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Major milestone achieved: Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions provides the German Armed Forces with exclusive access to SAR satellites

Less than a year after its official commissioning, Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions GmbH has reached another key milestone in the new SPOCK 1 satellite programme for the German Armed Forces. The German armed forces now have direct access to several Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) reconnaissance satellites dedicated exclusively to this purpose. They can commission these satellites independently, thereby building on the SAR reconnaissance capabilities already available via other satellites. Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions operates the SAR satellites and continues to expand the constellation. This capability is being used primarily to protect the brigade in Lithuania and to monitor NATO's eastern flank. SPOCK 1 stands for 'SAR Space System for Persistent Operational Tracking, Stage 1' and describes the initial phase of a national radar reconnaissance system designed for continuous, all-weather satellite surveillance.

Meanwhile, production of SAR satellites has successfully commenced at the Neuss site. With the start of production, Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions is moving from the planning and development phase to industrial implementation. The Neuss site brings together production, integration, testing and quality assurance. Highly qualified specialists from production, engineering and quality management oversee the entire manufacturing process. Highly qualified specialists from production, engineering, and quality management oversee the entire manufacturing process. The aim is to build and certify several dozen satellites for launch into Earth's orbit each year on the banks of the Rhine.

"Less than a year after the contract was signed, the German Armed Forces are gaining direct access to a dedicated SAR reconnaissance capability. The successful start of production in Neuss demonstrates that we not only provide innovative space technology, but can also scale it up industrially in Germany," says Armin Papperger, CEO of Rheinmetall.



► Key facts

- Bundeswehr receives direct access to dedicated SAR reconnaissance satellites under the SPOCK 1 programme
- Less than one year after signing the contract, SPOCK 1 has reached its next development milestone
- Satellite production has started in Neuss, establishing industrial SAR manufacturing capabilities in Germany

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Rafal Modrzewski, CEO and Co-founder of ICEYE, adds: "Every SPOCK 1 satellite carries the lessons of years of ICEYE operating the world's largest SAR constellation for government customers. That track record combined with Rheinmetall's industrial scale is why Germany could move from contract to capability this fast. Our job now is to hold that pace as the system grows."

Developing production capacities in Germany strengthens Europe's technological and industrial base for space-based reconnaissance. Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions combines existing technological capabilities with industrial manufacturing in Germany.

About Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions GmbH

Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions is a joint venture between Rheinmetall and ICEYE. The company combines Rheinmetall's defence and systems expertise with ICEYE's SAR technology and experience in operating satellite constellations. It integrates space-based capabilities into operational decision-making and chain-of-effect processes, and is building up industrial capacity in Germany to enable long-term scaling.

SAR satellites map the Earth's surface using radar. Unlike optical satellites, they can capture image data day and night, regardless of weather conditions or cloud cover. This makes SAR a key technology for space-based reconnaissance.

Further information on Rheinmetall ICEYE Space Solutions GmbH can be found at <https://www.rheinmetall.com/RISS>.