



SMES 2015

ENHANCING MILITARY AND SECURITY CAPABILITIES TO COMBAT TERRORISM

08 - 10 September 2015, BIEL - Lebanon

Press release, 12-03-2015

Beirut Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Third Edition of Security Middle East Show (SMES)

Will be held at BIEL on September 8 - 10 - 2015

SMES launches its 3rd edition in Beirut

The Third Edition of Security Middle East Show (SMES 2015) will take place at BIEL (Beirut International Exhibition & Leisure Center) Beirut, Lebanon on September 8 - 10, 2015. SMES 2015 is being held under the patronage of His Excellency Saad Hariri, Former Prime Minister and Majority Leader of the Lebanese Parliament, and with the full support of the Ministry of Interior, Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), and Internal Security Forces (ISF). The official conference of SMES 2015 will take place under the patronage of LAF Commander General Jean Kahwaji and feature General (Ret.) Michel Sleiman, Former President of Lebanon, as Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker.

SMES 2015 is organized by Strategic and Security Services Company (3SCo) in association with Security and Defense Arabia and INEGMA. SMES was first launched in 2009 by INEGMA, and held its Second Edition in 2011. The formal announcement for SMES 2015 was made during a press conference at the Beirut Chamber of Commerce and Industry on March 12. The President of Beirut Chamber of Commerce, Mohamed Choucair, underlined the importance of strengthening defense and security for improving the business climate and economic conditions in the country and wider region, and called for enhanced public-private cooperation to boost capacities for meeting requirements locally.

Riad Kahwaji, Chairman of the Board at 3SCo and Chief Executive of INEGMA highlighted the strong support SMES 2015 is receiving from the Lebanese Government, military, and industry. He pointed out that SMES 2015 is seeing significant growth given new conditions and as a result of "the vast



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international support being extended to the LAF for confronting terrorist groups, especially with the US\$4 billion assistance package received from Saudi Arabia to equip the Lebanese military and security forces." Approximately 100 exhibitors participated at SMES 2011 despite Lebanon facing exports control restrictions at the time, a situation which has now changed alongside. "This year we expect twice the number of companies to show up at SMES 2015 due to changes in export control restrictions for Lebanon and due to urgent requirements emerging as a growing number of regional military and security forces engage in intensive counter-terrorism operations," Kahwaji said.

SMES 2015 will address two main themes: Combating Terrorism and Enhancing Industrial Capacities through Collaboration. The Official Conference of SMES 2015 will provide a high level forum for regional defense and security officials to discuss counter-terrorism and emerging regional threats and a series of carefully crafted workshops and roundtable discussions will focus on emerging technologies and developing public-private sector collaboration.