



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BMT refines Caimen-200 design through further R&D**

### ***Changes reinforce and refine revolutionary landing craft design***

BMT Defence Services Ltd, a subsidiary of BMT Group Ltd, has enhanced the design of its innovative Caimen-200 fast Landing Craft Tank (LCT) by improving its performance and increasing its detail, reliability, flexibility and ease of manufacture.

Caimen-200 is capable of achieving a transit speed of more than 16 knots fully laden with up to three Main Battle Tanks (MBT), this is virtually twice as fast as traditional fully flat bottomed LCT alternatives. The Caimen-200 therefore enables more weight and firepower of amphibious forces to be deployed in a shorter time and thereby greatly reducing the vulnerability to enemy fire. This results in greater overall effectiveness of deployed military resources.

The Caimen-200 employs a unique 'active bow ramp' which utilises electro hydraulic rams to force the ramp into the beach, greatly minimising vessel pitch and roll. As part of the enhanced design activity BMT's naval architects have examined in greater detail the forces experienced by Caimen-200's active bow ramp under various loading conditions and states of tide. This work has included collaborating with main battle tank operators to explore how they employ LCTs and how this may affect the performance of the Caimen-200. Additional loading information has also been used to refine the hydraulic system that powers the active ramp.

Other development activities have included assessing alternative power and propulsion systems. A Caimen-200e variant, for example, will offer a reduced top speed in order to reduce purchase cost and through-life fuel costs.

Nick Noel-Johnson, Principal Naval Architect at BMT Defence Services and Caimen-200 Project Manager, says: “We wanted to develop the design’s maturity, mainly to enhance Caimen-200 itself but also to enable certain technologies included within its design.

“In the process of refining Caimen-200 we have overcome a number of new challenges. We’ve done this through teamwork, which is firmly embedded in BMT’s culture, and the application of technical excellence.”

Caimen-200 can be customised according to precise organisational and operational requirements. Clients can choose specifications and options in areas such as: shipbuilder and suppliers; vessel size; accommodation and facilities for crew and embarked troops; propulsion, power and exhaust systems; weapons systems; and communication equipment.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About Caimen-200**

Caimen-200 is the latest design produced applying the BMT InSpira<sup>®</sup> rapid, multi-disciplinary project team approach to creating innovative, highly capable - and often transformational - designs that are also robust and practical.

### **Caimen-200 offers:**

- **16+ knot speed** from its sleek hull form – almost twice as fast as traditional, fully flat-bottomed LCTs – making amphibious assaults much faster, less vulnerable to enemy fire and far more effective overall
- **beached stability** from its active bow ramp (UK patent applied for) – here electro-hydraulic rams force the ramp into the beach, minimising vessel pitch and roll
- **a heavy payload capacity** of up to 200 tonnes, ensuring strong logistical flows
- **low build and through-life costs**, partly through the use of commercial and military off-the-shelf equipment.

### ***BMT Group Ltd***

BMT is an international design, engineering and risk management consultancy, working principally in the defence, energy and environment, marine risk and insurance, maritime transport and ports and logistics sectors.

BMT invests significantly in research. Its customers are served through a network of international subsidiary companies. The group's assets are held in beneficial ownership for its staff.

Website – [www.bmt.org](http://www.bmt.org)

***BMT Defence Services Ltd***

BMT Defence Services is the leading independent centre of naval design excellence and through-life support in Europe, with expertise in platform design for surface warships, submarines and auxiliaries. A wide range of government and industry customers engaged in the development of technically complex, highly integrated systems rely on BMT Defence Services for its systems engineering and information systems expertise.

The company is based in Bath and Weymouth in the UK. It employs over 200 naval architects, marine engineers, engineering consultants and support staff.  
Website – [www.bmtdsl.co.uk](http://www.bmtdsl.co.uk)

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