

METLEN and KNDS strengthen their strategic partnership with a new agreement for LEOPARD 2A8 battle tanks

On 18 December 2025, METLEN, through its M Technologies Sector, announced the signing of a contract with KNDS Deutschland (KNDS) for the delivery of 200 assemblies for the LEOPARD 2A8. The LEOPARD 2A8 is KNDS's most advanced main battle tank and one of the most sophisticated in the world.

The Leopard 2A8 represents the most advanced evolution of Germany's Leopard 2 main battle tank, developed by KNDS as a comprehensive modernization rather than an incremental upgrade. It integrates the Israeli Trophy Active Protection System (APS), providing 360° hard-kill defense against modern anti-tank guided missiles and rocket threats, significantly enhancing battlefield survivability. The tank features a fully digital architecture with advanced sensors, including upgraded thermal imaging and a digital commander's periscope with integrated laser rangefinder, enabling superior situational awareness and hunter-killer engagement capability. Firepower is reinforced through the Rheinmetall 120 mm L-55A1 smoothbore gun, allowing the use of next-generation high-pressure ammunition for increased lethality against advanced armor.

Crew ergonomics and combat efficiency have been markedly improved, with HOTAS-style controls, a modernized human-machine interface, and a scenario-adapted mission system that supports network-centric operations. Enhanced environmental control systems, including improved cooling and a 20-kW auxiliary power unit, ensure sustained performance in extreme climates.

Additional upgrades include reinforced running gear, improved powerpack cooling, upgraded modular armor for the turret and chassis, enhanced roof and mine protection, and a redesigned crew compartment. Crucially, the Leopard 2A8 is the first truly new-build Leopard 2 since the 1990s, forming the basis of a joint European procurement by Germany, Norway, Lithuania, and the Netherlands, with entry into service planned from 2026–2027.

Under the agreement, M Technologies will undertake manufacturing at METLEN's Defence Hub in Volos until 2031. At the same time, it will enhance the availability of advanced defence systems for the needs of many European countries, affirming the Company's medium-term plan as presented at the Capital Markets Day held at the London Stock Exchange in April 2025. Its production units are continuously being upgraded, establishing it as a key pillar of the European defence industry.

This agreement marks a new milestone in the long-standing cooperation between the two companies, built on a relationship of trust spanning more than 23 years. In parallel, METLEN, through M Technologies, and KNDS are in advanced negotiations to deepen their cooperation in other types of defense systems, strengthening Europe's strategic autonomy and contributing to the creation of highly specialized jobs and the development of innovative technologies, in Greece and elsewhere.

METLEN, through M Technologies, holds a leading position in heavy and complex metal constructions, with many years of experience and expertise in defence systems and is recognized for the high quality of its products at a pan-European level. At full scale, the Defence Hub in Volos will consist of the Nea Ionia Volos plant, the Servisteel facility in the A' Industrial Area of Volos, and four additional complexes (six autonomous units in total, capable of operating simultaneously to serve six different programs).

© KNDS- Leopard 2A8

