

► AIR DEFENCE

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Rheinmetall and LIG Defense&Aerospace join forces to address European and NATO customers

Düsseldorf-based technology group Rheinmetall and LIG Defense&Aerospace (LIG D&A), a leading South Korean defence technology company, have agreed to establish a strategic partnership to provide state-of-the-art air defence systems for the European and NATO territory. The short-term aim of the two partners is to form a joint venture with Rheinmetall holding the majority shares.

Rheinmetall and LIG D&A will localize, further develop and market LIG D&A's medium- and long-range air defence (MRAD / LRAD) missile systems in Europe in close conjunction with Rheinmetall's very short-range air defence (VSHORAD).

Furthermore, both partners agreed to co-develop new missiles and capabilities for short-range air defence (SHORAD) to close current gaps in this segment and to provide solutions over all air defence layers.

This combination of capabilities expands and strengthens both companies' product portfolios and enables the provision of complete turn-key solutions out of one hand.

The recent conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have shown that independent, fast and reliable supply and delivery chains are crucial for sustainability and success. Both companies contribute to this endeavor with their profound knowledge and capabilities to satisfy the high demand for multi-layered air defence systems, missiles and ammunition.

Oliver Dürr, CEO Rheinmetall Division Air Defence said: "Together, LIG D&A and Rheinmetall Air Defence offer a highly complementary portfolio of ground-based air defence solutions designed to meet the market's immediate needs and future challenges."

Ickhyun Shin, President & CEO LIG D&A stated: "We, LIG D&A and Rheinmetall, are putting our strengths together to establish a defence powerhouse in Europe for air defense missile solutions and beyond. Europe is entering a new era of defense modernization, and we believe this is the right time to deepen cooperation with a trusted European partner, like Rheinmetall, for a long-term strategic partnership in Europe. Together with Rheinmetall, LIG D&A will pursue sustainable cooperation in various aspects such as R&D, marketing, business development and localized production. By combining our advanced, combat-proven missile technologies with Rheinmetall's extensive network and expertise, we will provide highly competitive and interoperable solutions for European market, contributing to strengthening Europe's integrated air and missile defense capabilities."

► Key facts

- Intention to form a joint venture with Rheinmetall holding the majority shares
- Localization and further development medium- and long-range air defence and very short-range air defence
- Co-development of new missiles and capabilities for short-range air defence

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About Rheinmetall

With its Air Defence arm, Rheinmetall brings together all expertise in the field of ground-based air defence and is one of the world's leading providers of complex air defence systems.

It combines core capabilities ranging from development and production to simulation, training and comprehensive services. The aim is to provide modern, integrated solutions to protect against all airborne threats, from drones to highly maneuverable aerial targets.

The Air Defence Division operates globally and supports customers throughout the entire lifecycle of their systems – from procurement to modernization. It covers the entire chain of effects of modern air defence. This includes:

- High-performance cannons and effectors
- Sensor and fire control systems
- Integrated command and control systems
- mobile and stationary air defence
- Drone defence solutions and ammunition and system components

The close integration of these areas results in scalable and interoperable solutions – ranging from individual subsystems to fully integrated air defence architectures.

About LIG Defense&Aerospace

LIG Defense&Aerospace (LIG D&A) is a leading defence company in South Korea. Formerly known as LIG Nex1, LIG D&A offers comprehensive capabilities across precision-guided munitions (PGMs), surveillance and reconnaissance, avionics/electronic warfare and unmanned solutions. As a leading system integrator and prime contractor for multi-layered air defense system, LIG D&A has spearheaded the development of numerous cutting-edge interception systems, including L-SAM: a Long-range Surface-to-Air Missile system, MSAM-II: a Medium-range Surface-to-Air Missile system and CHIRON: a portable short-range surface-to-air missile system. Furthermore, with the recent opening of its European representative office in Munich, Germany, LIG D&A is expanding its footprint into the European defense market.