World Business Watch

GLOBAL BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE FOR DECISION MAKERS

Sunday, 8 November 2026

worldbusinesswatch.com

NEWS | DEFENCE & AEROSPACE

Europe’s defence darling, Rheinmetall, plunges 16% after second sales cut in three months

Rheinmetall cut its 2026 outlook again despite Europe's increased defence spending. Despite demand, the contracts and ammunition approvals are arriving slower than planned.

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | November 5, 2026



Rheinmetall now expects 2026 sales of about €13.2 billion, down from €13.7–14.2 billion.

Germany’s Arminius Boxer vehicle order has slipped to 2027, and artillery ammunition approvals are delayed.

Q3 operating profit still rose 62% to €553 million, but sales of €3.15 billion missed the €3.25 billion consensus. Its cash conversion target fell to just over 0%, from above 40%. Shares fell as much as 16.3%, triggering a brief trading halt.

Europe is spending more on defence than it has in decades, and Rheinmetall still can’t get the money in on time. The German arms maker cut its 2026 sales forecast for the second time in three months, to about €13.2 billion. The reason: Germany’s Arminius Boxer vehicle order slipped to 2027, and artillery ammunition is stuck in slow acceptance tests.

Profit isn’t the problem: Q3 operating profit rose 62% to €553 million. Cash is: expected cash conversion fell to roughly zero, from more than 40%. Shares fell as much as 16.3%, and were already down about 35% for the year.

Read online: https://worldbusinesswatch.com/news/21/373/europes-defence-darling-rheinmetall-plunges-16-after-second-sales-cut-in-three-months.html
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