Getac

Rugged Mobile Computing Solutions

DEFENSE

Rheinmetall relies on Rugged Computing from Getac as Core Technology for the Soldier of the Future.

Getac MX50 and V110 as integrated components of the German Armed Forces' IdZ-ES soldier system.

Rheinmetall Electronics GmbH, based in Bremen Germany, is one of Europe's leading system integrators for networked soldier systems. As a subsidiary of the Rheinmetall Group – a global technology and defence company with over 30,000 employees and an annual turnover of around 10 billion euros – Rheinmetall Electronics, as the prime contractor, bears system responsibility for the German Armed Forces' (German Bundeswehr) 'Future Soldier – Extended System' (IdZ-ES).

"The IdZ-ES connects infantrymen as digital nodes to one another and to military vehicle platforms within a comprehensive tactical command network. A system comprises around 34 individual soldier systems; equipped with a End User Device, battle management system, radio equipment, reconnaissance equipment, targeting optics, as well as clothing, protective and carrying equipment.

/ Challenge /

Rheinmetall Electronics GmbH, based in Bremen Germany, a subsidiary of the Rheinmetall Group, is one of Europe's leading system integrators for networked soldier systems. In February 2025, the Federal Office for Equipment, Information Technology and Use of the Bundeswehr (BAAINBw) and Rheinmetall Electronics signed the largest procurement contract to date for soldier systems. As part of this, a reliable and future-proof, rugged computing solution was sought for the 'Future Soldier – Extended System' (IdZ-ES), with high demands on the technology and usability of the device, but also on the supplier in terms of reliability, sustainability and investment security.

/ Solution /

Following a comprehensive market assessment, Rheinmetall Electronics chose Getac as its technology partner. The collaboration has been in place since 2019 and has proven its worth across several procurement projects. Today, two Getac products are an integral part of the IdZ-ES system: the customized Getac MX50-OSC tablet and the Getac V110 convertible laptop.

/ Benefits /

The result: a comprehensive solution that was available more quickly, is easier to carry, operates more energy-efficiently and, crucially, is accepted by soldiers during a mission. Since the introduction of the Getac solution are, over 1,000 Getac solutions already in active use by German Bundeswehr. More than 4,000 devices are planned to be deployed by mid-2027; a clear sign of the partnership's operational success.

/ Rheinmetall Electronics GmbH /

"In a defence programme of this scale, it is not just the product that counts – it is the reliability of the partner. Getac not only supplies rugged hardware that meets IP67 and MIL-STD requirements.
Getac also provides the experience, supply chain reliability and product continuity that a programme like this requires,"

Jörg Bille - Rheinmetall Electronics GmbH

Getac MX50
Fully Rugged Tablet

Getac V110
Fully Rugged Laptop

/ Challenge /

In February 2025, the Federal Office for Equipment, Information Technology and Use of the Bundeswehr (BAAINBw) and Rheinmetall Electronics signed the largest framework contract to date for the procurement of soldier systems: with a volume of 3.1 billion euros and a term running until the end of 2030, it ensures the supply and modernisation of all Bundeswehr infantry units with IdZ-ES.

In the older version of the IdZ-ES, a so-called portable command computer, was used as the End User Device. Due to the very extensive specifications at the time, there were no MOTS/COTS devices available for this application. The device was relatively heavy, large and not user friendly. In the field, this meant limited mobility and low user acceptance. However, a soldier system that is not used consistently fails to serve its purpose. At the same time, the issue of supply chain reliability was a non-negotiable prerequisite for Rheinmetall Electronics in order to meet critical requirements for IT security and strategic supply assurance.

Rheinmetall Electronics and the German Bundeswehr were looking jointly for a COTS solution that met the following requirements: Windows operating system, full IP67 certification, operability with combat gloves even in wet conditions, a display that is legible in both bright daylight and darkness (night-vision compatible) – and all this in a lightweight, rugged design that meets the needs of soldiers in the field.

/ Solution /

Following a comprehensive market assessment, Rheinmetall chose Getac as its technology partner. The collaboration has been in place since 2019 and has proven its worth across numerous projects. Today, two Getac products are integral components of the IdZ-ES system: the Getac MX50-OSC tablet and the Getac V110 convertible laptop.

Getac MX50-OSC:
The Soldier's End User Device.

The Getac MX50 Windows tablet, specially customized for Rheinmetall, serves as the soldier's portable End User Device: the central interface to the entire soldier system.

Via a central interface box (BANTAM CORTEX), it receives position data and battery levels for all system components and controls the radio equipment. The Getac tablet runs Rheinmetall's Battle Management System TacNet, which provides every infantryman with a digital situational picture and, among others, featuring Blue Force Tracking (position tracking of friendly forces) as well as the current mission order in real time.

The system's operating principle is based on this constantly updated database:
The concept is simple yet operationally decisive: Where am I? Where are the adversary? What is my next task? By ensuring all operators share a common operating picture, the system provides a fundamental enabler for precise command, rapid decision-making, and synchronised operations across the digital battlespace.

Getac V110 Laptop:
Mission planning and equipment.

The Getac V110 convertible laptop serves as a stationary mission preparation computer. It supports three key tasks:

- Administration and Preparation System (AVS): Creation of group lists, map sets, frequency presets and other mission data;
- Map Processing Computer (KAR): Generation and processing of map material for the soldier's system;
- Radio Configuration Computer (RKR): Configuration of all the platoon's radio equipment.

/ Benefits /

The decisive factor in choosing Getac was a clearly defined performance profile that impressed in all key areas, combined with high supply chain integrity and reliable product continuity. Equally decisive was the combination of military-grade ruggedness and practical usability: The Getac tablet is IP67 and MIL-STD-810H certified; it features a sunlight-readable display with integrated night-vision mode and is designed to be used while wearing gloves. Compared to the previous portable command terminal, the weight of the device has been significantly reduced – with a major positive impact on mobility.

For Rheinmetall, a reliable, transparent supply chain was just as crucial a factor as the product specifications themselves, as defence programmes typically run for ten years or more. Getac provides the necessary continuity in terms of form factor and interfaces across multiple product generations, which is essential for such long-term programmes.

The result: a comprehensive solution that was available more quickly, is easier to carry, operates more energy-efficiently and, crucially, has been embraced by soldiers in the field.

Jörg Bille from Rheinmetall explains: "*Compared to the previous portable command computer, the more compact, lighter design of the Getac tablet reduces the load and encourages consistent use in the field – the basic prerequisite for a soldier's system to deliver its full benefits. In addition, improved energy efficiency ensures operation over longer periods.*"

Since the introduction of the Getac solution, over 1,000 units have already been actively deployed in the field. More than 4,000 devices are planned by mid-2027 - a clear sign of the partnership's operational success. The digital situational awareness displayed on the Getac tablet has significantly improved decision-making speed in combat. Commanders and soldiers share an identical, up-to-date situational picture in real time. This reduces communication errors, speeds up the transmission of orders and immediately improves the quality of coordination.