

April 20, 2026

Rheinmetall Kraken GmbH launches series production of maritime unmanned systems in Hamburg

Series production of the Kraken K3 Scout has begun at Rheinmetall's Blohm+Voss site in Hamburg. With the market-ready unmanned surface vessel (USV), Rheinmetall's new Naval Systems division—together with its British joint venture partner Kraken Technology Group—offers a surface platform for both military and civilian applications. Depending on the configuration, the vessels can be used for maritime surveillance, protection of critical infrastructure, or as weapons carriers in military operations.



The joint venture established last year between Rheinmetall Naval Systems and the British tech company Kraken Technology Group will now operate under

the name "Rheinmetall Kraken GmbH." The partnership addresses the growing global demand for market-available unmanned platforms of various sizes.

Production of the systems—which are capable of speeds of up to 55 knots, measure 8.4 metres in length, and are individually configurable—takes place at Rheinmetall's shipyard Blohm+Voss in Hamburg, a site that the Düsseldorf-based company is developing into Germany's leading test and technology centre for unmanned and autonomous marine systems.

"Production of the Kraken K3 Scout is initially designed for around 200 units per year. Depending on the order volume, we can scale up production to as many as 1,000 units annually," says Tim Wagner, CEO of Rheinmetall's Naval Systems division. With five locations in Germany, the Naval Systems division specialises in the construction of complex naval and coast guard vessels and is a pioneer in the development of unmanned and autonomous surface systems.

Mal Crease, CEO of Kraken Technology Group said: "The formation of Rheinmetall Kraken GmbH combines the scale, expertise and reach of a longstanding defence leader with an agile, innovative maritime technology company. This will ensure that production of Kraken's K3 Scout can scale to meet exponentially growing operational requirements."

Kraken Technology Group develops high-performance and cost-efficient unmanned maritime systems. Through the joint venture, they benefit from the extensive production and integration capabilities of the Rheinmetall Naval Systems division.

► Key facts

- Series production of the Kraken K3 Scout has begun at Rheinmetall's Blohm+Voss site in Hamburg
- Naval Systems meets global demand for unmanned maritime solutions

► Contact

Oliver Grün
Spokesman Naval Systems
Tel.: +49 (0) 421 6604 430
oliver.gruen@nvl.de

Oliver Hoffmann
Head of Public Relations
Tel.: +49-(0)211 473 4748
oliver.hoffmann@rheinmetall.com

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