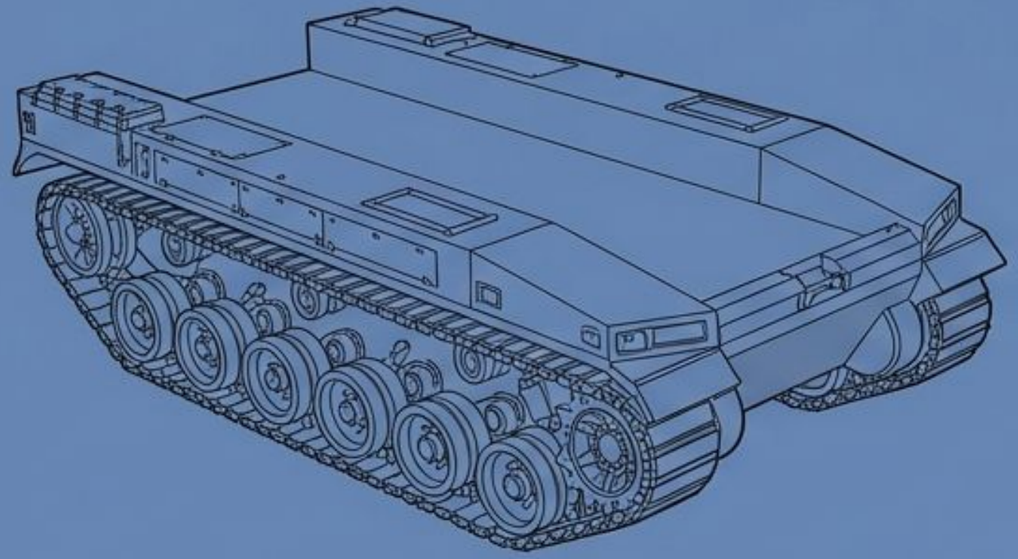
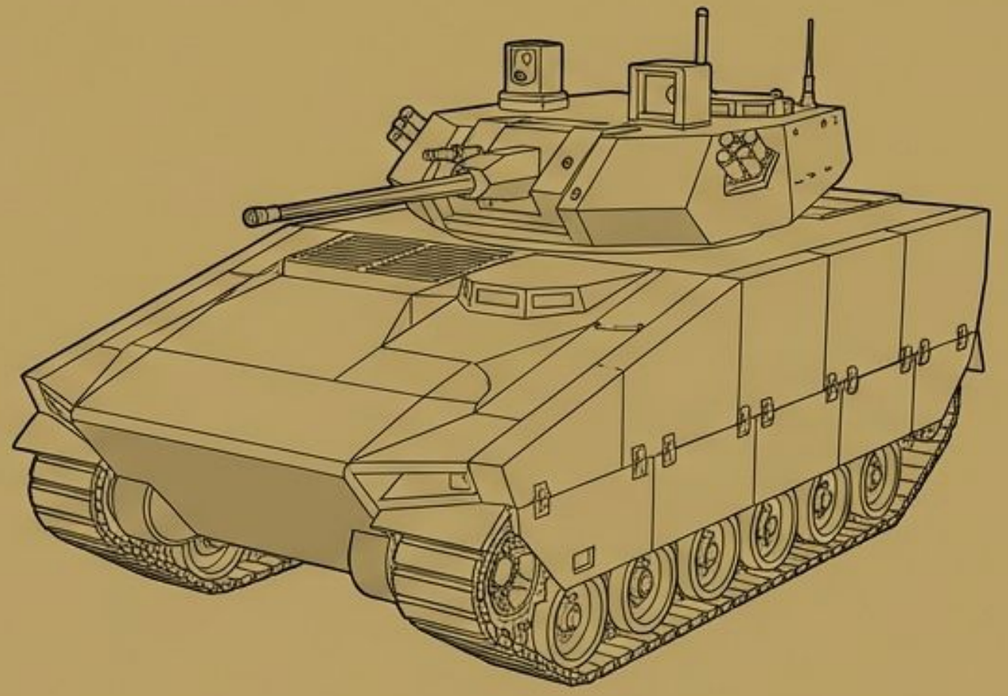
The RCV Paradigm Split

Comparing the GDLS TRX and Milrem Type-X Design Philosophies



PLATFORM A: GDLS TRX

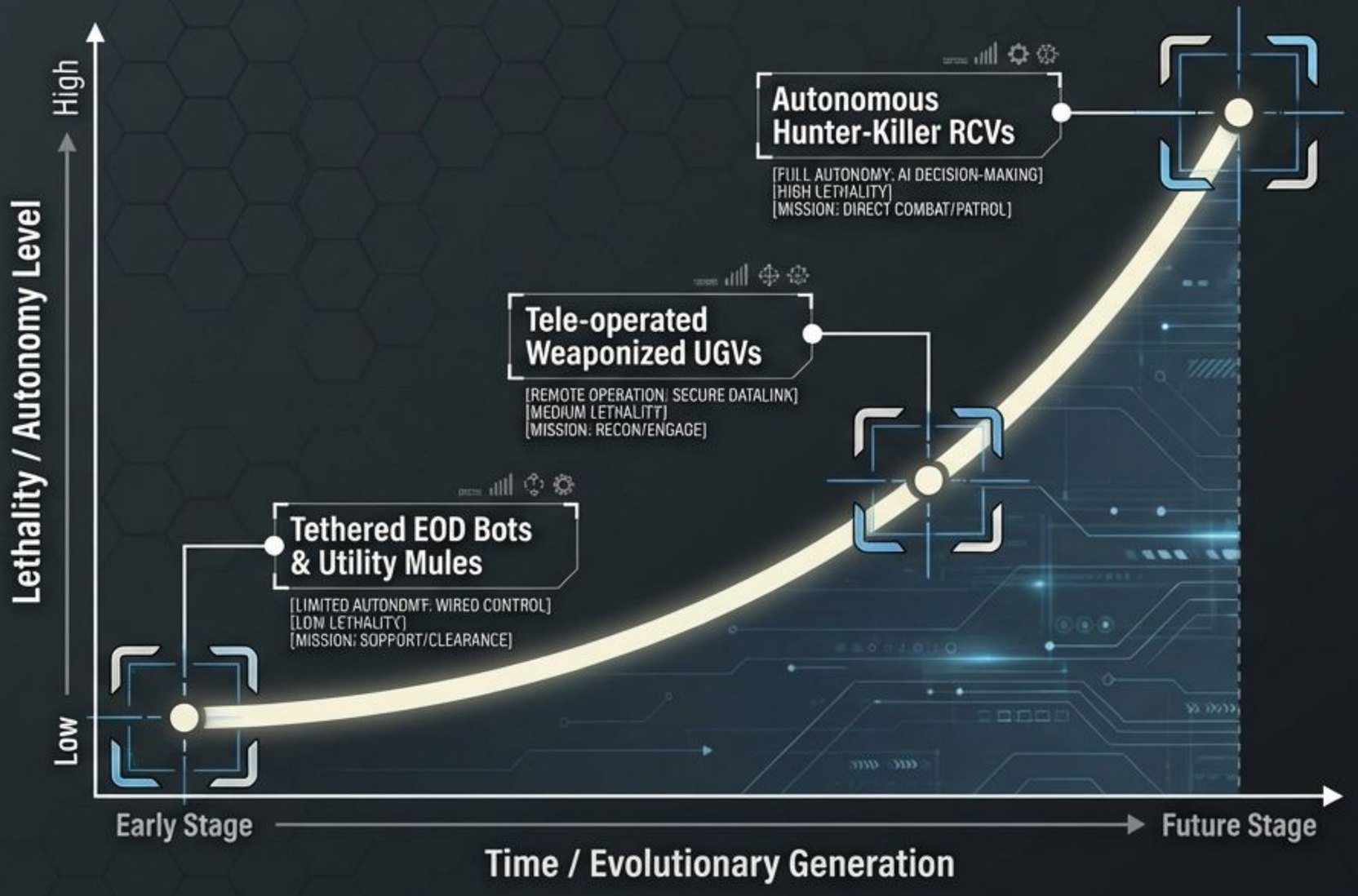


PLATFORM B: MILREM TYPE-X

Modern Armor Tech Briefing from **MODERN ARMOR A Visual Survey of the Next War's Land Vehicles**
Oder today on Amazon or Barnes & Noble BookStores.

THE NEW ARMORED CAVALRY

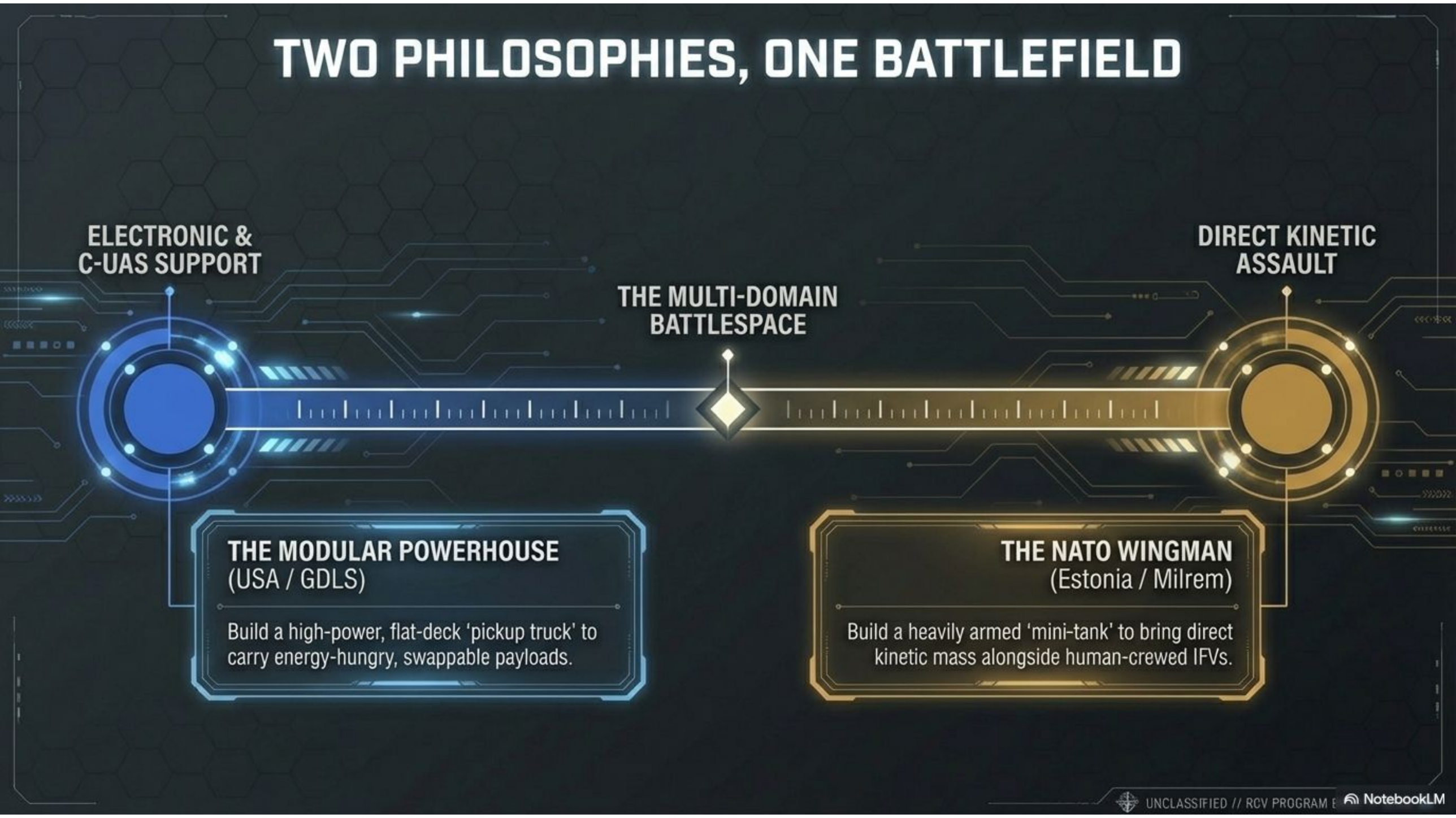
The modern battlefield has forced a shift from unarmed logistics "mules" to frontline Hunter-Killer combatants. Designed for high-risk initial contact, these vehicles must draw fire, identify enemy positions, and patrol the dead space on the flanks of moving formations to increase the survival chances of human crews.



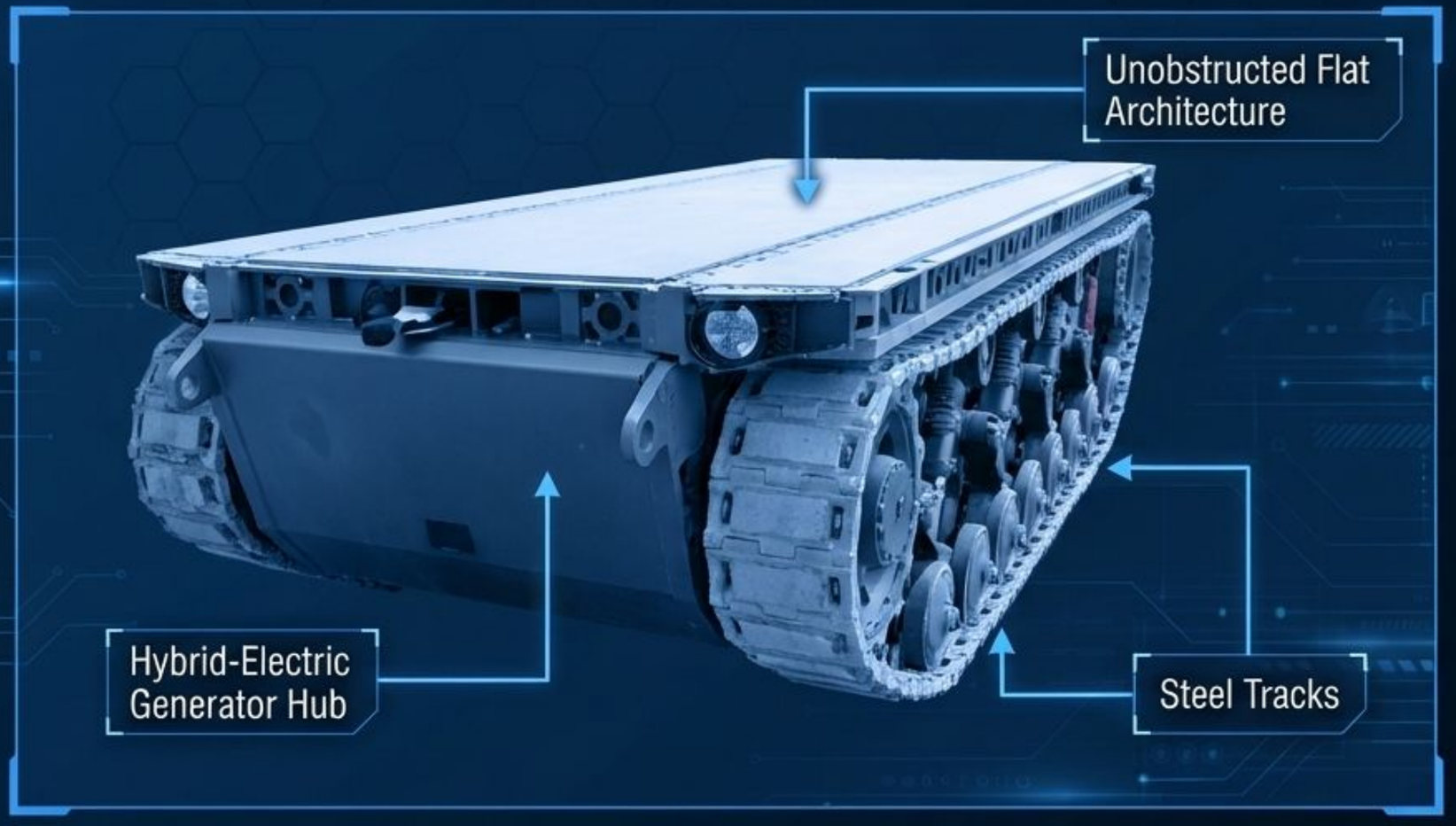
THE RCV STANDARD

[DATA POINT]	**Speed:** 40–60 mph (Matching Manned IFVs)
[DATA POINT]	**Endurance:** Hybrid-electric power for 3–5 days of "Silent Watch"
[DATA POINT]	**Protection:** STANAG Level 3/4 Armor
[DATA POINT]	**Control:** High-bandwidth, low-latency COFDM Mesh radio networks

TWO PHILOSOPHIES, ONE BATTLEFIELD



GDLS TRX | The Modular Powerhouse



The Tracked Robot 10-ton (TRX) is the heavy-duty pickup truck of the RCV world. It is built around a hybrid-electric drive specifically designed to power energy-hungry payloads that other vehicles cannot support. It features a flat, open deck engineered for maximum modularity and acts as a mobile generator for the tactical grid.

SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

Chassis Class:
10-Ton Tracked

Max Speed:
~50 mph (80 km/h)

Powerpack:
Hybrid-Electric Drive

Length:
~4.8m

Hull Height:
~1.1m

TRX | Payloads & Armaments

The TRX's immense exportable power and flat architecture allow it to field systems too large or energy-intensive for standard platforms.

1. C-UAS: High-power microwave arrays and directed energy (laser) weapons.

2. Loitering Munitions: 50-tube launcher for Switchblade drone swarms.

3. Air Defense: SHORAD turrets firing Stinger missiles and 30mm cannons.

CONFIGURATION: PERIMETER DEFENSE & SHORAD

CONFIGURATION: 'RAZORBACK' MUNITION CARRIER

TRX | Strategic Assessment

PROS (ADVANTAGES)

- Unmatched exportable power for directed energy.
- Extreme modularity via ‘bolt-on’ payload packages.
- Highly stealthy base profile (only 1.1m tall).
- Functions as a vital mobile power node for the mesh network.

CONS (DISADVANTAGES)

- Currently stuck in demonstrator/evaluation status.
- The US Army halted the RCV-Medium program in 2024/2025 to pivot toward smaller, cheaper systems.
- Despite high performance, it lacks a formal deployment path.

Milrem Type-X | The NATO Wingman

The Type-X is an advanced ‘mini-tank’ designed specifically to serve as an unmanned wingman for NATO Infantry Fighting Vehicles like the CV90 or Boxer. It is built to match their mobility, take the riskiest positions in a formation, and deliver lethal kinetic mass without risking a human crew.

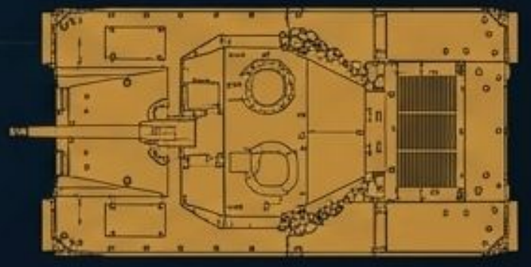
SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

Chassis Class: 12-Ton Tracked

Max Speed: 50 mph (80 km/h)

Traction: Rubber Tracks (Low Maintenance)

Logistics: C-130 Air-Droppable



Type-X | Payloads & Armaments

Forgoing light remote weapon stations (RWS), the Type-X is engineered to carry heavy, stabilized, medium-caliber IFV turrets, making it a true direct-fire combatant.

- **Primary Lethality:** Kongsberg RT40 turret integration.
- **Main Gun:** 30mm or 50mm automatic cannon.
- **Anti-Armor:** Optional integrated ATGM (Anti-Tank Guided Missile) pods.
- **Result:** A direct-fire combatant capable of killing enemy armor.

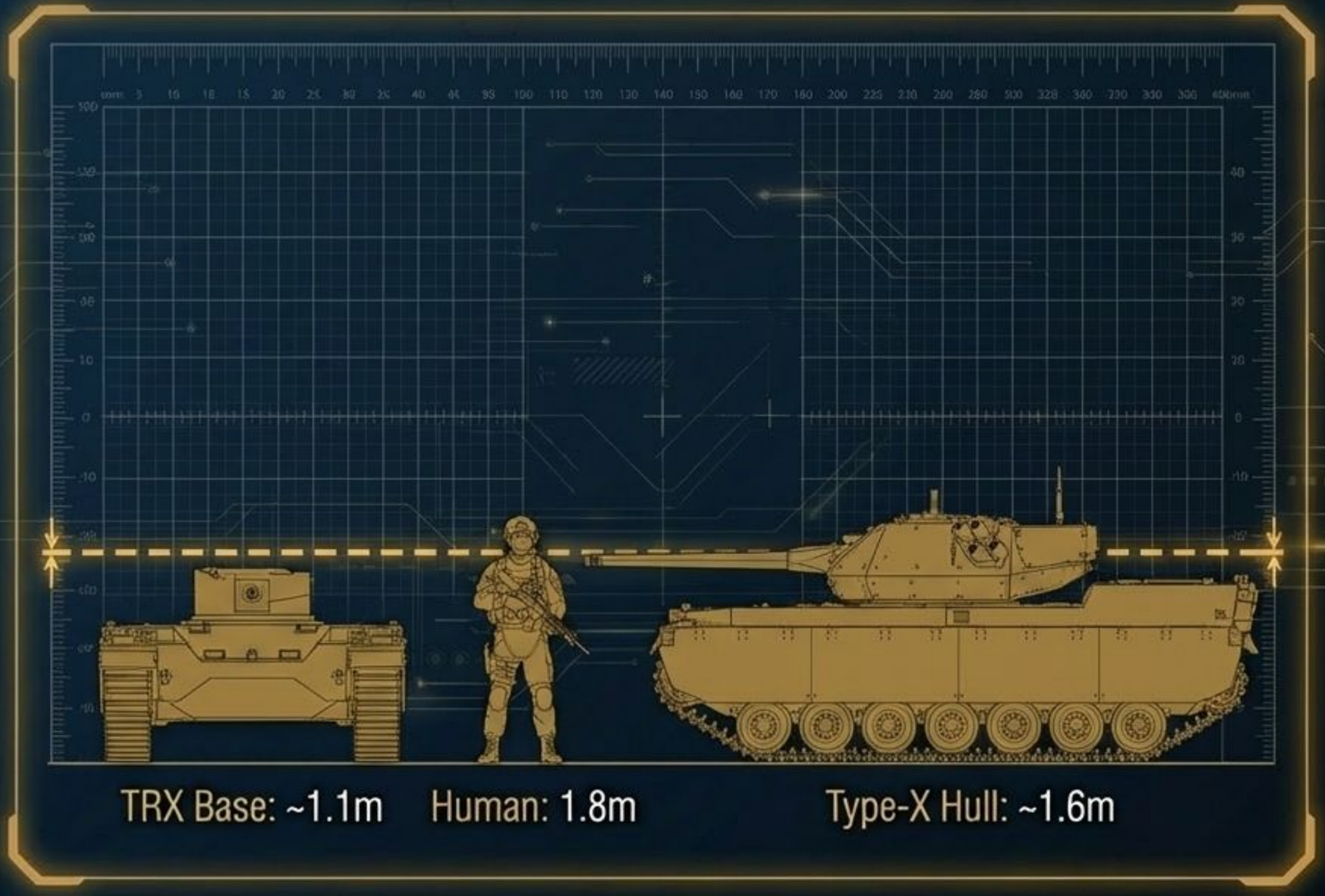
Type-X | Strategic Assessment

PROS (ADVANTAGES)

- Delivers full IFV-level lethality.
- Rubber tracks reduce acoustic signature.
- Engineered specifically for rapid C-130 air-drop.
- Combat-ready prototype.

CONS (DISADVANTAGES)

- Sacrifices stealth for lethality.
- Requires massive internal hull volume to house the engine, heavy turret ring, and internal 30/50mm ammunition.



Head-to-Head | Diagnostic Comparison

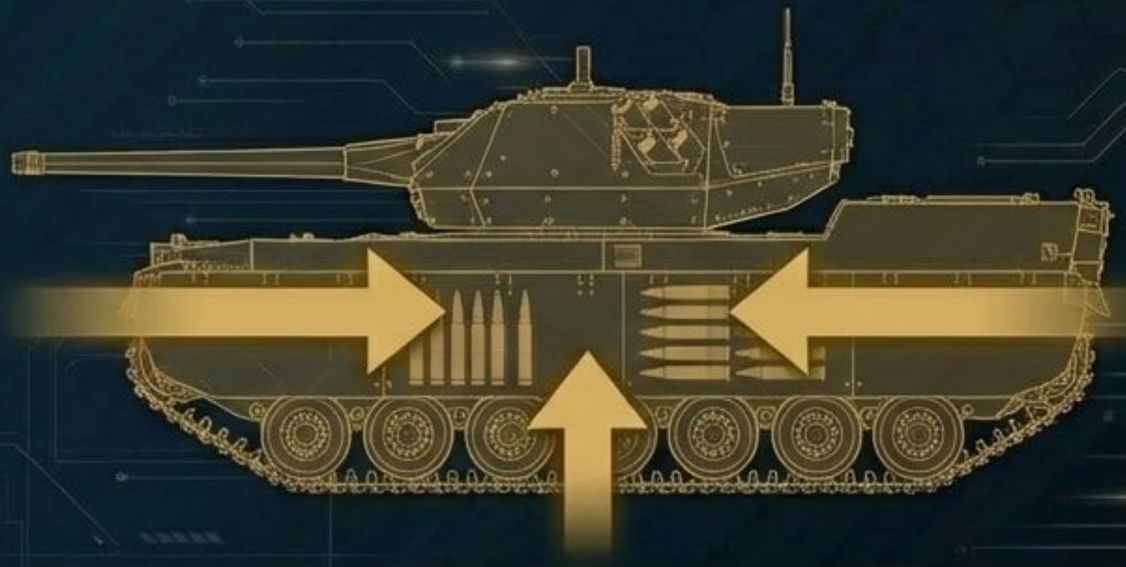
GDLS TRX	METRIC	MILREM TYPE-X
Modular Powerhouse	Core Philosophy	Kinetic NATO Wingman
10 Tons	Base Weight	~12 Tons
~1.1m (High Stealth)	Hull Height	~1.6m (Low Stealth)
Microwaves, Lasers, Drones	Primary Weaponry	30/50mm Cannon, ATGMs
Steel	Track Material	Rubber
Halted / Demonstrator	Program Status	Prototype / Market

Form Follows Function | Architectural Breakdown

TRX: THE BLANK CANVAS

Flat Deck = Maximizes surface area for diverse, swappable payload modules and massive battery arrays. The vehicle is a platform, not a weapon.

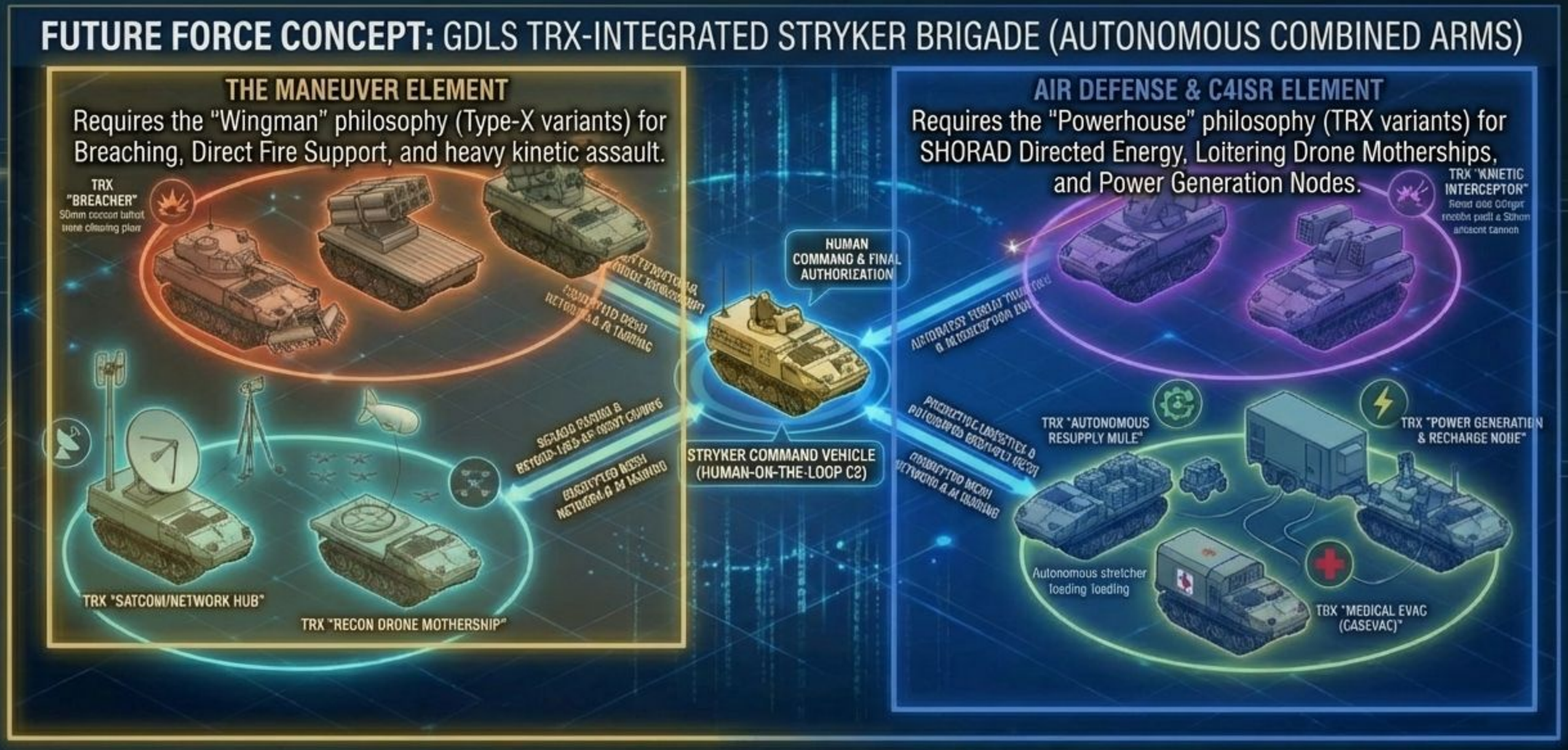
TYPE-X: THE MINI-TANK



Raised Hull = Generates the internal capacity required to feed a 50mm autocannon and support the mechanical recoil of a heavy IFV turret ring. The vehicle is the weapon.

Doctrinal Synergy | The Future Force

A future Combined Arms Brigade relies on both philosophies operating in tandem to survive the AI-driven kill web.



The Final Verdict

If the mission is to defend the network, power directed-energy weapons, and counter drone swarms, the future requires the modularity of the GDLS TRX.

If the mission is to assault fortified positions and kill enemy armor without losing soldiers, the future requires the kinetic mass of the Milrem Type-X.