



Protective effect even against Kalashnikovs: ULBRICHTS Protection delivers innovative titanium helmets to police in North Rhine-Westphalia

Schwanenstadt (Austria) / Cologne, 05.10.2018 – ULBRICHTS Protection is supplying the police in the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) with ballistic titanium helmets. The state government in NRW's capital Dusseldorf wanted to ensure that the emergency services enjoyed the highest level of security and made a choice for the helmet which offers the maximum ballistic protection on the market.

Helmet model HOPLIT F 1100 H meets that criterion. It is a titanium-aramid helmet which, in combination with the modular FORTIS shield, provides effective protection against gunfire from a Kalashnikov assault rifle. This corresponds to the test level VPAM 6 (VPAM = Vereinigung der Prüfstellen für angriffshemmende Materialien und Konstruktionen / Association of Test Centres for Impact-Resistant Materials and Structures), which is recognised across Europe. "Achieving effective protection against Kalashnikov gunfire, together with the requirement for the lowest possible weight, has presented us with enormous challenges," explains Georg Scharpenack, Managing Director of ULBRICHTS Protection. "The combination of titanium and aramid, combined with the development of an innovative face shield, has resulted in a major technological leap forward in protecting police officers."

Today sees the first examples of high-tech head protection handed over in Cologne. The headgear is also equipped with a splinter protection visor. The equipment now gives patrol officers the highest and most effective level of head protection currently available. With a total weight of around 3.3 kilograms – including the shield, visor and adapter – the helmet is fully operational.

"We are very pleased that as the most populous German federal state, NRW has now also selected our ballistic titanium helmets," said Georg Scharpenack. "As a rule, patrol officers are first to arrive at incidents in their role as first responders. By choosing this helmet, NRW is setting new standards in terms of protection levels and functionality in order to protect those who are responsible for our safety."

Background: Effective protection against bullet fire

Ballistic helmets for police officers provide effective protection against bullet fire if they stop the projectile reliably and at the same time prevent a fatal trauma to the helmet wearer. Such a trauma can be caused by the energy transmitted by the impact of the bullet. Experts have defined a residual energy value of 25 joules and set down this value in guidelines (e.g. VPAM HVN 2009). This value must not be exceeded, otherwise irreversible or fatal head injuries can occur. The HOPLIT F 1100 H titanium-aramid helmet (VPAM 4+), in combination with the VPAM-6 FORTIS face shield, is capable of reducing the projectile energy of a bullet fired from a Kalashnikov (7.62 x 39 iron core) of more than 2,000 joules at a speed of around 720 metres per second to well below 25 joules. A frontal head shot is thus survivable.



About ULBRICHTS Protection

ULBRICHTS Protection in Schwanenstadt (Austria), a division of ULBRICHTS Witwe GmbH, manufactures ballistic helmets made of titanium and titanium aramid (hybrid). The company's international clientele includes special police forces, police units and military personnel. The company is one of the pioneers in the field of ballistic head protection and regularly sets new technical standards in terms of protection, comfort and design. For more information, visit <http://www.ulbrichts.com/protection>.

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