

accommodation time of the eyes, reduction of situational awareness and the chance of light leakage, which may give away the operator's position. To increase the performance of image intensifiers, Photonis created a power supply that enables automatic gain optimisation, which it says results in best-adapted screen brightness at all environmental light levels.

With an increased emphasis being placed on night vision goggles, not as stand-alone devices, but as part of an integrated soldier system, Hackler says Harris is experimenting with different materials to provide a system on the battlefield that is lighter in weight. "Night-vision devices are worn for extended periods of time, so size and weight is important on the battlefield," he explains.

"Reducing the weight drives everything that we're doing. We're looking to take significant weight off the goggle using smaller image intensification tubes and different mounting applications. We're trying to give the soldier a wider field of view at sub 500 grams; five years ago, systems weighed 700 grams.

In the UK, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, Dstl, recently concluded a two-year Delivering Dismounted Effect Programme (DDE) carried out on behalf of the UK Ministry of Defence. The programme, which involved 40 companies, looked at technologies for the weapon, helmet, torso and night-vision systems, using each element to develop an integrated soldier system.

"It [DDE] was about the whole kill chain incorporating everything that the soldier does," explains Giles Verwey, senior principal consultant at SEA, which was the prime contractor on the DDE project. With an overarching emphasis on "fightability," Verwey says DDE experimented with fusing thermal image overlays for hard-to-identify targets that require a positive ID. "We



Enhanced Night Vision Goggles



FUTURE FORCES FORUM International Platform
for Trends & Technologies
in Defence & Security

17 - 19 OCTOBER 2018

PRAGUE, Czech Republic

Main Events:

- Future Forces Exhibition
- World CBRN & Medical Congress
- Future Forces Individual Systems Congress
- Logistics Capability Conference
- Geospatial, Hydrometeorological and GNSS Conference
- Multi-domain Advanced Robotic Systems Conference
- Future of Cyber Conference
- Official expert working groups' sessions (NATO, EU)

www.future-forces-forum.org