 people worldwide and anticipates 2007 revenues of more than \$27 billion. More information about the company is available online at www.generaldynamics.com.