Ladies and Gentlemen!

2018 is an important year for the Research and Development Centre for Mechanical Appliances OBRUM because it is the year of the 50th Anniversary of its presence on the Polish and foreign markets of armaments and military equipment. Fifty years in the history of mankind is just half a century, for a single man, OBRUM employee, it means at least two generations that created the history of the Centre. There were years of success and rapid development, dozens of new vehicles, machinery and equipment designs, and there were years of stagnation and difficult moments of struggle to retain the markets.

OBRUM has gone through a difficult route from an experimental manufacturing plant to a commercial company. The process of consolidation of the Polish industrial defence potential within the PGZ Capital Group creates new capital and organizational relationships. One of the elements of that process was the incorporation of OBRUM into a new organizational structure that took effect on 17 October 2014. The owner supervision over OBRUM is exercised by Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa S.A. as the parent company.

The milestones of transformations that OBRUM has undergone are shown in the diagram below.

Throughout the years OBRUM has developed engineering equipment (recovery vehicles, engineering and road vehicles, combat engineer tanks) on tracked chassis, tracked and wheeled chassis for radar stations, has adapted and modernized the T-55 and T-72 tanks, designed new tanks Wilk (Wolf), Goryl (Gorilla), Anders Fire Support Vehicle, and developed concept designs of tanks PL-01 and Combat Support Vehicle. OBRUM has been working in the field of military mobile bridges, especially in recent years, and that area has become the company’s specialty. Few years ago we entered the market of modern training and instruction equipment based on virtual reality and augmented reality. OBRUM’s business activities also encompass the important area of exports, including the delivery of engineering equipment and technology transfer, provision of necessary technical documentation, delivery of machinery, devices and technological equipment, spare parts, as well as necessary customer support in establishing repair and maintenance facilities for recovery vehicles. Many of the projects mentioned are described in the “Szybkobieżne Pojazdy Gąsienicowe” (Fast Tracked Vehicles) periodical.

The OBRUM’s team was successful in maintaining its leading position in Poland in the field of development and implementation of technological solutions applied in armoured and engineering equipment. The functioning of the Centre for 50 years and, most importantly, its achievements in the form of completed projects and successful product launches, were the effect of the efforts, expert knowledge and commitment of OBRUM’s research and engineering staff. In recognition of their contribution many OBRUM employees were awarded by the State and the Ministry.
OBRUM employees were honoured, among others, with the following decorations:

- 9 employees received the Knight’s Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta;
- 86 employees received the Cross of Merit;
- 160 employees received the Medal of Merit for National Defence;
- 37 employees received the Medal of Merit for the Engineering Troops;
- 52 employees received the Badge of Merit for the Development of the Silesian Province.

The task that OBRUM has always been assigned with was to conduct comprehensive scientific, research and development work aimed at preparing and launching manufacture on an industrial scale of new or improved products. This task remains valid and we will continue to actively participate in the process of technical modernization of the Polish Armed Forces.

Technical and organizational links between OBRUM and Bumar - Łabędy S.A. provide a good platform of cooperation between a research institution and industry, generating in the future a noticeable synergistic effect.

**Dear Colleagues!**

OBRUM will continue its scientific, research, development and production launching activities. Scientific activities will be expanded offering new opportunities for individual scientific development. Strong emphasis will be placed on effective employee development and on the implementation of projects and development programs that raise the qualifications and commitment of employees with the use of modern HR tools.

New areas of research activities (mechatronics, IT) related to demanding technological requirements of modernized armaments and military equipment will be sought and developed.

Actions will be taken to establish Consortia that will allow participation in tenders for equipment deliveries and new development projects announced by the Ministry of National Defence or the National Centre for Research and Development.

**Ladies and Gentlemen!**

Over the 50 years, the potential, structure and ownership status of the company has been changing. However, OBRUM remained the same company. It is not only an important and vital component of the industrial defence potential and part of the local realm of the city of Gliwice and of the Silesian region, but also an important part of our lives, that is, the life of our entire staff. Among us there are both long-term employees, as well as young staff members who joined us some time ago or just recently. I believe that the mix of experience and youth will allow OBRUM achieve further successes in the near future, which is my sincere wish for all of us!

**President of the Management Board,**

**OBRUM sp. z o.o.**

Marek Grochowski

Gliwice, September 2018