



"Dyneema is ...used in the armor systems of the Patria and Hagglunds armored personnel carriers and vehicles in Israel."

Koninklijke DSM N.V.

Canada Pension Plan Investments

2012 shares = \$46 million
(Direct & indirect investments)

2011 shares = \$7 million
(Direct investments only)

Royal DSM is a diversified Dutch firm with assets of \$14.5 billion (2010). Making everything from food, drugs and medical devices, to auto parts, electronics and alternative energy technology, DSM also brags about making "life protection" equipment. This turns out to refer to armour that protects weapons-wielding soldiers and combat vehicles.

The armour in question is DSM's "Dyneema." This polyethylene product, "15 times stronger than quality steel," is "the world's strongest fiber." It is used in military "vests, inserts, helmets, shields and vehicle armor" including "Stryker" combat vehicles. Made in London, Ontario, by General Dynamics Land Systems-Canada, "Strykers" are "the workhorse ...in the fight against terrorism," particularly the Iraq and Afghan wars.

The Israel Defense Force (IDF) has several "Strykers" for evaluation and, in 2004, the *Jerusalem Post* said it would buy hundreds more. Although this plan was later "put on hold," it was resurrected in 2007. An image on the *Militaryphotos.net* website shows a "Stryker in service with the IDF paratroop brigade in the [Occupied] Territories (early 2006)."

The use of DSM armour in other Israeli army vehicles was reported by the Dutch Campaign Against the Arms Trade in 2009 which said: "DSM exports armour that ends up in armoured personnel carriers and vehicles for the

IDF." The group's coordinator, Wendela de Vries, says DSM does "not export from Holland to Israel directly, as far as we know," because "military exports from the Netherlands to Israel are limited by human rights considerations." A now-defunct DSM webpage, accessed by the group in 2006, said "Dyneema is also used in the armor systems of the Patria and Hagglunds armored personnel carriers and vehicles in Israel."

The "Internet Archive" has 30 "snapshots" of DSM's website from between 2003 and 2009. Each version contains the (now-missing) reference to DSM armour in Israel's Patria and Hagglunds' battle vehicles. Finland's Patria is largely owned (73.2%) by the Finnish government, while EADS holds the remaining shares. EADS is partly owned (22.46%) by Daimler. (See previous issue, pp.21-22.) Sweden's Hagglunds is now owned by the UK's BAE Systems. (See previous issue, pp.8-9.)

The IDF's arsenal vehicles also includes the Hagglunds-made Bandvagn 206, a tracked, all-terrain, troop carrier. This may be the IDF vehicle that DSM said used Dyneema armour.

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"Stryker" combat vehicles – made in London, Ontario – use DSM's "Dyneema" armour. Israel has used the "Stryker" in the occupied territories.



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