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*Rheinmetall wins important framework agreement to supply Bundeswehr with ammunition*

## **Sales in the three digit million euro range expected; first order for tank ammo already issued**

Rheinmetall has entered a framework agreement to supply the German Bundeswehr with ammunition. In an initial move, the Federal Office for Bundeswehr Equipment, Information Technology and In-Service Support (BAAINBw) in Koblenz has placed an order for 5,000 rounds of DM11 service ammunition. The gross value of this first individual order comes to around €45 million (€38 million without VAT). Delivery will take place in 2017 and 2018.

The framework agreement lays the groundwork for further procurement orders by the Bundeswehr for ammunition of every type and calibre. In the short term, the next order is likely to be for 120mm practice ammunition. In the medium term, the framework agreement offers Rheinmetall the prospect of order volume well into the three digit million euro range.

Already in service with the US armed forces, the versatile 120mm DM11 cartridge has proven highly effective in combat operations. Rheinmetall is renowned worldwide for its 120mm smoothbore systems, which for example serve as the main armament of leading tanks like the Leopard 2 and M1A1 Abrams. These include its L44 and L55 tank guns as well as kinetic energy, multipurpose and practice ammunition. Furthermore, Rheinmetall is a globally acknowledged specialist for upgrade programmes for main battle tanks. In the medium-calibre domain, too, Rheinmetall is a global technology leader, offering a wide array of products.

Rheinmetall's time-delay multipurpose 120mm x 570 HE Temp. DM11 round is programmed after loading. This means that the fuse programming can be altered at any time. Importantly, the system modification necessary for this (the programming kit) can be readily retrofitted into any main battle tank with a 120mm smoothbore gun and a modern fire control unit.

The ammunition can be used in three different fuse modes, making it the world's most advanced and effective HE round:

- Impact Fuse Mode/Point Detonation (PD); here, the warhead detonates upon impact with the target, resulting in a large breach;
- Point Detonation with Delay (PDwD); here the warhead detonates once it has penetrated the target interior;
- Air Burst/AB Mode; in this case – at ranges of up to 5,000 metres – the warhead detonates ahead and above the designated target, rendering it effective against area targets.

Officially referring to it as the "Multi Purpose (MP) DM11", the US Marine Corps already uses the DM11, primarily for engaging unarmoured and lightly armoured targets in asymmetric

conflicts. The first series production lot was delivered to the Bundeswehr in 2014. In the meantime, other Leopard 2 user nations have also taken delivery of initial shipments of the service version of the DM11.

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