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Ukraine: Russian troops using thermal camouflage to hide from IF scopes

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Vladimir Putin's troops given 'invisibility' cloaks using secret Russian technology

The lightweight gear, which is being described as relying on "fundamentally new" technology, is already in use by Russian special forces but will be rolled out widely across the army

By Will Stewart & **Charlie Jones**, Senior US Reporter

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Russia claims to have developed 'invisibility cloaks' to hide its invading troops in Ukraine using top secret technology.

The Harry Potter-style lightweight camouflage outfit purportedly protects **Vladimir Putin's forces** from thermal imaging equipment. It is already deployed with **Russian special forces**, say **Privacy**

reports. The outfits come as cloaks, suits with a jacket and trousers, balaclava headwear. Videos show how the suits work to negate or reduce the visibility of Russian troops in enemy sights.

Using a secret technology, the invention supposedly blurs the silhouettes of soldiers at the frontline, say makers HiderX which is supplying the Russian armed forces.

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Circled is a soldier wearing the suit, now nearly invisible to thermal imagery (Image: HiderX/east2west news)

“We are developing a fundamentally new product – a camouflage suit that breaks and blurs the silhouette,” said the company. “This is a completely Russian technology based on coating fabrics with a certain composition – our know-how, and its details are not disclosed... The suit will make it possible to effectively camouflage Russian military personnel from enemy thermal imaging equipment.”

Fine-tuning tests are due to be completed this month and the “invisible suits” – which roll up and fit in a pocket – will be supplied more widely to the army. Ukraine has its own version of such technology, but it is believed to be ineffective during rapid movement of troops.

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The new gear comes in different forms (Image: HiderX/east2west news)

"The material and technology applied to the fabric make it possible to achieve a minimum weight of 350 grams," said the Russian company. We use a different technology—shielding," said HiderX. The costs are up to £525 per outfit.

Until now production has been at 400 a month but this will be ramped up in the near future, according to reports.

This comes as Moscow-installed officials said Ukrainian shelling killed at least 27 people and wounded 25 on Sunday at a market on the outskirts of Donetsk, a Russian-occupied city in the eastern part of the country.



A model shows off the gear (Image: HiderX/east2west news)



The suits will be rolled out across the Russian army (Image: HiderX/east2west news)

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Among the injured in the suburb of Tekstilshchik were two children, said Denis Pushilin, the local leader. Ukrainian officials in Kyiv did not comment on the incident, and the claims could not be independently verified by The Associated Press. Both sides have increasingly relied on longer-range attacks this winter amid largely unchanged positions on the 1,500-kilometer (930-mile) front line in the nearly 2-year-old war.

Privacy

The newly unveiled invisibility suit (Image: HiderX/east2west news)

The artillery shells that hit the area had been fired from the area of Kurakhove and Krasnohorivka to the west, Pushilin said, adding that emergency services responded to the scene.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres “strongly condemns all attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including today’s shelling of the city of Donetsk in Ukraine,” according to a U.N. spokesperson, adding that all such attacks are prohibited under international humanitarian law.

Donetsk is one of four regions in Ukraine that Russia annexed illegally in 2022, months after Moscow launched its full-scale invasion.

A soldier opens his cloak reveal his position (Image: HiderX/east2west news)

Russia's Foreign Ministry also blamed Ukraine and described the strike as a "terrorist attack."

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