

► VEHICLE SYSTEMS

29 October 2024

Strategic cooperation: Rheinmetall and Croatian unmanned ground system manufacturer DOK-ING set to build remote-controlled UGSs together in future

- **The planned joint venture is foreseen to become the market leader in the segment of unmanned and remote-controlled combat and combat support vehicles.**
- **The first goal of the partnership is to jointly develop an unmanned system for mine scattering and counter-mobility operations. A corresponding system demonstrator is to be presented in 2025.**

In the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of the Republic of Croatia Ivan Anušić the Croatian UGS manufacturer DOK-ING and the Düsseldorf-based technology group Rheinmetall signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 28 October 2024 to establish a joint venture. A special feature of this partnership is the entirely European origin and value creation, which should result in various unmanned ground systems (UGS).

The agreement provides for joint development and subsequent marketing of the new DOK-ING Komodo platform. Rheinmetall AG is contributing various capability modules/upgrade kits (e.g. for direct and indirect fire, mine-laying, reconnaissance sensors, logistics, etc.), as well as its international market access and industrial capacities.

The implementation of the MoU is subject to the prior approval of the relevant regulatory authorities, including the European Commission and the respective national competition authorities.

As Dr Björn Bernhard, head of the Vehicle Systems Europe division, explains: “DOK-ING

and Rheinmetall represent two leading European suppliers in their field, joining forces to carry out challenging projects. Together, we aim to set new standards and pave the way for the series production and application of UGSs. We are addressing the European market as well as other partner nations.”

Vjekoslav Majetić, founder and President of the supervisory board of DOK-ING: “The technological and industrial synergies between DOK-ING and Rheinmetall

► Key facts

- ▷ Strategic cooperation concluded between Rheinmetall and Croatian UGS manufacturer DOK-ING
- ▷ Memorandum of Understanding signed in Berlin, joint venture planned
- ▷ Cooperation in the construction of unmanned combat and combat support vehicles

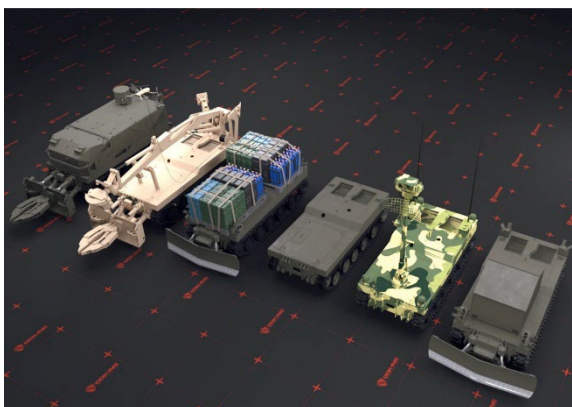
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represent a unique opportunity to develop state-of-the-art unmanned combat and armoured breaching systems in Europe. We see this agreement as a fundamental contribution to creating a common future.”

Within the framework of the future cooperation, numerous combat and combat support solutions will be developed, including a joint project for an unmanned armed support vehicle (known as a Wingman) for battle tanks and infantry fighting vehicles for reconnaissance and fire support is also to be developed. These shall be used in combination with already known classic Rheinmetall products, such as the KF51 Panther, the Büffel-3 armoured recovery vehicle and the Kodiak-3 armoured engineer vehicle.

About Rheinmetall

Rheinmetall AG, based in Düsseldorf, is an integrated technology group. Founded in 1889, the company is a leading international system supplier to the defence industry, and a driver of forward-looking technological and industrial innovations on the civilian market. A focus on sustainability is an integral part of the Rheinmetall strategy. With around 30,000 employees at 174 sites worldwide, the company, which has been listed on the DAX40 since March 2023, generated sales of €7.2bn in the fiscal year of 2023.

About DOK-ING

DOK-ING is a technology company based in Zagreb, Croatia, specialised in the development, production and maintenance of unmanned, remote-controlled, high-performance robotic systems operating in extreme conditions. DOK-ING is the market leader in the field of civilian and military unmanned clearance of landmines. DOK-ING is also active in mining with remote-controlled heavy equipment. Other DOK-ING systems provide support to police, fire and emergency services.