



Rheinmetall to supply Asian customer with Skyshield air defence systems



An Asian nation has contracted with Rheinmetall to supply it with advanced air defence technology. In a competitive bidding process, Rheinmetall Air Defence won the order to supply the customer with the latest generation of its Skyshield systems. The contract, booked in April of this year, is worth over €100 million. Production of the systems is already under way. Shipment will take place over the course of the next three years.

Besides reconnaissance sensors, 35mm fire units and the accompanying command and control equipment, the contract includes a comprehensive logistics and service package. Rheinmetall will be providing complete training for operators and maintenance personnel as well as technical assistance and live fire exercise support in the customer country. Moreover, local companies will take part in the project, including construction of buildings and vehicle procurement.

Rheinmetall attaches great commercial importance to this contract, with follow-up orders already on the horizon. The current project underscores once again Rheinmetall's globally leading role in the field of state-of-the-art short-range air defence systems.

Seifsa Disappointed by Metals and Engineering Sector Production Decrease in April

The decrease in metals and engineering sector production output in April, following a positive trajectory during the early months of the year, is very disappointing, Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of Southern Africa (SEIFSA) Economist Marique Kruger said.

Speaking after the release of the latest preliminary seasonally-adjusted production data, which indicated that output in the Metals and Engineering (M&E) sector decelerated in April, Kruger said, the Federation's was deeply concerned. She said this was especially so because "a vast majority of the sub-sectors performed poorly, recording negative output levels". After adjusting for the sectoral weights, the Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) data indicated that production for the M&E sector decelerated to -7.7 percent in April 2018 on a year-on-year basis. On a month-on-month basis, the sector also failed to perform well, registering a



growth of -11.8 percent in April 2018 when compared to March 2018. This is despite an increase of 1.1 percent in output for the broader manufacturing sector in April 2018.

Kruger said notwithstanding the general improvement in sentiments including business and consumer confidence in recent months, producers have found it very difficult to take advantage of existing buoyancy, as evidence by the contraction in the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the first quarter of 2018. She said this was indicative of continuous lack of demand for final and intermediate manufactured goods, impacting negatively on production within the sector.

New Release Agent Ecopart H 17-250 For The Most Complex Geometries



As innovation leaders, ASK Chemicals gathered their accumulated knowledge on highly effective release agents for gas curing processes and transferred this into the development of ECOPARTTM H 17-250. This is particularly evident in the removal process of even the most complicated geometries.

The excellent separation and creep properties of the material ease the removal process without any loss in quality. In addition, the release agent has a service life twice as long as conventional release agents, thereby cutting the need for frequent applications. The application process itself is flexible and can be done manually or by an automatic spraying system as required.

The release agent was designed in the research and technology center at ASK Chemicals in Hilden, Germany. The research team develops new and efficient solutions in cooperation with partners and in a constant dialogue with customers always with the aim of reducing emissions and other effects on the environment and on foundry employees.

ECOPARTTM H 17-250 is an environmentally friendly product, as it is a water-based and solvent-free release agent.

This section is a compilation from various company press releases, business dailies, trade publications and Industry Websites.