



1st edition of the International Mountain Troops Summit (SITM)

*The international mountain troops community will convene on 12 and 13 February 2025
for the first ever International Mountain Troops Summit (SITM)*

Paris, 7th October 2024 – The international mountain troops community will join up at the exhibition centre Alpeexpo in Grenoble, France, on 12 and 13 February 2025 for the first International Mountain Troops Summit (SITM in French). This large-scale exhibition organised by Coges Events in partnership with the French Army's 27th Mountain Infantry Brigade ("27e BIM") will bring together decision makers, military experts, industrial manufacturers and top level government representatives.

The aim of SITM 2025 is to assemble the major figures in the public and private sectors that work in mountainous environments and extreme cold weather zones. Over the space of two days, participants will have the chance to examine the latest technical and technological breakthroughs, share best practices with regard to training, and explore opportunities for international cooperation. This event will also offer an unparalleled setting in which to discuss the strategic and operational challenges faces by armed forces in extreme environments marked by complex logistics, restricted mobility, difficult communications, and combatant protection and health.

A strategic event to reach the pinnacle of operational efficiency

In response to rapidly evolving geopolitical and climate dynamics, the International Mountain Troops Summit seeks to anticipate the future needs of mountain troops. SITM will bring together more than 1,000 participants, including leading manufacturers, innovative start-ups, civilian and military experts, and academic researchers. The goal is to encourage and promote in-depth dialogue around the technologies and strategies that will enable armed forces to tackle the challenges of the future, while also protecting soldiers from extreme conditions.

A programme in support of defence in extreme environments

The discussions held at SITM will address key strategic themes, aiming to prepare armed forces to meet the challenges of operation on mountainous terrain and in extreme cold weather zones. Among the themes tackled are:

- **Adapting to climate change:** The impact of climate change on conditions in mountainous and freezing environments, such as more frequent snowstorms and faster melting glaciers, will be discussed at length. These issues require armed forces to redefine their operational and preparedness strategies.
- **Suitable technologies and equipment:** Successful military operations on rugged terrain are dependent upon the use of advanced technology and the appropriate equipment. Among the innovations unveiled at the show will be all-terrain vehicles, reconnaissance UAVs and communications systems capable of functioning in inhospitable environments.

- **Logistics management and supplies:** Logistics constitute a major challenge in mountainous and often isolated areas. Solutions to optimise the supply of equipment and provisions will lie at the heart of the discussions.
- **Specialised training:** Mastering the skills specific to mountain combat, such as climbing, hostile environment survival, and topographically driven tactics, will be among the top subjects at the summit. Specialist training is essential in preparing soldiers for these demanding environments.
- **Adapting to asymmetrical threats:** In addition to conventional challenges thrown down by regular armed forces, troops must also be prepared to deal with asymmetrical threats such as terrorism, guerilla warfare, and sabotage on hilly terrain.
- **International cooperation:** As many mountainous regions are also borders, cooperation between nations is essential to provide security and stability in these zones. SITM will be a go-to venue for meetings and dialogue to reinforce this cooperation.

Practical information:

The International Mountain Troops Summit will take place on 12 and 13 February 2025 at Alpexpo, Grenoble (France). For further information on the detailed programme and how to sign up to attend, visit the event's official website at <https://sitm-summit.com/en/>.

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About SITM

The International Mountain Troops Summit is organised by COGES Events, an organiser of international events in the defence and security sector, in partnership with the French Army's 27th Mountain Infantry Brigade (27e BIM). COGES EVENTS also organises Eurosatory, the global event for defence and security, and Expodefensa, the international defence and security exhibition for Latin America.

About 27e BIM

The French Army's emergency intervention brigade, the 27th mountain infantry brigade (27e BIM) is part of the 1st division. Its standout feature is that it can conduct all its missions in a hilly and/or mountainous setting, in extreme climate conditions.

The "mountain specificity" is defined as the set of moral, physical, technical and tactical abilities, whether individual or collective, that enable forces to live, move around and engage in combat in an environment featuring high altitude or rugged terrain, in conditions of extreme cold or heat.

The 27th Mountain Brigade has taken part in all of the French army's major operations over the past 30 years.