



Ukraine, here is the Sea Trident ST-1000: the autonomous submarine drone with 3,700 kilometers of range

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Ukraine continues to invest in unmanned naval systems and presents the **Sea Trident ST-1000**, a large autonomous underwater vehicle designed to carry out attack missions, logistical transport, and counter other drones in waters controlled or monitored by Russia.

Developed by the Ukrainian company **Global Mark**, the system was showcased to the public during **Eurosatory 2026**, the major international defense and security exhibition held in Paris.

The Sea Trident represents a significant leap in capability compared to surface naval drones that have already enabled Ukraine to strike Russian units and infrastructure in the Black Sea. The new platform is designed to operate underwater, reducing its exposure to radar, electro-optical systems, and defenses installed along the coasts.



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A ten-ton underwater vehicle

The Sea Trident ST-1000 is a vehicle of considerable size. The platform measures approximately **10 meters in length**, two meters in width, and one and a half meters in height, with a total weight of about **10 tons**.

The cargo bay can carry up to **1,000 kilograms** of armaments, mines, sensors, or materials intended for logistical support of forces engaged in coastal operations.

According to data released during the presentation, the drone can reach a maximum speed of about **10 knots**, equivalent to 18.5 kilometers per hour, while the cruising speed would be around six knots.

The declared operational depth is about **60 meters**. It is therefore not a vehicle intended for great ocean depths but a platform designed mainly to operate in relatively enclosed seas, coastal waters, and near ports, naval bases, and strategic infrastructure.

A range of about 3,700 kilometers

The most notable feature of the Sea Trident is the declared range, which would reach **2,000 nautical miles**, equivalent to about **3,700 kilometers**.

A range of this extent would allow the vehicle to cover great distances without requiring a mothership in the immediate vicinity of the operational area. The drone could depart from relatively distant bases, follow predetermined routes, and autonomously reach targets located

along the coasts or within protected ports.

The system has advanced autonomous navigation capabilities and is designed to continue the mission even in the presence of electronic disturbances or in the absence of the GPS satellite signal.

This feature is particularly important in the context of the Ukrainian conflict, where electronic warfare is systematically employed to disrupt communications, navigation systems, and command links of unmanned vehicles.

Attack, logistics, and countering drones

The Sea Trident is not presented solely as a weapon but as a multipurpose underwater platform.

In the offensive configuration, it could carry an explosive charge and head towards ships, port infrastructure, bridges, coastal installations, or other strategic targets. The ability to approach underwater would reduce the time available for defenses to detect and neutralize the threat.

The vehicle could also be used for the clandestine transport of ammunition, equipment, and supplies, reaching units or positions that are difficult to access through normal maritime routes.

Among the indicated missions is also the countering of other unmanned underwater vehicles. The Sea Trident could therefore be equipped with sensors or armaments intended to detect and intercept adversary submarine drones, contributing to the protection of ports, seabeds, and critical infrastructure.

A new threat to the Russian presence in the Black Sea

The development of the Sea Trident must be placed within the broader strategy with which Kyiv has sought to compensate for its inferiority in the naval sector.

Not having a conventional fleet comparable to the Russian one, Ukraine has resorted to coastal missiles, aerial drones, unmanned explosive boats, and special operations. These tools have allowed striking various units of the Russian Black Sea Fleet and increasing pressure on Russian naval bases.

Surface drones, however, remain vulnerable to machine guns, automatic cannons, helicopters, and barriers installed at the entrance of ports. A vehicle capable of navigating underwater could

instead bypass some of these defenses and force Moscow to strengthen the surveillance of the seabeds and underwater accesses.

The mere possibility that platforms like the Sea Trident might be used operationally indeed obliges the defender to allocate additional resources to sonar, anti-submarine nets, underwater sensors, patrolling, and infrastructure protection.

From experimentation to production

The Sea Trident ST-1000 has been presented as a system in development, and there is not enough public information available to determine whether it has already entered production or has carried out operational missions.

Even the data on range, load capacity, and autonomous navigation derive from information released by the manufacturer and will need to be verified through tests in real conditions.

Some technical issues remain open, such as the propulsion system, the capacity of the batteries or energy sources, the precision of navigation while submerged, and the ability to maintain reliable communications during long-distance missions.

The project nevertheless demonstrates how the war in the Black Sea is accelerating the development of a new generation of autonomous naval systems, increasingly larger, with greater autonomy, and potentially capable of carrying out missions that until a few years ago required manned submarines.