

The 1917 'Saint-Chamond' Tank

This new vehicle, designed by Colonel Rimaillho, manufactured for 400 units, had indeed obvious advantages in comparison with the Schneider tank : it was longer (with an initial increase in weight of only one third) it presented superior qualities of protection but turned out to be poorly performing in cross-country due to the importance of its cart's overhang. In fact, it was of the appalling habit of remaining blocked when crossing certain trenches.

Its armament was composed of a campaign 75 mm gun, model 1897, place at the front and shooting in the axis, as well as of four machine guns.

It was an armored cart of a very long form that was springing forward and backward, supposed to resist the shrapnel and the small caliber guns.

The four cylinders petrol Panhard engine, operated a dynamo that furnished the necessary energy to two electrical engines, linked to the rollers' chain wheel.

This latter was constituted with three pairs of bogies that were suspended by helix-shaped springs.

Specifications :

Dimensions : Length : 8.69 m. Width : 2.67 m, Height 2.36 m.

Speed : 8.5 km/h

Range : 59 km

Weight : 22 t.

Armament : 1 off 75 mm gun, 4 off 8 mm machine guns

Armoring : from 11 to maximum 17 mm

Crew : 8 men



