

PRESS RELEASE
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Important milestone for Israeli corvette reached on historic date

Naming of the ship on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany

(Kiel) Today, Thursday, 23 May 2019, the first of class of four corvettes for Israel was named "MAGEN" in Kiel in the presence of numerous military and diplomatic guests of honour from Israel and Germany. In Hebrew, "MAGEN" stands for "Protector/Defender".

"The naming of a ship is always an important milestone and emotional moment for any Navy," emphasized Rear Admiral Eli Sharvit, Commander of the Israeli Navy. "The fact that this special event coincides with the 70th birthday of the Federal Republic of Germany underlines the great significance of the project and the special relationship between our two countries".

After a construction period of only 15 months since the start of steel cutting in February 2018, the joint venture of thyssenkrupp Marine Systems and GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL GmbH was able to hand over the first ship to its element at the beginning of May. Today's naming marks an important step for the ship. The name is the cornerstone for the special team spirit on board; for the crew it is both a motto and an obligation.

Jörg Herwig, Managing Director of GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL, emphasized the good cooperation and teamwork onsite: "Here in Kiel, we are closely working together based on mutual respect towards the Israeli project team and the colleagues from tkMS. Only in this way were and are we in a position to stay within time and budget for this very demanding and complex project".

After today's naming, "MAGEN" will be staying at the shipyard's outfitting pier

during the coming months and made seaworthy for the crossing to Israel. This means the installation of further equipment and systems as well as port and sea trials. Further three ships are currently under construction. The last ship will be handed over to the Israeli Navy in 2021.

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL GmbH:

GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL is specialized in the construction and building of large military vessels such as frigates, corvettes and offshore patrol vessels.

Developed from the surface shipbuilding of HDW (Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft GmbH), the shipyard faces 180 years of history. It was previously named HDW-Gaarden and has a long military tradition: Ships of all frigate classes developed at GERMAN NAVAL YARDS KIEL, with which the Germany Navy is presently operating. The largest dry dock in the Baltic Sea (426 m of length) and a 900 tons gantry crane are included in its efficient infrastructure.

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