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Rheinmetall and EM&E Group show national alternative to Spanish SILAM programme

Madrid/Düsseldorf. EM&E Group and Rheinmetall Expal Munitions, the Spanish subsidiary of Rheinmetall, have submitted their joint proposal to the Ministry of Defence for the SILAM High Mobility Rocket Launcher System (Sistema Lanzador de Alta Movilidad), representing a national alternative to the existing programme.

With the goal of defining a viable Spanish solution in the shortest possible time, the joint venture formed by both companies has maintained intense and continuous coordination with the Directorate General of Armament and Material of the State Secretariat for Defence. This joint effort has allowed for an in-depth analysis of the operational needs for this programme and the existing capabilities, laying the foundations for a system fully aligned with the strategic interests of Spain.

As a result of this coordinated effort, the UTE SILAM (joint venture between Rheinmetall Expal Munitions and EM&E) has submitted a phased proposal for the development of a rocket artillery system, conceived from the outset as a fully national programme in Spain. This proposal includes the delivery of operational and test launchers, as well as ammunition, reconnaissance, and command post vehicles, along with the development and qualification of training and guided rockets. This approach will allow for progressive advancement toward the system's full technological maturity, ensuring its suitability for operational requirements and its long-term sustainability.

Strengthening the national industrial and technological base

The SILAM programme is also integrated into the Industrial and Technological Plan for Security and Defence as a strategic initiative aimed at strengthening the national industrial and technological base in Spain. In this context, the project not only addresses the operational requirements of the Spanish Armed Forces while contributing to the development of defence capabilities for the European Union and NATO, but also reinforces key industrial capabilities, national supply chains, and technological innovation.

The development of this system represents a significant step forward in the leadership of the Spanish defence industry, positioning it in a highly specialized technological field currently dominated by very few countries. This initiative consolidates the national industry as a reliable and capable strategic partner, able to undertake complex programs, thereby increasing its competitiveness and future prospects.

Furthermore, the programme will enable the independent acquisition of national expertise in the design, development, and manufacture of guided rockets, guaranteeing sovereign control of critical knowledge and the complete system lifecycle. This technological autonomy strengthens national sovereignty, increases the resilience of the defence system, and constitutes a fundamental pillar of strategic autonomy.

► Key facts

- Rheinmetall and EM&E: National solution for the Spanish SILAM programme
- Joint venture submits proposal for the development of a rocket artillery system
- Strengthening the national industrial and technological base in Spain
- Expansion of defence industrial capabilities in Europe

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