

► VEHICLE SYSTEMS

22 May 2024

Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL: Kick-off for strategic presence on NATO's eastern flank in Romania

During a Welcome Day at the Mediaş site, the new Romanian vehicle manufacturer Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL presented itself to the workforce and representatives from politics, business, the armed forces and the media. The Romanian Minister of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Tourism, Stefan-Radu Oprea, also took part in the event.

Rheinmetall, a leading manufacturer of military vehicles in Europe, recently completed the investment announced in February 2024 as the majority shareholder in two companies of the Romanian vehicle manufacturer Automecanica Mediaş. The acquisition became effective on 1 May 2024 once the relevant official approvals had been obtained. The new company, of which the Duesseldorf-based group now holds 72.5% of the shares via Rheinmetall Landsysteme GmbH, will now operate under the name Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL.



With Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL, Rheinmetall is furthermore expanding its global vehicle production network, which already has locations in Canada, the USA, Australia, the UK, Austria, the Netherlands, the Ukraine and Germany. This will also significantly increase the production and maintenance capacities. Rheinmetall is hence continuing to strengthen its strategic presence in Central Europe and is tapping into considerable sales growth and new, promising customer countries in the region. Rheinmetall is now also present in Hungary and Lithuania with locations in the eastern NATO alliance area.

Dr Bjoern Bernhard, Managing Director of Rheinmetall Landsysteme GmbH: "Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL will contribute to further strengthening the defence capabilities of the EU and NATO on the eastern flank. We are ready to support the Romanian customer in future programmes – be it in the vehicle sector or with other technologies from our company. We look forward to involving local partners and strengthening the domestic economy in Romania."

Dr Nick Stirban, Managing Director of Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL, adds: "This is a historic day that not only bolsters Automecanica as Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL, but also strengthens Romania and proves that it can have a powerful and profitable defence industry."

► Key facts

- Welcome Day at Rheinmetall Automecanica SRL in Mediaş, Romania
- New company becomes part of the Rheinmetall Group's global production network
- Strategic presence in Southeast Europe is further expanded
- Annual sales potential of up to €300m

► Contacts

Oliver Hoffmann
Head of Public Relations
Rheinmetall AG
Tel.: +49-(0)211 473 4748
oliver.hoffmann@rheinmetall.com

Dr. phil. Jan-Phillipp Weisswange
Deputy Head of Public Relations
Rheinmetall AG
Tel.: +49-(0)211 473 4287
jan-phillipp.weisswange@rheinmetall.com

► Social Media

✕ @Rheinmetallag
@Rheinmetallag
Rheinmetall

Rheinmetall believes that the new acquisition has an annual sales potential of up to €300m in the mid-term and expects incoming orders in the triple-digit million Euro range as early as within the 2024 financial year.

The Mediaş site, centrally located in the Romanian region of Transylvania, guarantees the armed forces on NATO's eastern flank shorter response times and larger security in the supply chain. In addition to the repair of logistical vehicles, undercarriages for the Romanian armed forces' anti-aircraft weapons shall also be serviced here in future.

At the same time, Rheinmetall is expanding its product portfolio in military vehicle construction with this step. Truck bodies, trailers and other special vehicles developed and produced by Automecanica complete the range of logistical trucks with which Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles (RMMV) is successful in global markets.

Automecanica Mediaş has already been an efficient partner of the Romanian armed forces. Rheinmetall's cooperation with Automecanica was established in 2022, when both partners agreed to operate a maintenance centre for military vehicles in Satu Mare.