

Neutralising Drones: A Complete Range of Solutions for Armoured Vehicles

As drones become an increasingly prevalent threat on operational theatres, John Cockerill Defense is fully mobilising its teams to deliver concrete solutions, drawing on a comprehensive range of weapon systems and innovative technologies.

At Eurosatory 2026, discover on our stand and those of our partners our dedicated responses to the self-protection of armoured vehicles.

The French MoD will present the Operational Adaptation Kit for Counter-UAV (KAO LAD), integrated on a T1 Hornet remote-controlled turret mounted on a 4x4 Serval armoured vehicle. This experimentation, conducted in close collaboration between John Cockerill Defense, the French Defense procurement agency (DGA) and the Army Technical Section (STAT), demonstrates the ability of a turret to integrate a radar system and a tailored fire control solution to detect and neutralise drones. Results can be seen directly on the French MoD stand.



Hornet Air Guard showcased at Eurosatory

On the John Cockerill Defense stand, an operational version of this turret, named Hornet Air Guard, will be on display with enhanced detection and radio frequency (RF) neutralisation capabilities, developed in partnership with MC2. Three Hornet Air Guard systems are also be exhibited on the stands of MBDA, Thales and AM General.

As the drone threat is not limited to troop transport vehicles, a new concept based on the Hornet S or T3 turrets, including those in service on the Jaguar reconnaissance vehicle, will be unveiled for the first time. The Hornet S Air Guard aims to provide 360° detection capability to medium and large-calibre turrets.



Hornet Air Guard showcased at Eurosatory

These various configurations integrate internally developed technology building blocks, including artificial intelligence solutions for automatic drone detection and tracking, as well as the adaptation of the CLWS turret armed with a 25 mm cannon for specialised counter-drone missions.

With this offering, John Cockerill Defense positions itself as a reference player in the field of comprehensive counter-drone solutions, designed to be easily integrated and deployed on armoured vehicles.

John Cockerill, enabler of opportunities

Driven since 1817 by the entrepreneurial spirit and thirst for innovation of its founder, the John Cockerill Group develops large-scale technological solutions to meet the needs of its time: facilitating access to low carbon energies, enabling sustainable industrial production, preserving natural resources, contributing to greener mobility, enhancing security and installing critical infrastructures.

Its offer to companies, States and communities consists of services and associated equipment for the sectors of energy, defence, industry, the environment, transports, and infrastructures.

With over 8200 employees, the John Cockerill Group achieved a turnover of € 1,649 billion in 2025 in 27 countries, on 5 continents. Following the acquisition of Arquus in July 2024, John Cockerill Defense aims for an annual turnover of 1 billion euros and a workforce of 2,000 professionals by 2026, with a global presence and major operational bases in Belgium, France, Italy, India, and Saudi Arabia.

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