RECOGNITION GUIDE: ILCLAN VOL. 02

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VOLUME 02

















CATALYST GAME LABS

INTRODUCTION

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saFactor,

Words which once seemed impossible now seem inevitable: the ilClan is nigh.

The turbulence of the last two decades has brought several of our fellow Clans to Terra's doorstep, to say nothing of the Inner Sphere powers which gaze upon humanity's birthplace with hungry eyes. But we know our people, we know their aggression. One of them will move to take Terra first and claim the mantle of ilClan, however briefly. If they intend to hold it, however, they will need new hardware—and, as ever, we stand ready to deliver. For a price.

Contained within these volumes is that hardware. It is an intriguing combination of all-new BattleMech designs and retrofits of existing Inner Sphere and Clan designs with weapons and equipment suitable for modern combat. All are in our inventories or otherwise obtainable, and I have instructed all Merchant Caste personnel under my command above the rank of Point Merchant to familiarize themselves with the contents of these reports and be ready to negotiate terms for any merchandise herein. I hope you will assist me, "old friend," with their distribution across all Khanates.

The wheel of power is poised to spin once more, but we must be the axle on which it revolves. Who winds up atop that wheel, and who is crushed beneath it, matters little as long as we profit from each turn.

-Merchant Colonel Reece, aboard CSF Atlantean, Skate Khanate, 14 November 3150

Welcome to *Recognition Guide: ilClan*, a supplement offering players exciting new 'Mech variants rooted in the closing days of the Dark Age era and the transition to the ilClan era. Inside, you'll discover a mix of all-new 'Mechs only recently seen on battlefields of the Inner Sphere, alongside modern refits of long-existing and much-loved units.

Each volume of *Recognition Guide: ilClan* includes full, *Technical Readout*-style entries on new 'Mechs or significant rebuilds of existing designs; a selection of brief writeups on existing variants; notable pilots for each 'Mech, and record sheets for immediate game use.

Special attention has been given to 'Mechs which were redesigned as part of the *BattleTech: Clan Invasion* Kickstarter, to ensure that these brand-new miniatures have a place in games set in the Dark Age. Many of these units have torn apart battlefields of the Inner Sphere for hundreds of years. With these guides, they will continue to do so for hundreds more.

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Of all the Star League's specialized BattleMech designs, the Ostscout stands out as one of the most successful and long-lived. Innate durability, combined with electronics so rare that they were not to be risked in combat, ensured that many Ostscouts survived the Succession Wars in mint condition. MechWarriors were ordered to preserve their Ostscout and its irreplaceable electronics at the cost of their own comrades, if necessary. The Ostscout, and by extension its sister 'Mechs the Ostroc and Ostsol, became the rugged, ubiquitous mascots of the Succession Wars, surviving in large numbers long after the destruction of their factories, although often with mixed and matched parts. Old wisdom claims that an OstMech never dies, only changes shape.

CAPABILITIES

Though also produced by Krupp in its Phoenix configuration on Terra, the *Ostscout* was resurrected in its original specs by both Kong Interstellar and Robinson Standard BattleWorks in recent years, albeit with upgrades. Robinson's model shares parts with their *Ostsol*, while upgrading its electronics suite to modern standards. Kong used their alliance with our Clan to outfit new *Ostscouts* with stealth technology and Clan weaponry. Considered *lostech* for ages, the *Ostscout's* myomer-enhanced sensor array and magnetohydrodynamic analyzer remain the pinnacle of sensor technology, and its Barret 4000 comm system is said to be so good it can communicate with the dead. An exaggeration, to be sure.

BATTLE HISTORY

Due to its nature, the Ostscout's battle history is a long series of bravely running away from encounters. Indeed, it takes a certain kind of courage to abandon one's allies to preserve a machine, a kind that not many would understand. Ostscout pilots rarely enjoy deep and meaningful relationships with their comrades. Such a contentious relationship led to the defection of Igor Minski from the Davion Guards in 2994. After 17 years on the run, Minski eventually took his Ostscout into the service of Hendrik Grimm III, noticeably increasing the effectiveness of the Oberon Guards. His 'Mech remained with the Confederation after his death, piloted by his son Klaus. During the first engagement between the Oberon Guards and Clan Wolf in the Black Canyon, Klaus was able to skip through the battlefield largely ignored by Clan warriors seeking an honorable kill. This is believed to be the first encounter between an Inner Sphere Ostscout and the Clans, and the data Klaus gathered would have been invaluable, had it ever left Oberon VI.

Ostscouts have always been highly prized by the Draconis Combine, a contributing factor to their resurrection on an occupied Robinson. The first Ostscouts produced by the Combine-controlled Robinson Standard BattleWorks were gifted to the Seventh Sword of Light, who used them to root out Davion resistance on Robinson. Operation Eruptio gave the new 'Mechs their trial by fire as the Republic Armed Forces seized Robinson inch by inch. One Ostscout assigned to guard planetary governor Adam Ogata succeeded in ferreting out multiple headhunting teams from the Fides Defenders, who eventually gave up their attempts when faced with the Ostscout's superior sensors.

Kerensky's Clans have also employed the *Ostscout*, back to the days of Operation Klondike. Classified as support units, these machines were not used by Nicholas' 800, but by the second echelon of troops tasked to hold ground the early Clans had conquered. Two *Ostscouts* were tasked to root out a bandit raiding Burrock supplies from the hills of Dratha on Dagda. The *Ostscout* pilots found themselves inexplicably stymied for weeks, unable to catch their quarry or even to interpret the physical tracks they occasionally ran across. An elaborate trap allowed them to finally glimpse their prey: a Star League *Hedgehog*, a 'Mech even rarer than their own. The ultra-fast, three-legged 'Mech had used its own advanced sensors and comm system to keep one step ahead. Knowing this was their only chance, the *Ostscouts* used their jump jets to corral the little bandit, eventually smashing it in a two-onone brawl. The wreckage remained on display in the main Burrock enclave until the Star Adders cleansed it during the Wars of Reaving.

VARIANTS

The Ostscout knew no variants for the majority of its existence. A common field refit in the 3050s replaced the 'Mech's only weapon with Target Acquisition Gear, but it proved unpopular. The 3060s saw the Ostscout reimagined under Project Phoenix. Unfortunately, the heavier weapons load of this series resulted in greater losses as pilots engaged in combat more often than they should have. Clan Jade Falcon experimented with upgrading the chassis in the 3060s, but it was deemed an expensive failure.

OTT-BJ OSTSCOUT Mass: 35 tons Chassis: Kell/S Power Plant: GM 280 XL Cruising Speed: 86 kph Maximum Speed: 129 kph Jump Jets: Robinson-Liberty Model 12 Jump Capacity: 240 meters Armor: StarGuard Ferro-Fibrous Armament: 1 Martell-X Medium X-Pulse Laser Manufacturer: Robinson Standard BattleWorks Primary Factory: Robinson Communications System: Barret 4000 with Angel ECM Suite Targeting and Tracking System: TRSS.2L3 with Bloodhound Active Probe	Equipment Internal Structure: Engine: Walking MP: Running MP: Jumping MP: Heat Sinks: Gyro (Compact): Cockpit: Armor Factor (Ferro): Head Center Torso Center Torso (rear) R/L Torso R/L Torso (rear) R/L Arm R/L Leg	280 XL 8 12 8 10 [20] 107 Internal Structure 3 11 8 6 8	Mass 3.5 8 0 1.5 3 6 <i>Armor</i> <i>Value</i> 9 16 6 13 3 9 13
Battle Value: 894			

Weapons and Ammo	Location	Critical	Tonnage
Bloodhound Active Probe	RT	3	2
Medium X-Pulse Laser	СТ	1	2
Angel ECM Suite	СТ	2	2
4 Jump Jets	RT	4	2
4 Jump Jets	LT	4	2

Notes: Features the following Design Quirks: Improved Communications, Improved Sensors, Narrow/Low Profile, Rugged (1).

OTT-12R OSTSCOUT Mass: 35 tons	Equipment Internal Structure:	Endo-Composit	Mass e 3	Weapons and Ammo Guardian ECM Suite	Location RT	Critical 2	Tonr 1.
Chassis: Kell/S	Engine:	280 Light	12	ER Large Laser (C)	СТ	1	Z
Power Plant: VOX 280 Light	Walking MP:	8		4 Jump Jets	RT	4	2
Cruising Speed: 86 kph	Running MP:	12		4 Jump Jets	LT	4	2
Maximum Speed: 129 kph	Jumping MP:	8		•			
Jump Jets: Rawlings 45	Heat Sinks:	10 [20]	0	Notes: Features the fol	lowing Desigi	n Quirks: Imp	proved
Jump Capacity: 240 meters	Gyro:		1.5	Communications, Impr	oved Sensors	, Narrow/Lov	v
Armor: Starshield Ultra-Tech Stealth	Cockpit:		3	Profile, Rugged (1).			
Armament:	Armor Factor (Stealth)): 72	4.5				
1 Series 7K Extended-Range Large Laser (Clan) Manufacturer: Kong Interstellar Corporation Primary Factory: Connaught	Head	Internal Structure 3	Armor Value 6				
Communications System: Barret 4000 with Guardian	Center Torso	11	12				
ECM Suite Targeting and Tracking System: TRSS.2L3	Center Torso (rea R/L Torso	r) 8	4 9				
Taska alamu Dasa. Miyod Janay Cakaya	R/L Torso (rear)		2				
Technology Base: Mixed Inner Sphere	R/L Arm	6	6				
Tonnage: 35 Role: Scout Battle Value: 1,209	R/L Leg	8	8				

Tonnage 1.5 4 2 2

NOTABLE 'MECHS AND MECHWARRIORS



MechWarrior Jerry Hawker: Taken as abtahka from Clan Diamond Shark in 3016, Jerry Hawker was not a good fit for Clan Wolf. Not guite Crusader or Warden in a time when those factions were polarizing, he languished in a garrison unit until fate brought him to Khan Kerlin Ward, and a new opportunity. Hawker met Jaime Wolf during the Dragoons' last supply run back to Clan space, and Khan Ward gladly granted this misfit the right to join Wolf's Dragoons. Hawker thrived as a Dragoon, having finally found his family. His talents led Wolf to assign him a rare Ostscout, which Hawker did not mind. He was a Bloodnamed warrior in the holy land, and that was all that mattered. As with too many of his comrades, Jerry Hawker died on Misery, proud and unyielding until the end.

Captain Deller Langdon: An operative with a long history serving Davion's MI3 division, Langdon monitored Kurita troop movements on several worlds prior to the end of the Third Succession War. The intelligence he provided was instrumental to the AFFS' retaking of Galtor III in 3022. To aid his clandestine cause and help intimidate hostiles, Langdon cosmetically refitted his 'Mech to resemble an *Ostsol*, a deception so successful it even fooled ComStar, causing an error in one of their famed technical readouts. Langdon and his 'Mech disappeared during a mission in the Periphery in 3049, just prior to the Clan invasion, but he was not recorded as captured or killed by any of the Invading Clans.

Igor and Klaus Minski: After absconding from the Davion Guards, Igor spent his time on Oberon guarding the person of Hendrik Grimm, and evading bounty hunters sent by Ian and Hanse Davion. He yielded his stolen *Ostscout* to his adopted son Klaus in 3035, who served the Oberon Guards in a less personal role, scouting for Grimm's raiding parties in the Inner Sphere. When Clan Wolf attacked Oberon VI, Klaus went to ground, gathering intel on the invaders for weeks, until it became clear that the Guards were defeated. Klaus stashed his 'Mech and escaped off world, attempting to reach Hanse Davion with the information he had gathered on Clan Wolf, but he was killed by the Ghost Bears on Trondheim before transmitting anything. His Ostscout allegedly remains hidden on Oberon VI.



MechWarrior Terrelise: A lackluster warrior in every respect, Terrelise's career floundered early, and she was relegated to a *solahma* infantry formation on Huntress. There she found her enemies to be drink and her own demons, and the derision of even her fellow *solahma* when she birthed two children. When Russou Howell formed his Watchmen Galaxy using captured Inner Sphere equipment, Terrelise fought hard for the right to pilot a 'Mech again, even if it was a lowly *Ostscout*. She acquitted herself well against the Northwind Highlanders in 3060, destroying three Highlander 'Mechs in the battle for the ProtoMech factory outside Pahn City before earning a warrior's death in her cockpit.



Lem Purellif: Lem fulfilled every Lyran infantryman's dream during the waning days of the Succession Wars when he seized a fallen *Ostscout* and graduated to the elite of the military. His squad ambushed the 'Mech after a hit disabled its sensors, and Lem was the first into the cockpit, removing what resistance he found there and claiming the 'Mech as his own. Unfortunately, the damage the *Ostscout* had sustained to its electronics relegated him to garrison duty with the Tenth Lyran Regulars, until enough technical know-how filtered down from the Helm

Core for him to enact a decent repair. This served him well when the unit's long-awaited activation for the FedCom Civil War finally came, and he served with distinction on Cavanaugh II. Lem honorably retired from "The Stinging Barflies" in 3063, gifting his 'Mech to another young, aspiring infantryman from the Tenth's recently formed First Irregulars.



Adept Greg Bushroe: A soldier with the Word of Blake's Third Division, Bushroe is notable for refusing to yield his Star League-vintage Ostscout when the Project Phoenix variant became available. The 'Mech had carried him through Tukayyid and Operation Odysseus, and he believed it to be lucky. This luck saw him through the Jihad, to which he was a conscientious objector. His attitude that the Word may actually be the villains was shared by many in his unit, but not enough to lead them to defect. Bushroe was not among the dead of the Third Division when the Ghost Bears smashed them on Dieron, and he is believed to have fled into the Periphery with the remains of his unit.

Michael McAlpine: McAlpine beat out several promising candidates to sign on with the Kell Hounds in 3061. A taciturn man with little need for others, his loner nature engendered suspicion from his company, especially when an undisclosed connection to ComStar emerged from his past. Though he was able to convince Dan Allard and Akira Brahe that he harbored no secret allegiances, the cloud of suspicion around him never really dissipated. Despite enduring even worse scrutiny when the Word of Blake launched their Jihad, McAlpine stayed with the Kell Hounds until war's end. He finally eliminated any uncertainty about his loyalties at Cairo on Terra in August 3078. Tactical data relayed by his Ostscout was the critical factor in saving some Kell Hounds from the Blakist trap, but McAlpine himself never returned to the Hounds' lines and his final fate was never determined.



Brittney Hale: Hale is a rare BattleMech pilot who cannot be classified as a MechWarrior. Her passion is not warfare, but racing, and the *Ostscout* has always been among the fastest of them all. Coming to the Noisiel 'Mech racing circuit in 3090, Hale impressed many gaming stables when she set new records on several courses. When crowds doubled at her races, Hale was able to dictate the terms of her employment, and eventually rose to own her own racing stable. Her oft-modified *Ostscout* still races to this day, holding the record on half a dozen courses.

Leftenant Kelvin Howe: The latest in his family to serve in the Davion Light Guards, Kelvin is a hulking man often mistaken for a small Elemental. His ability to squeeze himself into such a small 'Mech as his new Ostscout has made him the butt of many jokes, but he doesn't mind the role at all. A bit of a bully and braggart out of the cockpit, inside his 'Mech he is unmatched at rooting out his enemy no matter the terrain. He takes a certain glee in retreating to watch his fellows duke it out with the enemy. Howe's attitude is unsurprisingly not a good fit for the First, but his family name and unrivaled skill as a scout ensure his continued tenure.

Arcadia Zem: Zem is a Spirit Cat adoptee serving in the First Protectorate Guardians. Eschewing Clan tradition, she refused to give up her surname, a decision she has had to defend in many a Trial of Grievance. Zem has a preternatural ability to find hidden things, making her a perfect fit for her new Kong *Ostscout*. A rare Capellan probing raid against the Wolf Empire also hit the Protectorate world of Angell II in 3149. Zem's *Ostscout* not only rooted out Capellan battle armor waiting in ambush, but jumped safely away to lend long-range firepower to the ensuing fray. She is credited with three kills from the battle, and will seek a Star Commander's position soon.



SOJOURNER



Mass: 60 tons Chassis: Type W4 Endo Steel Power Plant: Pitban 240 Cruising Speed: 43 kph Maximum Speed: 64 kph, 86 kph with Supercharger Jump Jets: None Jump Capacity: None Armor: Compound RSH5 Ferro-Fibrous Armament: 25.5 tons of pod space available Manufacturer: Assault Tech Industries **Primary Factory:** Donegal Communications System: Neil 6000-g Targeting and Tracking System: RCA Instatrac Mark XXII

After their crippling defeat on Arc-Royal, a traumatized Clan Wolf-in-Exile limped to Donegal to lick their wounds and rebuild. Khan Miriam Shaw ordered a massive upscaling of production, but maximum output of high-end OmniMechs like the *Linebacker* had already been achieved. Rather than drastically expand capacity, Khan Shaw chose to retool one line to produce the *Sojourner*, a simpler 'Mech drafted decades ago but passed over for production to appease Devlin Stone and his treaties.

CAPABILITIES

The period of limbo between the *Sojourner's* design and production allowed time for tinkering and ironing out its kinks in a virtual lab. A generation of technicians improved upon the plans, resulting in a rugged 'Mech as easy to repair as it is to pilot. Khan Shaw was pleased with the expedited shakedown trials and the 'Mech's low cost, and has deployed it throughout her *touman*.

Intended to ease young MechWarriors into the subtleties of 'Mech combat, the *Sojourner* keeps its payloads simple. Primary weapons are housed in the 'Mech's actuator-enhanced right arm, while secondary guns are often located in the opposite torso, simplifying the use of target interlock circuits. Survivability of both pilot and machine are paramount in this time of long wars and limited resources for the Exiled Wolves; *Sojourners* (and their pilots) return home more often than most 'Mechs.

DEPLOYMENT

In 3148, the Exiled Wolves brought war to the Jade Falcons, striking the occupied world of Upano. Stalking their prey after the Falcons retreated through a hellish volcanic plain, Star Commander Rojas and his Star of five Sojourner Primes were ambushed by an ad-hoc Falcon force, led by Star Captain Jessica Helmer in her Shrike. Helmer figured the terrain would favor her more mobile units, but as the Falcon 'Mechs jumped and grew hotter amid the smoke and sulfur, the Sojourners stood backto-back and fired their Gauss rifles and plasma cannons. Helmer began losing as many machines to the heat as to enemy fire, and ordered a retreat when Rojas' 'Mech knocked her Shrike into a lava pit. Three of the Wolf-in-Exile Sojourners survived the battle, having crippled twice their number in Falcon 'Mechs and hovercraft.

Per an agreement with their Lyran allies, a certain percentage of *Sojourner* production benefits the Lyran military, where the 'Mech has gained a following among seasoned warriors. During the fighting to reclaim Buena from Warlord Diego Widmer, a *Sojourner* from the Bolan Jaegers found itself caught in a duel with a Buena *Barghest*. Battling through an industrial center outside Fort Buena, Leftenant Stephen Riordan suffered terrible damage from the *Barghest*'s massive autocannon, losing both arms and half his 'Mech's torso. Refusing to surrender, he finally crippled the Buena 'Mech with a shot from his lowly ProtoMech autocannon. The

image of Riordan's *Sojourner* staggering back to base, battered but undefeated, became a rallying image for the Lyran military and a reunifying force with the reclaimed Buena worlds.

One downside to the 'Mech's survivability is that those left behind after a losing battle are easily salvaged by the victors. Several examples have made their way into Falcon hands, but whether the Falcons will choose to field a 'Mech at odds with their combat doctrine remains to be seen. The Wolf Empire also fields *Sojourners*; one such 'Mech accompanied Star Commander Jory when he departed the Exiles. He has been allowed to keep the 'Mech, as a sign to his wayward brethren that when they return, they will be welcomed.

NOTABLE UNITS

Star Captain Vicka: Considered a *ristar* among Bloodhouse Radick, Vicka's sibko was all but annihilated by the Falcons' headhunting attack on Arc-Royal. Though still a year from graduation, Cadet Vicka demanded her Trial of Position while aboard the DropShip retreating to Donegal, and nearly killed her instructor in an impromptu Circle of Equals when he objected. Granted her Trial, Vicka defeated all three of her opponents and took her place as one of the youngest Star Captains the Clan has ever seen. Though her status warrants a more prestigious 'Mech, Vicka acknowledges her inexperience and prefers the *Sojourner*'s simplicity and reliability over a more complex machine. Despite many offers of sponsorship, she has not yet sought a Bloodname.

MechWarrior Cornelius: Cornelius was decanted on Arc-Royal in 3087. After a brief warrior career, he accepted reassignment into the technician caste where he enjoyed a long tenure working on the machines he loved. When Arc-Royal fell, he requested the opportunity to test as a warrior, and proved during his Trial of Position that his time as a technician had not dulled his instincts. Though he scored two kills, Cornelius insisted he only wants to fight, not lead, and did not claim the rank of Star Commander. His age does not hamper his skill, and he wears the years of a much younger man.

SOJOURNER

9

Type: **Sojourner** Technology Base: Clan Tonnage: 60 Role: Sniper Battle Value: 2,491

Equipment			Mass
Internal Structure:	Endo Steel		3
Engine:	240		11.5
Walking MP:	4		
Running MP:	6 (8)		
Jumping MP:	0		
Heat Sinks:	10 [20]		0
Gyro:		3	
Cockpit:			3
Armor Factor (Ferro):	201		10.5
	Internal	Armor	
	Structure	Value	
Head	3	9	
Center Torso	20	30	
Center Torso (rear)		10	
R/L Torso	14	20	
R/L Torso (rear)		8	
R/L Arm	10	20	
R/L Leg	14	28	

Space Allocation

Location	Fixed	Spaces Remaining
Head	None	1
Center Torso	1 Supercharger	1
Right Torso	3 Ferro-Fibrous	9
Left Torso	2 Double Heat Sink	7
	3 Endo Steel	
Right Arm	3 Actuator Enhancement System	5
Left Arm	2 Endo Steel	4
	2 Ferro-Fibrous	
Right Leg	2 Ferro-Fibrous	0
Left Leg	2 Endo Steel	0

Notes: Features the following Design Quirks: Easy to Maintain, Easy to Pilot, Rugged(1).

Fixed Equipment	Location	Critical	Tonnage
Actuator Enhancement SystemRA		3	2
Supercharger CT		1	1.5

Weapons and Ammo	Location	Critical	Tonnage		
Primary Weapons Configu	Primary Weapons Configuration				
Gauss Rifle	RA	6	12		
CASE II	RA	1	.5		
Ammo (Gauss) 16	RT	2	2		
ER Large Laser	LT	1	4		
Plasma Cannon	LT	1	3		
Ammo (Plasma) 10	LT	1	1		
Jump Jet	RT	1	1		
Jump Jet	СТ	1	1		
Jump Jet	LT	1	1		

Weapons and Ammo Alternate Configuration	Location	Critical	То
Large Pulse Laser	RA	2	
Rotary AC/2	RA	4	
Ammo (RAC) 90	BT	2	
CASE II	BT	1	
ProtoMech AC/8	LT	4	
Ammo (PAC) 20	LT	2	
CASE II	LT	2	
4 ER Micro Lasers	LI	4	
Battle Value: 1,911		4	
Alternate Configuration I	8		
2 ER Large Pulse Lasers	RA	6	
3 Double Heat Sinks	RT	6	
ECM Suite	СТ	1	
Double Heat Sink	LT	2	
Streak SRM 6	LA	2	
Ammo (Streak) 15	LA	1	
CASEII	LA	1	
Jump Jets	RT	2	
Jump Jets	LT	2	
Battle Value: 2,397	Role: Brawler		
Alternate Configuration	C		
Heavy Large Laser	RA	3	
2 Double Heat Sinks	RA	4	
LRM 20	RT	4	
Ammo (LRM) 24	RT	4	
CASE II	RT	1	
Micro Pulse Laser	СТ	1	
LRM 20	LT	4	
Ammo (LRM) 12	LT	2	
CASE II	LT	1	
2 Double Heat Sinks	LA	4	
Battle Value: 2,235 F	ole: Missile Bo	at	
Alternate Configuration			
ER PPC	RA	2	
Ultra AC/10	RA	4	
Ammo (Ultra) 30	RT	3	
CASE II	RT	1	
2 Double Heat Sinks	RT	4	
2 Medium Pulse Lasers	LT	2	
Battle Value: 2,452	Role: Brawler		
	-		

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STONE RHINO (BEHEMOTH)



Mass: 100 tons Chassis: Star League Monster Power Plant: Heavy Force 300 Cruising Speed: 32 kph Maximum Speed: 54 kph Jump Jets: Grandthrust Mk 5 Jump Capacity: 90 meters Armor: Compound 12A1 Standard Armament: 2 Thunderstroke Series 2b Gauss Rifles 2 Kolibri Delta Series Large Pulse Lasers 1 Chi Series Small Pulse Laser Manufacturer: Csesztreg Industriplex Alpha Primary Factory: Csesztreg Communications System: Garret L15

Targeting and Tracking System: RCA Instatrac Version 8a

It is perhaps a cultural character flaw that the Clans never stop trying to prove their superiority to the Inner Sphere. This tendency stretches back into history; the Clans see the failures of those who came before as a challenge to overcome. "Amaris' Folly," the most infamous boondoggle of a 'Mech ever known, became a gratifying project during the Golden Century as Clan society reached its zenith. All of the problems plaguing that lumbering monstrosity were solved by Smoke Jaguar scientists, and it was rechristened the *Stone Rhino* in honor of the nigh-indestructible beast native to Eden. In the Inner Sphere, it is remembered as the *Behemoth* one of the few Spheroid sobriguets deemed acceptable by Clan warriors.

CAPABILITIES

Some 'Mechs kill with flair, and some with sheer brutality. The *Stone Rhino* plods forward, an unstoppable wall of firepower that does not relent. It embodies the power and durability the Great Father intended when making the *Atlas*, while retaining a sense of the aesthetic. Indeed, it is renowned as one of the most beautiful BattleMechs ever designed, if such an appellation is appropriate for an avatar of death. The new *Stone Rhinos* coming out of Czestreg adhere to this sleek elegance and are highly prized among the Hell's Horses MechWarriors who pilot them.

BATTLE HISTORY

The Hell's Horses have put their new Stone Rhinos to good use. Ignoring the dilemma of assault units sometimes being too valuable to risk in battle, the Horses consistently deploy Rhinos as the hub around which a force of mobile machines orbits. These tornadolike formations have wreaked havoc along the Horses' borders, notably during a 3150 raid on Denizli. Star Captain Tasio, eager to punish the Twelfth Falcon Regulars over a personal grudge, found success with this new variant of Clan Steel Viper's "Coil" tactic. The Falcons, arrogant in their heavier 'Mechs, rushed into the mass of vehicles, and the guns of Tasio's waiting Stone Rhino. The massive BattleMech tore apart all comers, holding its own against mobile Falcon OmniMechs, including a dreaded Jade Phoenix. Though the Horses eventually withdrew, Tasio taught the Falcons a new respect for the Stone Rhino.

Thanks to their durability, most *Stone Rhinos* in existence are old, hoary machines with storied histories and personalities all their own. Jacindah Wirth piloted one such example on Huntress, when the Star League came to do the devil's work. In the confines of the Shikari Jungle, Jacindah destroyed at least eight Knights of the Inner Sphere 'Mechs before her quirky, older machine began to malfunction. Fighting on with her 'Mech's battering-ram arms, Jacindah killed two more enemies before succumbing to her cockpit's sweltering heat. When medics pried her from the cockpit, she made the delirious proclamation that no man would ever pilot her *Stone Rhino*, before death claimed her.

In an act of sheer cheek, Jaime Wolf snuck a *Stone Rhino* into his Dragoons when they departed for the

Inner Sphere, knowing full well it would stand out. Though downgraded to Inner Sphere tech, the *Stone Rhino* still caused mass panic and confusion when it took the field, until it finally fell on the killing fields of Misery along with its long-time pilot, Gordon of Bloodhouse Zalman. Though House Kurita may have salvaged the machine, they were never able to repair or reproduce it.

VARIANTS

At least eight variants on the main chassis exist, including a complete redesign from the 3060s. The 4 was a Jaguar test platform, the 5 apes the weapons arrangement of the original "Amaris' Folly," the 6 mounts a bevy of pulse lasers for duelling, and the 7 is used for space operations. Most recently, the Horses' 8 model replaced the jump jets with Actuator Enhancement Systems, sacrificing mobility for stunning accuracy.

NOTABLE UNITS

Star Colonel Sara "Vixen" Icaza: Vixen was the lone graduate of an experimental sibko that mixed Elemental genes into a MechWarrior line with the goal of breeding tougher pilots. Serving most of her career in Lambda Galaxy, Vixen won command of the First Falcon Velites during the Jihad after challenging Lauchian Buhallin. She is most famously known for the 3055 ComStar holo of her 'Mech standing on a barren world; though the design had already been seen in small numbers among Clan Smoke Jaguar at that time, it was that image which truly reintroduced the Inner Sphere to the *Stone Rhino*

The Succubus: Jacindah Wirth's *Stone Rhino* was claimed by Dame Carrie Ellison, a Knight of the Inner Sphere who piloted it until her own death at the hands of the Blakists on Atreus. Salvaged by surviving Knights, her *Stone Rhino* fought on, taking as much a toll on allies as enemies. Before the Jihad ended, no fewer than five MechWarriors died at its controls, all of them male. Nicknamed *Succubus*, the 'Mech was donated to the fledgling Republic with the rest of the Knights' equipment, with the warning that only women should use it. The Republic heeded this strange advice, assigning it to Lady Lyla Nott. It has passed through a succession of female MechWarriors to the current day, where it was most recently seen blasting away at Wolf invaders on Denebola.

STONE RHINO (BEHEMOTH)

Type: Stone Rhino Inner Sphere Designation: Technology Base: Clan Tonnage: 100 Role: Sniper Battle Value: 3,001	Behemoth	
Equipment	Mass	
Internal Structure:	10	
Engine:	300 19	
Walking MP:	3	
Running MP:	5	
Jumping MP: Heat Sinks:	3 10 [20] 0	
Gyro:	3	\sim
Cockpit:	3	
Armor Factor:	288 18	
	nternal Armor	15
	tructure Value	
Head	3 9	
Center Torso	31 46	
Center Torso (rear) R/L Torso	15 21 27	
R/L Torso (rear)	14	
R/L Arm	17 32	
R/L Leg	21 36	
-		à
Weapons		3
and Ammo Locatio		
Large Pulse Laser RA Gauss Rifle RT	2 6 6 12	sent.
Gauss Rifle RT Small Pulse Laser H	6 12 1 1	
Ammo (Gauss) 16 CT	2 2	
Gauss Rifle LT	6 12	
Ammo (Gauss) 16 LT	2 2	~
Large Pulse Laser LA	2 6	
Jump Jet RL	1 2	1
Jump Jet CT	1 2	
Jump Jet LL	1 2	
Notes: Features the following	n Design Quirks: Barrel Fis	
(LA/RA), Protected Actuators;		
Weak Head Armor (1).		
		X
		/

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GRENDEL



Mass: 45 tons Speed: 75 kph cruising, 118 kph Jump Capacity: 210 meters Payload: 13.5 tons of pod space Manufacturer: Manufacturing Plant SFF-AL2 (Alnabog) Featured in TRO: 3058 Upgrade / Clan Invasion

Making an impressive debut at the otherwise disastrous Battle of Tukayyid, the *Grendel* was the target of numerous Trials as the invading Clans attempted to rebuild. Our merchants leveraged these into contracts that profited all parties, though ourselves in particular.

CAPABILITIES

The *Grendel* was intended to push the capabilities of a medium OmniMech, was did so in such spectacular fashion that it remains a popular design to this day. Geared toward speed and agility, pilots can control their engagement range and outmaneuver all but the spriteliest of opponents. The *Grendel*'s pod configurations lean heavily into these advantages, favoring either devastating close up assaults or longrange fire. *Grendels* also remain popular with our technician caste as they can go long periods without maintenance, unlike some OmniMechs which prove to be "hangar queens."

BATTLE HISTORY

The *Grendel* quickly spread to a number of Clans after its introduction. In more recent years, most production has stayed within our *touman*, though small numbers of *Grendels* remain active in the ranks of other Clans, particularly the Hell's Horses. With our Khanates active among all the Great Houses and the Clan Occupation Zones, the *Grendel* can be spotted in all corners of the Inner Sphere. While most of our recent engagements have been either naval or mercantile, the *Grendel* continues to prove itself.

Leveraging the contract negotiated with First Prince Julian Davion, Gamma Aimag of Tiburon Khanate conducted an independent raid against the Capellan world of Poznan in 3146, issuing simultaneous Trials of Possession for supplies and material across the planet. In one such trial, a single striker Star comprised of Grendel and Hellion OmniMechs competed for a bountiful cache of titanium ore against a company of Home Guard medium and light BattleMechs. The militia was illprepared, and our Star mercilessly carved through the CCAF defenders. Gamma's Grendels proved to be difficult targets for the poorly trained Capellans, while their own Wolverines and Wasps crumbled under the OmniMechs' firepower. The outcome of the trial was never in doubt; every OmniMech in our Star left the field under its own power with most of its armor intact.

NOTABLE UNITS

Star Captain James Fowler: Then-Star Commander James had the honor of being one of the first MechWarriors to pilot the *Grendel* in combat, leading a Star from Alpha Galaxy at Tukayyid. In the reconstruction that followed, James won both his Bloodname and the rank of Star Captain. His attention to detail and preparation served in well in battles both martial and commercial. As the warrior aged, he opted to "retire" to the Merchant caste and guide our Clan through the tumult of the Jihad.

Weapons and Ammo Weapons Configuration T	Location	Critical	Tonnage
Large Pulse Laser	RA	2	6
Improved Heavy Small Las		1	.5
SRM 6	RT	1	1.5
Ammo (SRM) 15 Double Heat Sink	RT RT	1 2	1 1
ER Small Laser	Н	1	.5
Double Heat Sink	LT	2	1
2 Imp. Heavy Medium Lase		4	2
Battle Value: 1,936	Role: Striker		
Alternate Configuration F			
2 Plasma Cannons	RA	2	6
Ammo (Plasma) 20	RA	2	2
ATM 6	RT RT	3 2	3.5
Ammo (ATM) 20 Battle Value: 1,997	Role: Striker	2	2
Dattle value. 1,997	NOIE. SUIKEI		
Alternate Configuration G			
2 Medium Pulse Lasers	RA	2	4
2 Micro Pulse Lasers	RA	2	1
Medium Pulse Laser Micro Pulse Laser	RT RT	1 1	2 .5
Micro Pulse Laser	Н	1	.5
Supercharger	СТ	1	1.5
Medium Pulse Laser	LT	1	2
Micro Pulse Laser	LT	1	.5
Watchdog CEWS	LT	2	1.5
Battle Value: 2,209	Role: Scout		
Alternate Configuration I—	Mixed		
ProtoMech AC/4	RA	3	4.5
Ammo (PAC) 20	RA	1	1
Plasma Rifle (IS) Ammo (Plasma) 10	RT CT	2 1	6 1
ER Medium Laser		1	1
Battle Value: 1,675	Role: Striker	•	
Alternate Configuration J	DA	2	2
Streak SRM 6 Streak SRM 6	RA RT	2 2	3
Ammo (Streak) 15	RT	1	1
ER Small Pulse Laser	Н	1	1.5
Streak SRM 6	LT	2	3
Ammo (Streak) 15	LT	1	1
2 Imp. Heavy Small Lasers	LA Dala Chrilian	2	1
Battle Value: 1,811	Role: Striker		
Alternate Configuration M			
Rotary AC/2	RA	4	8
Ammo (RAC) 45	RT	1	1
CASE II	RT LT	1 1	.5 4
ER Large Laser Battle Value: 1,744	Role: Sniper	I	4
Dattle value. 1,744	noie, shipel		

URBANMECH

BUSHWACKER

ZEUS



Mass: 30 tons Manufacturer: Hellespont Industrials (Betelgeuse) Featured in TRO: 3039 / 3050 Upgrade / Succession Wars

The design decisions behind the *UrbanMech* remain as enigmatic as ever, and armchair engineers across the Inner Sphere continue to decry its existence. Conspiracy theorists spout various ideas attempting to explain it: from being a smokescreen for other projects, to the Capellans sitting on a bottomless supply of Star League-era Main Guardian Defense Systems kits, to its implementation as a sinkhole program by unknown foreign agents that has tied up precious Capellan resources—better spent elsewhere for centuries. The Capellans themselves merely shrug, declaring it the will of the Chancellor.

The latest UM-R96 is no exception to this mystery, and as usual can be created by a refit or new production. An evolution of the -R80, the -R96 drops all the weaponry bar the Snub-Nose PPC to mount the hardened armor of the -R93 model. The standard small laser remains, although now of the X-pulse variety. This creates an incredibly tough 'Mech with minimal logistics needs, which is perfectly suited to combat in an urban environment—but nowhere else.

Technician Njord Wing: Believed to be the brains behind both the UM-R93 and -R96 projects, Wing may be able to shed some light on the choices made for those variants. A native of the Draconis Combine, he is a technician and MechWarrior for hire, and a chronic tinkerer who is devoted to keeping his own UrbanMech—"Fricke"—up and running. The success of the -R93 during the Capellan campaign against the Republic has ensured his skills are in high demand by anyone who can afford him. Having only debuted in 3149, the -R96 has yet to receive a full trial by fire in battle, though this will surely come soon.



Mass: 55 tons Manufacturer: TharHes Industries (Tharkad) Featured in TRO: 3058 Upgrade / Clan Invasion

Badly damaged during the Jihad and Word of Blake occupation of Tharkad, TharHes Industries was forced to sell off the *Bushwacker's* plans in order to raise much-needed capital. Forming the basis of Coventry Metal Works' *Gauntlet* OmniMech, the *Bushwacker* BSW-X4 is effectively the export version of that 'Mech. By sharing a similar frame and various other components, both companies were able to reduce costs through economies of scale. The main difference between the 'Mechs is that the *Bushwacker* retains its extralight engine, allowing the -X4 to mount more weaponry than the *Gauntlet* at the cost of flexibility.

Sergeant Geoffrey Blanchard: A noted urban combat specialist, Sergeant Blanchard put his skills to good use with the Fifth Crucis Lancers on New Syrtis in December 3147. As part of Task Force Styx, the Lancers led the vanguard of Julian Davion's forces towards the planetary capital of Saso before attempting to secure the Hasek family's ducal mansion— and secondary control center—from the Capellans. He was able to overheat a number of the Dynasty Guards with his *Bushwacker*'s plasma rifle, but not before they destroyed the mansion and performed a fighting withdrawal.

With the battle for the mansion lost, the Lancers returned to Saso just in time to relieve the Davion forces ambushed in the Cave. In the tight confines of the tunnel systems, the -X4's greatly improved short- and medium-range firepower showed its worth, particularly the massed SRM barrages from the twin MML 5 launchers. Blanchard claimed two kills against the Fourth MAC and another three against the traitorous Fortune Charlie mercenaries before the day was over, earning himself the Federated Suns Star.



Mass: 80 tons Manufacturer: Defiance Industries (Hesperus II) Featured in TRO: 3039/3050 Upgrade / Succession Wars

An evolution of the *Zeus* -9T based on lessons learned during Defiance's *Zeus-X* program, the new ZEU-11S is a mixture of technologies that blurs the Inner Sphere and Clan divide. Using Clan specification extended-range lasers, an extralight engine and LRM 15 launcher built on-site, the -11S seamlessly integrates these onto the frame of the -9T, although mating the Sphere-made Artemis FCS onto the ClanTech launcher did prove to be a challenge. Everything on the -9T was improved, especially armor protection, with the 'Mech's resilience being further bolstered by a compact gyro and CASE II.

Hauptmann John Jacob "JJ" Smith: Coming from a longestablished family of MechWarriors serving in the Arcturan Guards, Smith's family *Zeus* has seen action on many worlds. Constructed as a ZEU-6T on the eve of the Fourth Succession War, it has been rebuilt so many times that only the cockpit and frame remain of the original. Where many MechWarriors paint kill markers, Smith's family denotes the flag of every world on which they have served in the form of an elaborate tattoo spiraling down the 'Mech's left arm.

The latest flag to be added was that of Coventry, following the Fifteenth Arcturan's campaign against the Jade Falcons in 3148. Arriving as reinforcements to the beleaguered Seventeenth Arcturan, the Stavlos Tigers were soon in the thick of the action around the city of Lietnerton. Unable to reach Hauptmann-General Jasek Kelswa-Steiner's command company in the Dales in time to save him, Smith and his company capitalized on Jasek's sacrifice and held on long enough for Arcturan reinforcements to force the Falcons to withdraw from the area.













































