

## **IMI unveils new multi-purpose tank round based on 2011 Israel Defense Award winning technologies**

Ramat Hasharon, Israel, March 27, 2012 - As 125mm Main Battle Tanks (MBTs) such as the T-72, T-80 and T-90 are in widespread use by armies worldwide and as the battlefield is becoming more and more asymmetric - there is a great demand for advanced 125mm tank ammunition, and in particular, Multi-Purpose (MP) ammunition. As one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of tank ammunition, Israel Military Industries Ltd. (IMI), has implemented its advanced technologies and expertise in developing and producing 105mm, 120mm and 125mm tank rounds for Eastern smoothbore tank guns.

Recently, IMI developed a new 125mm HE-MP-T (High-Explosive Multi-Purpose Tracer) tank round, dubbed **M710**. The **M710** is the latest of IMI's family of MP tank ammunition, first introduced as the **M117/1** for 105mm rifled guns of the M-60 and Merkava Mk 1 & 2 tanks. The combat proven **M329** was later developed for the modern 120mm smoothbore gun used with current Merkava Mk 3 & Mk 4 and is also compatible with NATO 120mm smoothbore tank guns. An additional MP round, the **M339**, has been developed primarily for western tanks using NATO 120mm smoothbore guns, such as the M1A1, Ariete, Leopard 2 and more.

The **M710** provides an ultimate solution for fighting in urban scenarios, as it is designed to engage various targets at extended ranges, including bunkers, vehicles and fortifications, as well as

Anti-Tank (AT) squads and infantry in the open, in a foxhole or behind a corner.

Similar to the **M339**, **M710** uses an electronic fuzing system and has three different modes of operation: PDD (Point Detonation Delayed), PD (Point Detonation/ Super Quick) and Air Burst. The tank's Fire Control System (FCS) feeds the target information and the programmable electronic fuze is set by wireless data link while the round is in the chamber.

In PDD mode, the **M710** is designed to penetrate and explode inside targets, such as double reinforced concrete walls; bunkers field fortifications or Light Armored Vehicles (LAVs). In PD (Super Quick) mode the round breaches a hole in double reinforced concrete walls, creating a passageway for infantry soldiers. The Air Burst mode is used for effectively engaging AT or infantry squads, operating in the open or hiding behind defilade and walls.

IMI's MP capabilities have been awarded recognition as its **M329** tank round has recently received the 2011 ISRAEL DEFENSE AWARD for its distinctive contribution to the defense of Israel.

Another newly developed tank round is the 125mm **MK-2** Armor Piercing, fin Stabilized, Discarding Sabot-Tracer (APFSDS-T) - a second-generation, high-velocity, Kinetic Energy (KE) armor defeating round. The **MK-2** incorporates modern technologies, which enable excellent accuracy at all combat ranges, low barrel wear and greater armor penetration capability. The round contains a tungsten-based alloy penetrator and is also type classified for 125mm smoothbore tank guns.

The new 125mm tank rounds will be showcased at IMI's display at the DEFEXPO India 2012, Land, Naval & Internal Security Systems Exhibition, held March 29 - 1 April, 2012 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. IMI is located at Stand 11.10-1 in the Israeli Pavilion.



**M710 Tank Round**



**MK-2 Tank Round**