



## International Mountain Troops Summit

### A highly successful first edition

**Paris – 19 February 2025** - The first International Mountain Troops Summit drew to a close on 13 February 2025 in Grenoble, France.

With the participation of more than 1,200 professionals from 28 countries, including 40 high authorities in defence, homeland and civil security, 22 official delegations and 86 exhibitors from all over the world, this first edition of SITM shone a light on the **operational challenges of forces engaged in mountainous and freezing environments** which require them to review their modes of action, equipment and resilience.

#### **2 days of meetings at the heart of strategic issues and best practice sharing**

- **Adaptation to extreme environments:** discussions on logistics at altitude, transport in difficult conditions, equipment to cope with freezing weather and the incorporation of new technology.
- **Tactical and strategic issues:** dialogue on adapting to asymmetrical threats, the optimisation of operational preparation and international cooperation to reinforce the interoperability of specialist units.
- **Technological innovation:** presentation of the latest developments in the area of equipment, mobility and survival in hostile environments.

#### **A showcase event for manufacturers in direct contact with armed forces**

SITM offered the key stakeholders in the sector – manufacturers and institutional bodies – the opportunity to present their innovative equipment and supplies and subject their solutions to the scrutiny of users in the armed forces who operate all over the world, in the aim of receiving experience-based feedback from qualified professionals.

*“Welcoming an outstanding visitor audience in terms of both quantity and quality in the heart of the Alps, made up of French high civil and military authorities and official delegations; featuring talks and workshops held before large audiences across both days, and a cutting-edge industrial and technological Defence offering covering the entire capability spectrum that highlighted the vitality of the economic fabric of the Auvergne-Rhone Alpes region, this event generated highly productive contacts at all levels. All of this substantiates the validity of a first international summit falling within a more extended awareness of the new global geopolitical landscape and establishes SITM as a global*

*reference in the field of mountain combat, in hot, cold and freezing climates,”* commented General (Ret’d) Charles Beaudouin, CEO of COGES EVENTS.

According to General Lionel Catar, Commander of the 27<sup>th</sup> Mountain Infantry Brigade, *“The first edition of SITM was a productive gathering, both in terms of discussions with manufacturers and in the close cooperation that we continue to maintain with our many international allies and partners. This summit is a genuine added value for the 27<sup>th</sup> Mountain Infantry Brigade, all specialist Troops, and more globally armed forces, to discuss and explore future operational engagements in these quite specific environments. We are now actively preparing the second edition!”*

### **Next meeting**

The next edition of the International Mountain Troops Summit will be held on 10 and 11 February 2027, thus confirming its role as a reference event for the Defence and Security community.

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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 27<sup>th</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup> mountain infantry brigade (27e BIM) is part of the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

### **About GICAT**

The French Land Defence and Security Industry Association (GICAT), founded in 1978, has more than 480 members. Ranging from start-ups to large corporations, these businesses cover a broad spectrum of industrial, research, service and advisory activities for the benefit of military and civil components in France and worldwide.

GICAT represents the interests of its members, assisting them in raising their profile at home and abroad, and organises dialogue between the sector’s users, institutional bodies and industrial companies. It achieves this through the international tradeshows Eurosatory in France and Expodefensa in Colombia, and around ten collective France pavilions at foreign defence and/or security tradeshows, all organised by its subsidiary COGES Events. More information at [gicat.com](http://gicat.com).