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Rheinmetall establishes UK-based autonomous systems centre of excellence, increasing cooperation with Canada

Rheinmetall is preparing for the next generation of warfare, while delivering world-class technology. To expedite the delivery and meet the demand for autonomous systems, Rheinmetall has opened a new Advanced Land Autonomy Centre of Excellence (ALACOE) in the United Kingdom, enhancing operational effectiveness across the region. The initiative is part of a wider network of centres localizing autonomy across Europe, USA, and Australia.

Rheinmetall PATH

At the heart of this effort lies the Rheinmetall PATH technology, Rheinmetall Canada's AI-enabled autonomy kit developed in Canada, which provides perception, navigation, and decision-making across complex, GPS-degraded, and contested environments. PATH is platform-agnostic and has been demonstrated on more than 40 wheeled and tracked vehicles, enabling autonomous navigation, leader-follower convoy operations, and dynamic obstacle avoidance in dense terrain, littoral zones, and harsh climates.

Its maturity has been validated through demanding multinational trials and competitions, including NATO-linked experimentation and the European Land Robot Trials (ELROB), where PATH-enabled Rheinmetall systems achieved top performance in automated convoy operations, demonstrating readiness for real-world deployment.

Strengthening NATO's readiness through Canadian innovation

As countries strengthen and modernize their defence capabilities, the creation of this network of centres will also amplify Canada's leading role in autonomous ground autonomous systems across Europe. ALACOE UK will serve the local market, bringing world leading ground autonomy directly to the UK market and surrounding regions while reinforcing the collective security across NATO members.

► Key facts

- Rheinmetall establishes advanced land autonomy Centre of excellence based in the UK, increasing cooperation with Canada.
- This new Centre of excellence will accelerate the delivery of PATH technology across Europe.
- The Centre will localize and deploy advanced autonomous systems, creating high value jobs for the region.

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Significant industrial and economic benefits for future missions

Through this ALACOE, Rheinmetall is actively integrating UK-based companies into the supply chain to localize advanced technologies. By serving as a hub for integration, testing, and deployment of autonomous land systems, it will strengthen British sovereignty while creating high-value engineering and technology jobs in the UK and sustaining advanced manufacturing production in Canada. The Centre will hence deliver significant economic benefits on both sides of the Atlantic.

Rebecca Richards, Managing Director Rheinmetall UK, said, “The establishment of the Centre of excellence in the UK reflects the growing importance of autonomy in delivering more agile and resilient land capabilities. As forces adapt to increasingly complex and dynamic threats, the ability to integrate and scale these technologies will be critical.”

President and CEO of Rheinmetall Canada Pietro Mazzei said, “Deploying the Canadian expertise and localizing the capability accelerates the delivery of advanced solutions, enhances long-term industrial resilience, and maximizes economic returns by expanding domestic participation in high growth defence technologies”.