

# A True Test of Grit

by Julian Nettlefold, Editor, BATTLESPACE

DVD is quickly establishing itself as Europe's primary Military Motor Show. The excellent Millbrook facilities, offering visitors a real drive experience at speed and cross-country is unique to any other venue throughout the world.

## PROWLER

On the Quad bike course, Amos Deacon's All Terrain Vehicle Corporation unveiled two new Light Tactical Wheeled Vehicles, the Prowler ITV (Internally Transportable Vehicle) and the Prowler II Side-by-Side Tactical Assault Platform. The Editor had a wonderful ride with the second variant across the rough road course. In terms of pure drivability and flexibility were the new Pinzgauer 6x6 launched during DVD and the All Terrain Corporation's Prowler quad bike, already in service with the US Armed Forces and being trialed by the DPA for a UK requirement.

Amos Deacon indicates that ATV Corporation has recently sold four Prowlers to the Air Force 621 st Air Mobility Operations Group (AMOG), located at McGuire AFB. Moreover, as these pages go to press, Air Mobility Command acquisition representatives at Travis Air Force Base have just released a "request for quote" for another small quantity of Prowler RTVs.

The 8 April 2004 RFQ called for four Rugged Terrain Vehicles - "Special operations light tactical vehicle" in olive drab color. Specifications for the "RTV-PWLR-02-OD" call for each vehicle package to consist of: a fully automatic, four-wheel drive platform with standard automatic controls, sealed rack & pinion steering, independent wishbone suspension, powered by a 660CC 4-stroke, liquid cooled engine, aluminum rims, run flat tires; a 3000 lb. winch; fully adjustable reservoir shock absorbers; padded roll cage; front cargo rack; and 5-point operator safety harness.

In subsequent testing conducted at the Mercury Test Site in Nevada, members of the Group Support Company, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) conducted an operational assessment of four Prowler RTVs.

It hasn't just been Army special operators who have been conducting Prowler testing. Another recent test and evaluation report reflects the experiences of representatives from Naval Special Warfare Group - 1 (NSWG-1) who tested the Prowler late last year at Niland, California. Acknowledging time limitations during testing, the unclassified test report notes that *"The Prowler was put through 4 parts of our Advanced HMMWV course with impressive results."*

BATTLESPACE nominated the Pinzgauer XM and Amos Deacon's Prowler as the stars of DVD 04.

