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## **An ambulance for conflict zones : the PVP HD Stretch**

Panhard is developing a version of the PVP HD to meet an essential operational requirement in conflict zones: picking up and transporting injured personnel in an armoured vehicle. The PVP HD Stretch carries essential first-aid equipment for the lightly and more seriously injured. A coherent and perfectly adequate answer to this requirement has been found thanks to the robust and powerful characteristics of the PVP HD.

This vehicle inherits the principal characteristics of the PVP family: a powerful engine (190 Hp), large internal volume and good ballistic protection. It has been designed to maximise space for the three-member team and notably to allow room for the injured to be treated inside the vehicle. Thanks to the chassis design, the internal volume is comparable to that of a unibody vehicle: it has an internal volume of 6.5m<sup>3</sup>. The vehicle body has been lengthened by 300mm so that two NATO stretchers can be carried aboard.

The PVP HD Stretch has a payload of 2 tonnes. It also has a complete medical kit to provide care for those suffering from shock and supply first-aid. The injured can be transported lying down on two stretchers which are attached to rails on one side of the vehicle. The lower stretcher can be inclined for those suffering from lung injuries.

One of the strengths of this family of vehicles is its compliance with NATO 4569 Stanag level 3 protection. Tests reproducing the effect of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) have shown that the PVPs are very well protected. Likewise, the underneath of the vehicle has been designed to minimise the effects of a mine, in particular by avoiding blast traps. In addition, the floor is anti-mine protected level 2a.

The PVP family is growing, now joined by this new version which is of particular interest to security and peace maintaining forces.

***Panhard General Defense:** Panhard General Defense has been designing and producing armoured vehicles for nearly a century, notably the Light Armoured Vehicle (LAV), 2300 of which are currently in service in 16 countries, and the PVP (small protected vehicle), with over 930 units ordered by the French Army. In 2009, Panhard made 90 million euros in turnover.*

*For more information, visit: [www.panhard.fr](http://www.panhard.fr)*

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