

The Italian Army chooses the Ineos Grenadier—the first in NATO to order the off-road vehicle

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The **Esercito Italiano** is preparing to renew its fleet of tactical vehicles with a significant new addition. **Ineos Automotive** has announced the signing of a contract to supply the **Grenadier** off-road vehicle to Italy's armed forces, marking a historic milestone for the British manufacturer: **Italy is officially the first NATO country to order the vehicle for its Army**.

The first deliveries are scheduled for **early 2027**, with logistics management entrusted to **ATflow**, an importer and leading distributor in the Italian market.

The announcement represents a crucial step in the history of the young British brand. To date, the Grenadier has been adopted primarily by **police agencies, border patrols, and public rescue services**; the agreement signed with Italy's Ministry of Defense represents the **first true order from a sovereign armed force** (alongside the simultaneous order from the Austrian Government).



Why the Esercito Italiano chose the Grenadier (with an Italian mechanical heart)

According to the manufacturer, the Grenadier won the tender over competing platforms thanks to technical and structural features ideally suited to operational use:

- **Structural robustness:** The **ladder-frame chassis** and **solid axles** ensure high durability over the most demanding terrain and under heavy loads.
- **Ease of maintenance:** The **reduced number of components** simplifies field repairs, reducing fleet operating costs.
- **Range flexibility:** The availability of **multiple wheelbases and body variants** provides extensive customization for the differing requirements of units.

A key role in the Grenadier's mechanical systems is played by the all-Italian company **Carraro**, a leading company headquartered in Campodarsego (PD), which manufactures and directly supplies the **solid axles and heavy-duty driveline systems** fitted to the off-road vehicle.

Distribution management entrusted to ATflow

The entire delivery flow and contract management across Italy will be handled by **ATflow**, the official and exclusive Italian importer for Ineos Automotive. The company, **wholly owned by the Autotorino group**, has distributed the British brand since 2025. The operational arrangements for organizing the **technical support and maintenance network** dedicated to Army vehicles during active service have yet to be defined.



The European context and expansion in the defense sector

Italy's distinction concerns direct adoption by a **NATO army**, but the British off-road vehicle already has a broad presence among European institutions:

- **Specialist units and police:** The Grenadier is already in service with **counterterrorism and rapid-response units** in **Germany, France, and Spain**, as well as border guards in **Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Serbia, and Slovakia**.
- **Austria:** The Austrian Government awarded a contract to specialist company *Valentin Tusch GmbH* for the supply of **Grenadiers with enhanced protection and armor** for defense and internal security missions.
- **United Kingdom:** The *Team Grenadier* consortium (led by Ineos) has entered the trial phase of the British Ministry of Defence's **Light Mobility Vehicle** program.

As Mike Whittington, Chief Commercial Officer of Ineos Automotive, emphasized, the agreement represents **"a huge vote of confidence"** within a global context in which governments are accelerating the renewal of their vehicle fleets with **modern, resilient, high-performance vehicles**.

News link: https://it.motor1.com/news/813759/ineos-grenadier-primo-ordine-nato/