Sardinia, National Defense and Industry: Essential Green Light for Rheinmetall Productions

Published on 20/02/2026

On February 17, 2026, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) authorized the full operation of the RWM Italia site (Rheinmetall group) in Domusnovas, in Sulcis, unlocking a munitions plant that had long been pending after a complex administrative and judicial process.

A Piece of the "Defense Industrial Base"

In this historical phase, defense is not just about acquiring means: it is above all about **national and European production capacity**. The decision by MASE is also seen as a signal of commitment to strengthening the supply chain, in a context where Europe is accelerating the availability of munitions and the resilience of supplies.

Rwm Domusnovas: Sardinian people, it's time to choose between ideology or future

From this perspective, making Domusnovas operational means:

- **reducing bottlenecks** and operational dependencies, increasing the readiness of a strategic supply chain;
- **creating industrial continuity** in productions that, by their nature, require long qualification and commissioning times;
- consolidating a piece of production capacity on Italian territory, even within a framework of European cooperation.

The Domusnovas dossier fits into a broader framework of collaboration between Rheinmetall and the Italian defense industry. Leonardo and Rheinmetall have formed a joint venture for land platforms (tank and combat vehicle), with the aim of developing and producing systems for the Italian Army.

This type of industrial integration (munitions, platforms, components, support) is what many countries today seek to have **operational autonomy and more robust supply chains**.

Economic Impact: Employment and Investments as a “Dual-Use” Lever for the Territory

On the domestic front, the government has linked the green light to a perspective of productive and employment revival of Sulcis, talking about stabilization and new jobs.
According to press reconstructions, the project involves significant investments and an increase in employment, along with an increase in production volumes.

In terms of national defense, the point is simple: **a strategic supply chain works** if it relies on skills, facilities, and people. Qualified employment and investments in these sectors are not just “economy”: they are a component of the country's ability to sustain its programs and commitments over time.

Sardinia, National Defense and Industry: Essential Green Light for Rheinmetall Productions

In Summary

The MASE green light for Domusnovas can be seen as a choice that:

- reactivates a strategic production infrastructure after years of stalemate;
- is linked to a broader strengthening of the Italian and European defense industry (also through the Rheinmetall–Leonardo axis);
- aims to translate industrial capacity into employment and investments in a fragile area like Sulcis.
-