



Uzbekistan's Defense Industry

OE Watch Commentary: The government of Uzbekistan has rarely publicized upgrades to weapons and equipment in its armed forces over the years. The accompanying excerpted articles report on a couple of recent developments in the Uzbek armed forces and they offer a look at a couple of capabilities in the country's defense industry and the partnerships the Uzbek government established to develop this.

The first article from *Kun.uz*, a news website in Uzbekistan, reports how the government has been working “with one of the country's leading enterprises in the production of special equipment” and that they are producing “the Tarlon armored vehicle.” The article does not mention it, but the Tarlon was reportedly produced as part of an agreement with the Turkish company Nurol Makina. The article also mentions how the Tarlon could fulfill several functions in the Uzbek ground forces.

The second article from *Kun.uz* reports how the ‘refitting and modernization of the T-64 tank has been carried out at the state factory of the defense ministry.’ The article notes the upgrades to the Uzbek T-64s, including how “the 5TDF engine was replaced by a V-84,” how the “tank's armor was reinforced,” and that “modern radios produced in Uzbekistan under the “Hytera” brand were installed.” Hytera is a Chinese company that produces various radio and telecommunications equipment. Not much information has previously been available on the production and modernization capabilities of Uzbekistan's defense industry, but the partnerships with Turkish and Chinese companies show a couple of areas where it is taking shape. **End OE Watch Commentary (Stein)**



T-64BVK on display at International military Forum Army-2016, Park Patriot, Kubinka.
Source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:T-64BVK_Army-2016.jpg, CC-BY-VA-4.0

“The Tarlon is designed to transport personnel, perform special tasks in high-risk zones, provide fire support for mobile groups and checkpoints, combat patrols, security for convoys, and provide crews protection from bullets and explosions”

Source: “Госкомоборонпром разрабатывает легкобронированный автомобиль Tarlon (The State Committee for Defense Production in Uzbekistan is developing the light armored vehicle Tarlon),” *Kun.uz*, July 22, 2020. <https://kun.uz/ru/news/2020/07/22/goskomoboronprom-razrabatyvayet-legkobronirovannyi-avtomobil-tarlon>

The State Committee of Uzbekistan for Defense Production, together with one of the country's leading enterprises in the production of special equipment, is producing the prototype of the Tarlon armored vehicle...

The Tarlon is designed to transport personnel, perform special tasks in high-risk zones, provide fire support for mobile groups and checkpoints, combat patrols, security for convoys, and provide crews protection from bullets and explosions...

Source: “В Узбекистане начали модернизацию танков Т-64 (The modernization of the T-64 tank has started in Uzbekistan),” *Kun.uz*, July 23, 2020. <https://kun.uz/ru/news/2020/07/23/v-uzbekistane-nachali-modernizatsiyu-tankov-t-64>

A refitting and modernization of the T-64 tank has been carried out at the state factory of the defense ministry. According to the press service of the State Committee of the Defense Industry, the 5TDF engine was replaced by a V-84 and as a result, increased the horsepower by 140... Additionally, the tank's armor was reinforced and modern radios produced in Uzbekistan under the “Hytera” brand were installed.

...the work is being carried out to modernize the existing T-64 tanks in the defense ministry to the level of the T-64MV...