**Press Release May 2025**

**First Export of KARGU UAV with Armour-Piercing Warhead**

*STM has completed its first export of KARGU UAVs equipped with armour-piercing warheads. More than 10 countries are making active use of KARGU, Combat Proven Rotary Wing Loitering Munition System with anti-personnel warheads.*

STM, a leading company in the Turkish defence sector, has passed a new milestone in its international sales of modern tactical mini UAV systems.

STM develops modern and rapid solutions for the evolving battlefield. Last year, STM succeeded in integrating an armour-piercing warhead into KARGU, Türkiye’s first national attack UAV, developed using national capabilities, enhancing its contributions to the fight against terrorism. Following a period of intense development, the armour-piercing KARGU was put through its paces on the test field and hit its targets with pinpoint accuracy.

Its success on the test field attracted considerable attention and paved the way for the signing of the first export contract for the armour-piercing version of the KARGU system, with deliveries planned for later this year.

**Güleryüz: Considerable International Interest in KARGU with Armour-Piercing Warhead**

Özgür Güleryüz, General Manager of STM, stated that KARGU is undergoing constant development to keep up with changes in the battlefield, and can now be supplied with different payload options.

“Having been selected to date by more than 10 countries on three different continents seeking UAVs with anti-personnel warheads, KARGU will now be in the service of the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) as well as a friendly and allied nation in its armour-piercing form with the signing of this first international sales contract. The selection of the armor-piercing KARGU by a country that has previously used the anti-personnel warhead version actively once again demonstrates the product’s reliability and effective performance. There has been considerable interest in the armour-piercing version of KARGU various countries on different continents, and we are in discussions with a number of international military delegations. We hope to share news of further exports in the upcoming period”, Güleryüz said.

**UAV of Choice in More than 10 Countries on Three Continents**

The KARGU, Combat Proven Rotary Wing Loitering Munition System, known also as the “Kamikaze UAV”, has been developed by STM by using national capabilities. Since entering the TAF inventory in 2018, KARGU has been employed effectively in counter-terrorism, cross-border and other special operations by various Turkish security elements. After attracting attention in the international arena, KARGU achieved its first export success in 2021, and by 2024 it had been exported to more than 10 countries on three different continents.

**Different Ammunition Options**

Military personnel in the field will be able to quickly remove the anti-personnel ammunition warhead from KARGU and replace it with an armour-piercing warhead when required in the battlefield. KARGU’s efficacy against individual and grouped hostile elements with its anti-personnel ammunition warhead has long been known, and it can now be deployed against mobile and stationary land-based targets, durable structures and armoured land vehicles with its armour-piercing warhead.

**Low Radar Cross Section**

KARGU can be easily carried by a single soldier and launched against its target in just 1 minute, remaining undetected due to its low radar cross-sectional area. The KARGU Attack UAV benefits from a significant surprise effect and operational superiority due to its artificial intelligence and image processing capabilities, silence and its ability to deploy its explosive payload directly on target. The KARGU system, which comprises an Attack Drone Platform and the Mobile Ground Control Station, can perform effective operations day and night with its advanced electro-optical and infrared cameras. The UAV can stay airborne for more than 30 minutes and has a range of 10 kilometres. It has mission-abort, return-to-home and self-destruct functions, and operates with high-performance navigation and control algorithms. KARGU is integrated with technologies allowing it to operate in swarm configurations and independently of GPS with the KERKES Project.

**Man-in-the-Loop Principle**

KARGU’s mission computer facilitates fully automatic navigation, allowing KARGU to be deployed for the detection and neutralisation of threats in high-risk/high-threat areas, alleviating the need to deploy human elements. Operating completely under the control of the operator in line with the “Man-in-the-Loop” principle, KARGU provides reconnaissance, surveillance and intelligence to the user, who can opt to make use of its precision-strike capabilities after detecting and confirming the target location in high-risk, complex conflict zones.

**The Armour-piercing KARGU Video can be downloaded at:** [**https://we.tl/t-cQ7CoqRAfk**](https://we.tl/t-cQ7CoqRAfk)

**About STM**

STM has been serving the Turkish defence sector for the last 34 years in such areas as engineering, technology development and consultancy services, operating in fields that are critical for Türkiye and its allies. It applies its advanced capabilities and technologies to a broad range of strategic fields, ranging from military naval platforms to tactical mini UAV systems, from command and control systems to cybersecurity, and from big data analytics to artificial intelligence applications.