

**Cluster Munitions at IDEX 2015 (Abu Dhabi)
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Norinco's new AR3 multiple rocket launcher (MRL) and many types of guided rocket/surface-to-surface missiles dominated the Chinese stand at the IDEX fair in Abu Dhabi 2015. The AR3 launcher can use two pods of rockets, each of which can contain four 370 mm or five 300 mm rockets. Various 300-mm rockets with different warheads are available for this system including one warhead with anti-personnel or anti-tank mines. Cluster rounds may also carry self-targeting anti-tank munitions. (<http://www.military-today.com/artillery/ar3.htm>)

Norinco also displayed its new *Fire Dragon* series of guided munitions for its MRLs but would not reveal the warhead options for the larger Fire Dragon weapons (unguided 300 mm) using cargo warheads capable of carrying 414 or 623 dual-purpose anti-personnel/anti-tank bomblets.



Other Chinese companies were promoting rival MRL systems at IDEX. China Aerospace Long-March International (**ALIT**) had models of its A-series, WS-series, and M20 on its stand. The M20 ground-to-ground tactical missile system and the A300

GMLRS weapon system is able to use different types of warheads including “cargo warheads, shaped charge/fragmentation cargo warheads and kinetic penetration cargo warheads” (photo).



CPMIEC (China Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation) displayed the air to ground weapons YZ-101 B YZ-101 A containing 60 submunitions which can be used with UAV systems. CPMIEC also offers the SY 300/400 Guided Rocket Weapon Systems can be

equipped with “anti-armor fragment cluster warhead” and “armor-piercing and anti-personnel fragment cluster warhead”. The YZ-101 B and the YZ-101 A ground weapons (photo) were also offered by **CATIC** (China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation) which belongs to **AVIC** (Aviation Industry Corporation of China).

The state-run Russian producer **SPLAV SPA** displayed its SMERCH rocket launcher which can use 9M55K, 9M55K5 and 9M531 projectiles with scattering cluster warheads containing 815 submunitions. SPLAV’s GRAD 122mm rocket launcher was also on offer using the 9M218 unguided rocket projectile (photo) with 45 submunitions.

