

► WEAPON AND AMMUNITION

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Rheinmetall and General Atomics explore transatlantic co-production of Vektrex for allied artillery modernisation

Rheinmetall and General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems (GA-EMS) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Eurosatory 2026 to explore cooperative production opportunities for Vektrex, a maneuvering 155 mm precision-guided munition. Vektrex extends the range and effectiveness of coalition artillery forces and addresses growing requirements for modernisation, long-range strike capability and munitions replenishment.

Driven by increasing international demand for industrial-scale manufacturing as governments rebuild depleted munition inventories, expand defence industrial capacity, and modernise artillery forces for high-intensity operations, the companies entered into the agreement to assess Vektrex as a cost-effective standoff capability. Vektrex integrates with fielded 39- and 52-calibre 155 mm artillery systems, enabling rapid integration across coalition force structures.



The MoU, signed by GA-EMS President Scott Forney and the CEO of Rheinmetall's Weapon and Ammunition Division, Roman Köhne, builds on GA-EMS' continued investment in precision-strike munition development and scalable manufacturing. Rheinmetall's expertise in munitions and production, combined with its NATO-compliant infrastructure, positions Vektrex for large-scale series production to meet the requirements of Alliance and partner nations.

"Operational demand continues to outpace traditional guided-munition manufacturing output," Forney said. "This collaboration helps allied industry expand long-range strike capability while leveraging artillery systems already deployed across coalition forces."

Vektrex delivers manoeuvring strike capability in contested and GPS-degraded environments. Its glide-based aerodynamic design extends engagement range two to three times beyond conventional artillery projectiles while reducing integration risk for fielded artillery formations. The munition provides a lower cost-per-effect alternative to tactical missile systems for forces requiring survivable standoff fires.

"European and allied armed forces require long-range strike capabilities that integrate rapidly, scale efficiently, and remain sustainable through resilient multinational industrial networks," Köhne said. "This MoU enables both

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► Key facts

- Rheinmetall and General Atomics explore the joint production of 'Vektrex' 155 mm precision ammunition
- Extended-range ammunition can be integrated directly into existing 155 mm artillery systems (39 and 52 calibre)
- Collaboration supports stockpile replenishment and coalition interoperability

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companies to align advanced artillery technologies with established manufacturing infrastructure to support evolving operational requirements.”

The collaboration supports distributed co-production opportunities that can strengthen supply chains, accelerate fielding timelines, and expand industrial participation across allied defence sectors. As military requirements shift toward longer-range and higher-volume fires, Vektrex provides a scalable modernisation path for fielded artillery systems without requiring new launcher, propellant infrastructure, or logistics.

About Rheinmetall

Rheinmetall AG is an integrated technology group headquartered in Düsseldorf. Founded in 1889, the company is a leading international systems provider in the defence industry, operating across the land, air, sea and space domains. Sustainability is an integral part of Rheinmetall’s strategy. With around 34,000 employees at some 160 locations worldwide, Rheinmetall has been listed on the DAX 40 since March 2023 and achieved a turnover of €9.9 billion in the 2025 financial year.

About General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems

General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems (GA-EMS) is one of four main business segments of General Atomics and develops innovative technologies supporting operational environments from undersea to space. GA-EMS specializes in electromagnetic aircraft launch systems (EMALS) and advanced arresting gear (AAG), power generation and energy storage, space systems, nuclear fission energy systems, and cutting-edge technologies supporting hypersonic, missile defence, and laser weapon systems. GA-EMS also provides commercial products and services targeting hazardous waste remediation, oil and gas, and nuclear energy industries. For information, visit <https://www.ga.com/about/ems>.