

Oshkosh HET

The American built Oshkosh HET, which has been adopted worldwide as a preeminent 8x8 Heavy Transport vehicle for moving heavy loads over very difficult terrain, is of great significance to people who are interested in heavy vehicles, transportation and heavy haulage on behalf of the Military such as the work being done by SANDF certainly since World War Two. Together with its trailer it forms the HETS (Heavy Equipment Transport System). This military version was designed to transport the M1 Tank and other tracked vehicles weighing up to 63500kg and Sandstone's example was acquired from Britain as a donation to the Sandstone Heritage Museum..

These vehicles are manufactured by Oshkosh which is the largest producer of very highly specialised off-road vehicles of this type. The truck and trailer are specially equipped with heavy duty hydraulic winches, specialised heavy duty ramps and quite a number of other features which allow it to go into difficult areas and load heavy weights. Our pictures and short video show the HET making its first run at Sandstone transporting Sandstone's Sherman Tank. A somewhat smaller load than a US Army M1!





The standard load for the HET, the M1 tank.