

F125 “Nordrhein-Westfalen”: Germany’s most modern frigate put into service

On June 10, 2020, the F125 “Nordrhein-Westfalen” was officially commissioned – due to the current corona pandemic, the ceremony took place on a small scale. The “Nordrhein-Westfalen” is the second out of a total of four frigates after the “Baden-Württemberg” to become available to the German Navy. The ships are the most modern and powerful frigates ever built in Germany.

With their highly complex systems and around 28,000 sensors, the completely redesigned F125 class ships feature a very high degree of automation, making it possible to halve the crew size compared to previous frigate classes. The ships can remain in their operational area for up to two years. This will considerably reduce the number of otherwise very long transit journeys. The F125 “Nordrhein-Westfalen” successfully implements the intensive use concept, just like the “Baden-Württemberg”, which has been in service since June 2019.

In addition to the traditional tasks of national and alliance defence, the ships are designed for conflict prevention and crisis management as well as for intervention and stabilization operations on an international scale. Alongside their capability to engage targets on land and water, they also have air defence systems and helicopters specially equipped for submarine hunting.

The contract for the construction of the four frigates entered into force in June 2007. This was followed by the concept, design and detailed construction phase. Around 90 percent of the highly complex systems on board the F125 were newly developed specifically for this type of ship.

After the “Baden-Württemberg” and the “Nordrhein-Westfalen”, the “Sachsen-Anhalt” and the “Rheinland-Pfalz” will follow in 2021 according to current plans. The new F125 class is named after the first ship and is therefore called the “Baden-Württemberg class”.

ARGE F125 was formed by thyssenkrupp Marine Systems as lead company and the Bremen-based Fr. Lürssen shipyard. The fore ships with corresponding pre-fitting were built at the Lürssen Group’s shipyard sites in Bremen and Wolgast. The

production of the stern ships, the assembly of the ship halves, the further final outfitting as well as the commissioning and testing were carried out under the leadership of thyssenkrupp Marine Systems at the Blohm+Voss shipyard in Hamburg.

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Key data for F125:

Length: 149 m

Width: 18 m

Maximum speed: >26 kn

Displacement: approx. 7,200 t

Crew: max. 190 persons (of which up to 126 are regular crew)

About thyssenkrupp Marine Systems

With around 6,000 employees, thyssenkrupp Marine Systems is one of the world's leading marine companies and a systems provider in submarine and surface shipbuilding as well as maritime electronics and security technology. Over 180 years of history and the constant pursuit of improvements are the basis for the company's success in constantly setting new standards. thyssenkrupp Marine Systems offers customized solutions for highly complex challenges in a changing world. The driving forces behind this are the employees of the company, who shape the future of thyssenkrupp Marine Systems with passion and commitment every day. More information at www.thyssenkrupp-marinesystems.com

Picture download link:

https://www.thyssenkrupp-marinesystems.com/media/files/pm_indienst_nrw_10juni2020/F125NRW-20.jpg

https://www.thyssenkrupp-marinesystems.com/media/files/pm_indienst_nrw_10juni2020/F125NRW-17.jpg

https://www.thyssenkrupp-marinesystems.com/media/files/pm_indienst_nrw_10juni2020/F125NRW-14.jpg

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