

# ARCHIVED REPORT

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## Military Sidearms (International)

### Outlook

- The established European players and designs continue to dominate the international market
- IWI and Taurus are positioned to become real players in the international market
- We expect production of military-pattern pistols and revolvers from all non-U.S. and non-European sources to average 95,500 weapons annually

### Orientation

**Description.** Pistols (semi-automatic and automatic) and service revolvers for military use.

**Sponsor.** The respective contractors develop, produce, and market various pistol and revolver designs.

**Licensees.** Several non-U.S. and non-European contractors produce various European and U.S. small arms designs, with or without license.

**Status.** Development through serial production.

**Total Produced.** Through 2023, we estimate the various non-U.S. and non-European contractors

produced at least 4.13 million military-pattern pistols and revolvers since 1980 inclusive.

**Application.** Sidearms provide close-range self-defense for personnel who do not normally carry a shoulder weapon (rifle, battle carbine, submachine gun, or shotgun). Sidearms also serve as secondary weapons for some personnel, supplementing the primary shoulder weapons.

**Price Range.** In 2024 U.S. dollars, non-U.S. and non-European military-pattern sidearms carry unit prices ranging from \$64 to \$1,219, depending on the sales terms.

### Contractors

#### Prime

<b>China North Industries Corp (NORINCO)</b>	<a href="http://www.norinco.cn">http://www.norinco.cn</a> , 12A Guang An Men Nan Jie, PO Box 100053, Beijing, China, Tel: + 86 10 6352 9988, Fax: + 86 10 6354 0398, Email: <a href="mailto:norinco@norinco.cn">norinco@norinco.cn</a> , Prime
<b>Denel SOC Ltd</b>	<a href="http://www.denel.co.za">http://www.denel.co.za</a> , Nellmapius Dr, Irene, South Africa, Tel: + 27 12 671 2700, Fax: + 27 12 671 2751, Email: <a href="mailto:marketing@denel.co.za">marketing@denel.co.za</a> , Prime
<b>Fabrica Militar Fray Luis Beltran</b>	Ruta 11 km 323, Fray Luis Beltran, Santa Fe, Argentina, Tel: + 54 341 4916238, Fax: + 54 341 4916608, Email: <a href="mailto:info@fmflb.com.ar">info@fmflb.com.ar</a> , Prime
<b>Forjas Taurus SA</b>	<a href="http://www.taurusarmas.com.br/">http://www.taurusarmas.com.br/</a> , Av do Forte 511, Porto Alegre, Brazil, Tel: + 55 51 3021 3000, Email: <a href="mailto:marketing@taurus.com.br">marketing@taurus.com.br</a> , Prime

## Military Sidearms (International)

<b>Industria de Material Belico do Brazil, IMBEL</b>	http://www.imbel.gov.br, Avenida 15 de Marco, Casa 1, Portao de Limeira, Piquete, Brazil, Tel: + 55 12 3156 9042, Fax: + 55 12 3156 9028, Email: comercial.sp@imbel.gov.br, Prime
<b>Israel Weapon Industries Ltd, (formerly IMI Small Arms Division)</b>	http://iwi.net/, PO Box 63, Ramat Hasharon, Israel, Tel: + 972 3 760 6000, Fax: + 972 3 760 6001, Email: info@israel-weapon.com, Prime
<b>Maadi Co for Engineering Industries</b>	Corniche El-Nile Sq, Maadi, Cairo, Egypt, Tel: + 20 2 359 6567, Fax: + 20 2 358 1855, Prime
<b>Minebea Co Ltd</b>	http://www.minebeamitsumi.com, 3-9-6 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, Tel: + 81 3 6758 6711, Fax: + 81 3 6758 6700, Email: kouho@minebea.co.jp, Prime
<b>SNT Motiv Co Ltd, (formerly S&amp;T Daewoo Co Ltd)</b>	http://www.sntmotiv.com, 363 Yeoraksongjeong-ro, Cheolma-myeon, Gijang-Gun, Busan, Korea, South, Tel: + 82 51 509 2114, Fax: + 82 51 508 3339, Email: bkyun@mail.dwpi.co.kr, Prime

Contractors are invited to submit updated information to Editor, International Contractors, Forecast International, 75 Glen Road, Suite 302, Sandy Hook, CT 06482, USA; rich.pettibone@forecast1.com

## Technical Data

**Note:** In the following table, *ACP* denotes Automatic Colt Pistol cartridges.

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Type (Action/Fire Modes)</u>
<u>Manufacturer – China North Industries Corp (NORINCO)</u>		
5.66x15.11mm (.22 Long Rifle)	Type 85	Single-shot bayonet-pistol, four-barrel
7.62x17mm Type 64	Type 67	Single action, semi-auto (suppressed)
7.62x17mm Type 64	Type 84	Single action, semi-auto
7.62x25mm Tokarev	Type 54	Single action, semi-auto
7.62x25mm Tokarev	Type 80	Selective fire
7.62x17mm Type 64	Type 64	Single action, semi-auto (suppressed)
7.62x17mm Type 64	Type 77	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	Model 77B	Double action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	Series 213	Single action, semi-auto
9x18mm Makarov	Type 59	Double action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – S&amp;T Motiv Co Ltd</u>		
5.66x15.11mm (.22 Long Rifle)	DP52	Double action, semi-auto
7.65x17mm Browning (.32 ACP)	DH380	Double action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	K5	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	DP51 series	Double action, semi-auto
10.11x21.6mm (.40 S&W)	DH40 series	Double action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	DH45	Single/double action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Denel SOC Ltd</u>		
<b>9x19mm Parabellum</b>	<b>CP-1</b>	<b>Double action, semi-auto</b>
9x19mm Parabellum	SP-1	Double action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	Z-88	Double action, semi-auto
10.11x21.6mm (.40 S&W)	SP-2	Double action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Fabrica Militar Fray Luis Beltran</u>		
9x19mm Parabellum	Militar	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	M90	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	M95 Classic	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	Detective	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	M1911A1	Single action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Forjas Taurus SA</u>		
9x19mm Parabellum	Taurus PT-92	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	Taurus PT-92	Double action, semi-auto

### Military Sidearms (International)

<u>Caliber</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Type (Action/Fire Modes)</u>
<u>Manufacturer – Industria de Material Belico do Brazil (IMBEL)</u>		
7.65x17mm Browning (.32 ACP)	MD1	Single action, semi-auto
9x17mm Short (.380 ACP)	MD1	Single action, semi-auto
9x17mm Short (.380 ACP)	MD2	Single action, semi-auto
9x17mm Short (.380 ACP)	GC-IMBEL MD1	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	M973	Single action, semi-auto
9x19mm Parabellum	GC-IMBEL MD1	Single action, semi-auto
9.09x22. 86mm (.38 Super Auto)	MD1	Single action, semi-auto
9.09x22. 86mm (.38 Super Auto)	MD2	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	M1911A1	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	M1911A1 (TP)	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	GC-IMBEL MD1	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	GC-IMBEL MD1	Single action, semi-auto
11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP)	UC-IMBEL MD2	Single action, semi-auto
10.41x22mm (.41 Action Express)	Desert Eagle	Single action, semi-auto
10.92x32.64mm (.44 Magnum)	Jericho	Double action, semi-auto
10.92x32.64mm (.44 Magnum)	Desert Eagle	Single action, semi-auto
12.7x32.64mm (.50 Action Express)	Desert Eagle	Single action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Maadi Co for Engineering Industries</u>		
9x19mm Parabellum	Helwan	Single action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Minebea Co Ltd</u>		
7.65x17mm Browning (.32 ACP)	Model 57B	Double action, semi-auto
9.04x29.45mm (.38 Special)	Model 58	Single/double action, revolver
9.04x29.45mm (.38 Special)	Model 60	Single/double action, revolver
<u>Manufacturer – Reutech Defence Industries (Denel)</u>		
9x19mm Parabellum	ADP Mk II	Single action, semi-auto
10.11x21.6mm (.40 S&W)	ADP Mk II	Single action, semi-auto
<u>Manufacturer – Truvelo Armory Division (Denel)</u>		
9x19mm Parabellum	ADP Mk II	Single action, semi-auto
10.11x21.6mm (.40 S&W)	ADP Mk II	Single action, semi-auto



IWI Jericho 941 Pistol

Source: Israel Weapon Industries Ltd

## Military Sidearms (International)

### Variants/Upgrades

**Variants.** Not generally applicable. Small arms manufacturers usually give modified or upgraded models of their weapons different designations.

**Modernization and Retrofit Overview.** Not generally applicable. Contractors usually integrate upgrades as production cut-ins.

### Program Review

**Background.** Given its limited effective range, the military sidearm (like its civilian counterpart) is primarily a defensive weapon. In this report, we limit our discussion to the more significant non-U.S. and non-European programs to provide the reader a sense of the status of and forecast trends in the international sidearms market. This report in no way represents an all-inclusive listing of non-U.S. and non-European military-pattern pistols and revolvers available on the international market.

#### AFRICA

##### Republic of South Africa

*Denel SOC Ltd.* Under the Denel umbrella firm, the Vektor component of Lyttleton Engineering Works develops and manufactures a variety of small arms, including military sidearms.

##### *Z-88 and CP-1*

In the mid-1980s, Denel developed the 9x19mm Parabellum Z-88 to meet South African military police and internal security requirements. The double-action semi-automatic pistol is essentially a Beretta Model 92 derivative. In 1993, Denel introduced the 9x19mm Parabellum CP-1 semi-automatic pistol, featuring ambidextrous operation and a Nylon 66 frame. The standard CP-1 weapon has a 13-round magazine; a more compact model with a 12-round magazine is also available.

##### *Vektor SP-1 and SP-2*

In 1994, the South African Defence Force began evaluating the Vektor 9x19mm Parabellum SP-1, Vektor's follow-on to the CP-1. The SADF subsequently selected this weapon as its new sidearm; it remains the standard-issue sidearm of the new South African National Defence Force (SANDF). The SP-1 is also available chambered in 10.11x21.6mm (.40 Smith & Wesson) as the SP-2. Vektor offers reduced-size General models of both the SP-1 and SP-2 pistols. ARMSCOR of the Philippines produces the SP-1 under license for the Philippine National Police, as well as for some commercial sales.

*Reutech Defence Industries.* Reutech, as the reorganized incarnation of the old Aserma

Manufacturing firm, inherited Aserma's ADP semi-automatic pistol. In 1994, Reutech introduced its improved ADP Mk II, chambered in 9x19mm Parabellum and 10.11x21.6mm (.40 Smith & Wesson), for domestic and export sales. The Mk II features a refined easier-to-handle design, an ambidextrous safety lever, and a reversible magazine catch mechanism. Reutech offers a new 15-round magazine as an alternative to the standard 10-round magazine.

In addition to sales to various South African internal security and paramilitary forces, Reutech reportedly sold the ADP to Botswana and to unidentified countries. In addition, Tanfoglio of Italy produces the ADP under license. In 2000, Reutech Defence Industries turned the production of the ADP pistols over to Truvelo Armory Division, located in Lyttleton. The Reutech line therefore also falls under the auspices of Denel.

#### ASIA

##### Japan

*Minebea Co Ltd.* The Omori manufacturing unit of Minebea has developed a number of prototype semi-automatic pistols, such as the 9x19mm Parabellum Nambu Model 57A and the 7.65x17mm (.32 ACP) Nambu Model 57B. However, we have no indications that these pistols have entered serial production.

##### *Nambu Model 60 Revolver*

More successful have been the firm's revolvers. The 9.04x29.45mm (.38 Special) Nambu Model 60 has been in production since 1961; Minebea has sold over 162,000 units of this model. The Japanese Maritime Safety Guard has remained its largest purchaser.

##### *Market Opportunities?*

Given the country's stringent anti-gun laws and the availability of modern weapons overseas, Japan is unlikely to become deeply involved in the international sidearm market. So limited is Japan's sidearm production capacity that the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) may be forced into direct foreign purchase or local coproduction agreements with foreign small arms firms (reminiscent of the Japanese Navy's late 19th century procurement of Smith & Wesson revolvers) to meet future JGSDF sidearm requirements.

People's Republic of China

*China North Industries Corp (NORINCO)*. Under the auspices of NORINCO, which acts as the primary conduit between the Chinese arms industry and the international market, the People's Republic of China currently produces and markets a number of military-pattern pistols.

***Type 54 Series and Type 59***

Despite its age, the 7.62x25mm Tokarev Type 54 (a direct copy of the Soviet Tokarev TT-33) continues to be produced on an as-needed basis. From this basic design, the Chinese have developed the Series 213 pistol, chambered in 9x19mm Parabellum, primarily for the export market. NORINCO also offers the Type 59, a copy of the Russian 9x18mm Makarov PM semi-automatic pistol.

***Type 77 Series***

The 7.62x17mm Type 77 is a newer indigenous design; it uses the operation of the trigger guard to chamber the first cartridge. The pistol features a fluted chamber. For the export market, NORINCO offers the 9x19mm Parabellum Model 77B, a totally different Browning-inspired semi-automatic pistol.

***Type 64 and Type 67***

NORINCO produces two purpose-designed suppressed pistols: the 7.62x17mm suppressed Type 64 (in basic and improved versions) and the 7.62x17mm Type 67. The Type 67 is essentially a slightly modified Type 64, with a slimmer suppressor.

***Type 80***

The Type 80 is a selective-fire weapon, firing the 7.62x25mm Tokarev cartridge. This weapon is an improved variant of the long-obsolete Mauser 712 (the Schnellfeuerpistole) design; between 1932 and 1936, the Germans exported some 70,000 Mauser 712 Schnellfeuerpistoles to China. Despite the Type 80 being a new-production weapon, the utility of a selective-fire sidearm remains questionable at best.

***Type 85***

Another rather odd pistol currently in production is the 5.66x15.11mm (.22 Long Rifle) Type 85. This is a four-barrel single-shot pistol incorporated in the grip assembly of a bayonet. Research suggests the Russian 7.62x44mm NRS-2 single-shot pistol-knife may have been the inspiration for this weapon.

Republic of Korea

*S&T Motiv Co Ltd*. The 9x19mm Parabellum K5 semi-automatic pistol is an indigenous design, operating

**Military Sidearms (International)**

on the delayed blowback principle. The contractor has yet to secure any significant export sales despite its aggressive marketing of this pistol to Malaysia.

***DP51 Series***

The 9x19mm Parabellum DP51 Mk II is a much newer design, and it has been quite successful on the commercial/civilian market. To date, the only reported military and internal security sales have been to ROK forces. A compact version, the DP51C Mk II Compact, is also available. More recently, the contractor has offered two additional DP51 models:

- The 10.11x21.6mm (.40 Smith & Wesson) DH40 Mk II
- The 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) DH45 Mk II

The Mk II designation denotes an enhanced trigger action, now a standard feature of the DP51 series.

***DP52 and DH380***

The contractor has also introduced the still newer 5.66x15.11mm (.22 Long Rifle) DP52, a double-action design that is quite similar to the Walther PP series. A variant firing the 9x17mm Short (.380 ACP) cartridge, the DH380, is also available.

**MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA**

Egypt

*Maadi Co for Engineering Industries*. Maadi Co (formerly Factory 54) continues to produce the 9x19mm Parabellum Helwan semi-automatic pistol for Egyptian Army service and limited export. Maadi has produced over 292,000 Helwan pistols since 1958. Prior to 2003, Iraq had also produced the Helwan under license. Egypt's other issue sidearm, the 9x19mm Parabellum Tokagypt, is essentially a Russian TT-33 Tokarev semi-automatic pistol imported from Femaru es Szerszamgepygar of Hungary.

Israel

*Israel Weapon Industries Ltd (IWI)*. The contractor offers a pistol version of its immensely popular and successful Uzi submachine gun. Lighter and shorter than the Uzi, the 9x19mm Parabellum Uzi pistol is more stable in rapid fire than a conventional pistol. The Uzi pistol has attracted a degree of attention from military and paramilitary forces.

***Corporate Evolution***

Following the recent corporate restructuring of Israel Military Industries Ltd (IMI), the prime contractor for Israeli small arms, the Small Arms division of IMI became a separate company, now operating as Israel Weapon Industries Ltd.

## Military Sidearms (International)

### *Desert Eagle*

IWI produces the Desert Eagle line of semi-automatic pistols under contract from Magnum Research Inc (Minneapolis, Minnesota). The Desert Eagle line is available in the following calibers:

- 9.07x32.76mm (.357 Magnum)
- 10.92x32.64mm (.44 Magnum)
- 10.41x22mm (.41 Action Express)
- 12.7x32.64mm (.50 Action Express)

The pistol is a gas-operated, semi-automatic, locked-breech design featuring a rotating bolt. The "magnaport" Desert Eagle measures 26 centimeters (10.24 in) in length. This weapon has proved to be popular with Israeli helicopter crews.

### *Jericho Series*

The Jericho 941 is a newer design semi-automatic pistol that can quickly adapt to chamber different cartridges. This recoil-operated weapon is available in five models, differing in size, location of safety, and barrel length. IWI offers the 1.103-kilogram (2.42-lb) weapon chambered for the 9x19mm Parabellum, 10.11x21.6mm (.40 Smith & Wesson), and 10.41x22mm (.41 Action Express) cartridges. IWI may offer the Jericho in at least one additional chambering option in the near future.

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Argentina

*Fabrica Militar Fray Luis Beltran*. This state-owned firm produces under license the 9x19mm Parabellum Browning High-Power pistol to replace its 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) copies, the M1916 and M1927. FM Fray Luis Beltran originally purchased 5,500 pistols directly from Fabrique Nationale; to date, the Argentinean firm has produced at least 205,000 pistols under license as the Pistola Browning PD. The pistol is currently available in three models: the standard Militar, the M90, and the Detective.

### Brazil

*Forjas Taurus SA*. In 1980, this former producer of sporting long guns and handguns acquired Industrio e Comercio Beretta SA, the Brazilian subsidiary of Beretta.

### *Adopting the Beretta 92S*

With this acquisition, Taurus secured license production rights for the Beretta 9x19mm Parabellum Model 92S, which the Brazilian Army had adopted as its new standard-issue sidearm. As a result, Taurus now produces the Beretta 92S, designated PT-92, for the Brazilian Army's initial requirement for 36,000 pistols.

Taurus export sales, accounting for nearly half of the firm's turnover, include contracts with Libya and other Middle East nations.

*Industria de Material Belico do Brazil (IMBEL)*. Until 1973, the standard-issue sidearm for the Brazilian armed forces was IMBEL's license-produced Colt 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) M1911A1. Building on its experience with this weapon, IMBEL has developed a series of pistols based on the classic Browning design. These include the MD1 and MD2 series, available in 7.65x17mm Browning (.32 ACP) (MD1 only), 9x17mm Short (.380 ACP), and 9.09x22.86mm (.38 Super Auto) chamberings.

### *Brazilian Brownings*

The GC-IMBEL series, based on the MD1, features enhanced trigger and locking mechanisms. This series is available in 9x17mm Short (.380 ACP), 9x19mm Parabellum, and 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) chamberings. All versions of these pistols are in extensive use, as Brazilian policy encourages officers and senior enlisted personnel to purchase their sidearms outright.

In addition to producing complete new weapons, IMBEL offers a 9x19mm Parabellum conversion kit for existing 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) M1911 pistols.

**Analysis.** Despite the increasing dominance of the intermediate-caliber battle carbine in military service, the sidearm remains a viable weapon for self-defense and close combat. Indeed, for the serious small arms aficionado, the sidearm might even be preferable to the battle carbine for close-range engagements.

### *Up Close & Personal*

When chambered for an effective large-caliber cartridge, such as the ever-dependable 11.43x22.79mm (.45 ACP) round, the sidearm can deliver close-range decisive stopping power far beyond the capabilities of even the most effective intermediate-caliber weapon.

Further, the shooter *wears* the sidearm; he does not carry it. Thus, by its very nature, the sidearm is always available to the "well-dressed" soldier; the soldier does not have to pick it up or retrieve it.

Perhaps more so than with any other military small arm, the effectiveness of the sidearm is dependent upon the training and abilities of the individual shooter. Proficiency with the sidearm demands a level of individual dedication and practice almost unheard of in this age of instant gratification.

That the sidearm is such an individual-oriented weapon flies in the face of modern, more egalitarian training doctrines. Yet, perhaps for that very reason, the sidearm

## Military Sidearms (International)

remains an extremely popular military weapon; the civilian market for the pistol and revolver remains correspondingly strong.

### *Timeless Icons*

Superior sidearm designs – such as the Browning/Colt M1911 and the Browning/FN P35 High-

Power – remain timeless icons of small arms design. Many "new" designs are simply modifications of decades-old designs and operating principles.

As a result, sidearm replacement programs tend to be cyclical in nature and largely independent of the sort of major technological leaps that govern other small arms programs.

## Funding

The various contractors, some of which are government-owned enterprises or state-owned arsenals, fund development of military-pattern pistols and revolvers on an international basis.

## Contracts/Orders & Options

Except as noted, contractual information from ministries of defense and contractors is generally not available.

## Timetable

The basic military sidearm designs currently available should remain in serial production over the next 10 years. Unlike in other small arms market segments, the licensed production of proven designs will likely continue, with development of indigenous designs generally remaining a secondary goal.

## Worldwide Distribution/Inventories

**Export Potential.** The non-U.S. and non-European sidearm market remains essentially an adjunct of the European small arms market. As such, we see the distribution of non-U.S. and non-European military-pattern pistols and revolvers generally limited to domestic consumption. However, a few sidearm producers – especially Israel Weapon Industries and Taurus – are nevertheless emerging as major players in the international market.

**Countries.** Because most contracts go unreported and the distribution of many designs is so widespread, it is virtually impossible to determine the precise distribution of non-U.S. and non-European military-pattern pistols and revolvers.

## Forecast Rationale

The international sidearms market – like its European counterpart – continues to benefit from commercial sales to civilians, which supplement production for government procurement.

### *In Europe's Shadow*

The international market for military-pattern pistols and revolvers also continues to exhibit two distinct trends. First, European players and designs dominate the international market. This leads to the second trend: a growing international sidearms industry consisting of relatively small firms, for the most part, with limited production runs for mainly domestic consumption. Much of the non-U.S. and non-European activity consists of both licensed and unlicensed production of

established American and European designs. Even indigenous designs tend to have their roots in U.S. and European weapons.

### *Emerging International Players*

Nevertheless, some non-U.S. and non-European small arms manufacturers are emerging as real players on the international market. Israel Weapon Industries (IWI) is poised to have a real impact on both the military and commercial handgun market with its line of robust, powerful designs. Meanwhile, Taurus (of Brazil) continues to enjoy considerable success exporting its variants of established European designs for both government procurement and commercial sales.

## **Military Sidearms (International)**

### *Growing Market Segment*

Despite the dominance of established European players, the Forecast International Weapons Group expects domestic production of licensed, unlicensed, and indigenous sidearm designs will continue to grow, possibly outpacing imports by the end of the decade.

We expect a continued steady demand by military, paramilitary, and police forces worldwide for non-U.S. and non-European military-pattern pistols and revolvers. In addition, we see a continuing civilian demand for these weapons. The combined output of the manufacturers in this market segment will average 95,500 weapons per year.

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