

Mortar fire control in the modern battlespace mix 36

BY RUPERT PENGELLEY

Rays of light: can shipborne laser weapons deliver? 44

BY RICHARD SCOTT

All guns blazing: gunships come back into fashion

BY THOMAS WITHINGTON







Cover picture

Chameleon-like invisibility packages are edging nearer to the battlefield as developers work on multispectral and active camouflage systems. This month's cover feature explores the art of stealth and camouflage evolving to hide from everimproving sensor arrays. (See page 62) shutterstock. 1400223

Online content in IDR March

For extra stories and images throughout the month, log on to *IDR's* website at idr.janes.com *Online content is only available to online subscribers*

- JLENS passes key milestone
- FAUN Trackway unveils Vehicle Recovery Mat
- Cairo shooting range set for WiFi control
- Piracy attacks reach record levels in 2010
- Ukraine works to enhance fighter radars
- T-Hawk set for India demonstration

INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE DIGEST

- IDF addresses supply concerns
- US strategy underlines loss of space supremacy

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT

- US Army ditches E-IBCT combat network system modernisation
- British Army adopts TiGR reporting system
- Desert Piranha multipurpose armoured vehicle breaks cover as family evolves

UPGRADE UPDATE

50

3 %

- BAE Systems offers upgrade for USMC's amphibious vehicles
- Super Hornet shows off upgrade roadmap

UNMANNED SYSTEMS

20

- X-47B demonstrator performs first weekly flight-test
- India completes Nishant trials

SPECIAL REPORTS

26 34

Critical care: beating the odds of survival in battle

Ukraine markets mobility upgrades for Russian rocket launchers

Going it alone: sensors and autonomy the key to subsea 'system of systems'

Blue-sky thinking: NATO takes first steps towards cloud computing

EQUIPMENT PROFILE

54

Nexter Systems boosts VBCI production to offer specialised export versions

TECHNOLOGY REPORT

100

Hidden agenda: camouflage systems take a leaf out of science fiction

INTERVIEW

1111

Dr Steven Walker Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology and Engineering, USAF