By 1505, it became obvious to the Elaran High Command that the Vector was hopelessly obsolete. In combat against the Mauler Mk II and the Rampage, it consistently came out second best. Because of this disparity, the decision was made to produce a newer, more technically advanced version based on the same frame.

**EMA105 “VIGIL”**

Following in the footsteps of the first mass-produced combat Mekton, this uprated version of the venerable Vector changed the balance on Kalia.
The new unit, named Vigil, would use all the technology that had proven useful on the Vector, while replacing obsolete or outdated ones. The first items scrapped would be the primary and secondary sensor arrays. These "eye-like" targeting sensors on the face would be replaced by a far more protectable "visored" sensor array, and the secondary arrays would be removed from the obvious "target-spikes" to a protected area in the unit's torso. No longer would Kargan pilots practice their marksmanship by blinding Vector pilots. The result was a head that looked less like a face, and more like a helmet. An added bonus was an extended sensor package, allowing for greater spotting and communication ranges.

The main obstacle the planning committee faced was showing that a mass-produced version of the Vigil could be built on an acceptable budget. Their final design came in slightly greater than the price of a proposed Vector MkII, but, desperate for a solid combat platform that could match the Kargans, the Defense Council readily approved construction.

**Upgraded Weapon Systems**

With all of the changes and modifications, the Vigil ended up having a considerably different look than its predecessor. Almost all Vigil weaponry was upgraded from the Vector, with rocket launchers and machine-cannon removed from the main body to better facilitate armor protection. The old 150mm cannon was replaced by a powerful plasma launcher, and the laser-gun in the head was also upgraded to an auto-fire weapon. This reduced the damage per shot, but multiple attacks could strip the armor off an opponent before they had time to react. Interior missile pods were added to the arms and legs as well.

**Service Record**

During Archipelago War, the Vigil became the standard of Elaran defense. In order to quickly establish unit effectiveness, the first squadron was deployed in a surprise attack on the Kargan city of Korthad. The initial wing of twelve Vigils, led by Captain Johnathan Straggina a modified Vigil-M, used their missiles in an effective carpet barrage of military production targets around the city. The wing met only moderate resistance as the Kargans never expected a direct invasion of Kargan soil. The Vigils performed well during the battle, destroying almost all Maulers engaged. After crippling the site, the Elarans quietly left. The rumor that a dozen new Mektons had completely vaporized Korthad and disappeared without a trace swiftly spread through the Kargan ranks. While this rumor was not quite true, the morale damage to the Kargan troops lasted for weeks, and sent the Kargan High Command a definite message: no place was safe from the new Elaran mecha.

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### Technical Specifications

- **Height:** 14.2
- **Weight:** 67.3 tons
- **Ground Speed:** 64 mph
- **Flight Speed:** 360 mph
- **Crew:** 1
- **Stock Loadout:** Nissan SR-6 Plasma Rifle, Filsen PL-3 Repeating Laser, BW-4 PlasBlade
- **Armor:** Standard Rildium Plating
- **Max. Sensor Range:** 200 miles, visual

### Development History

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