

Press Release

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Bucher Automotive: Venezuelan Ministry of Defence purchases DURO all-terrain vehicles

In December 2000, the Venezuelan Ministry of Defence ordered 150 STEYR SSF-BUCHER-DURO all-terrain vehicles for its National Guard (Guardia Nacional) for delivery in middle of 2001. The value of the contract, including maintenance services, spare parts and supplementary services, is around CHF 30 million.

The vehicle itself is the modified DURO 4x4 personnel carrier, of which the Swiss Army has already ordered 3000 units. High mobility in conjunction with ease of operation and high operational reliability, high transport capacity and the favourable lifetime costs were decisive factors in arriving at the decision to purchase.

Steyr-Daimler-Puch Spezialfahrzeug AG & Co KG in Vienna, Austria and Bucher-Guyer AG Geländefahrzeuge in Niederweningen, Switzerland, who is the original manufacturer of the DURO vehicle, formed an Austrian-Swiss consortium at the start of 2000 with the aim, to offer DURO vehicles in selected markets, taking advantage of the existing distribution channels.

This is the first major contract to result from this co-operation, and further contracts are being negotiated. Joint development projects and co-operation in the area of vehicle assembly are further future targets under this collaboration.