



# China Unveils World's Fastest Amphibious Assault Vehicle

**OE Watch Commentary:** China claims to have built the world's fastest amphibious assault vehicle. The accompanying article discusses a television video report during which the vehicle-- the VN18-- was revealed, showing it sailing at sea. The article notes that the VN18 was produced by China's weapons maker, the Norinco Group, and claims that it can reach speeds up to 30 kilometers per hour (19 mph). It reportedly can reach a maximum ground speed of 65 kilometers per hour (40 mph), carrying a cannon, a machine gun, and 14 people onboard. It is made using light-weight aluminum alloys and has an engine that produces 1,600 horsepower.

China has made indigenous innovation a top priority and national policy. The country's innovation tempo has clearly picked up over the past decade. As the article states, "the VN18 is another example of China's innovative power." **End OE Watch Commentary (Hurst)**

**Source:** "Chinese Firm Builds 'Fastest' Amphibious Assault Vehicle," *China Global Television Network (CGTN)*, 20 November 2017. [http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-11/20/content\\_7833563.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-11/20/content_7833563.htm)

*China's weapons maker, Norinco Group, said its VN18 is the world fastest amphibious assault vehicle...The report showed videos of the VN18 sailing at sea, saying that it can sail at a speed up to 30 km/h, which is the fastest of its kind in the world.*

*"On the waters, it's like a car running at 120 km/h on a highway," said Tan Yongyao, manager of R&D at Norinco.*

*The vehicle's maximum ground speed is 65 km/h, with a cannon, a machine gun and 14 people on board, according to the report.*

*Aluminum alloys are employed to build the vehicle body. The metal is lightweight compared to steel.*

*...Commentators said in the report that the VN18 is another example of China's innovative power.*

**"China's weapons maker, Norinco Group, said its VN18 is the world's fastest amphibious assault vehicle..."**



Chinese ZBD-05, a precursor to the VN-18, during Naval landing operation held within the Russian-Chinese exercise Naval Interaction-2015.

Source: Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation, <http://eng.mil.ru/en/multimedia/photo/gallery.htm?id=24299@cmsPhotoGallery>, CC 4.0.