Federal Office of Bundeswehr Equipment, Information Technology and In-Service Support

Tasks and Processes

The Federal Office of Bundeswehr Equipment, Information Technology and In-Service Support (BAAINBw) was established on 1 October 2012 in the course of the Bundeswehr reorientation process. This office combines the tasks of the former Federal Office of Defense Technology and Procurement (BWB) and the former Federal Office of the Bundeswehr for Information Management and Information Technology (Bundeswehr IT Office), additionally assuming in-service support tasks which, up to that time, had been performed by other civilian and military organizational elements of the Bundeswehr.

BAAINBw, a civilian higher federal authority directly subordinate to the Federal Ministry of Defense, together with its agencies employs a staff of about 10,500 in total, around 1,600 of which are military personnel. The office is based at Koblenz and Lahnstein with a total of 5,100 personnel.

The main task of BAAINBw is to provide the Bundeswehr with efficient and safe equipment. Its activities focus on the development, testing, procurement and in-service support management of defense materiel. This covers a broad range of materiel from highly complex weapon and IT systems, tanks, aircraft and ships to the personal equipment items of our soldiers.

The office shoulders the end-to-end responsibility for defense materiel from proposal of technical solutions through their implementation and in-service control to disposal – everything from a single source.

Experienced, well-trained and motivated staff provide a solid foundation for the complex tasks that have to be managed. This makes BAAINBw the main technical service provider of the Bundeswehr and an important public customer.

The office is supported by six Bundeswehr Technical Centers and two Research Institutes. The Naval Arsenal, another agency of BAAINBw, ensures the operational readiness of the German fleet. The liaison office in Reston, USA, represents Germany’s defense technology and armaments interests vis-à-vis government organizations and industry in the United States and Canada.

As a result of Bundeswehr operations as well as shorter innovation cycles, faster and more flexible procurement processes and structures are needed. The procurement process – called Customer Product Management (amended) – and the procurement organization are consistently geared towards fulfilling these requirements. Cooperation in “integrated project teams” supports intensive communication between all parties involved. Within the Bundeswehr reorientation process the creation of BAAINBw has been an important step towards optimizing the equipment of our soldiers and ensuring integrated performance of tasks by civilian and military personnel.

Directorates

K Directorate - Combat
• Combat and transport vehicles, artillery weapon systems, air defense systems
• Infantry weapons, antiarmor systems, missiles
• Engineer munitions, detection and clearing systems, bridges and crossing equipment

L Directorate – Air
• Fighter jets, transport and special aircraft, helicopter systems
• Crew rescue and protection systems
• Unmanned aircraft, tactical drones, space-based reconnaissance systems

S Directorate – Sea
• Surface units
• Subsurface units
• Support units and auxiliaries, unmanned vessels

U Directorate – Land Support
• Operational accommodation systems (incl. camp technology and protection)
• Soldiers’ equipment („System Soldat“)
• Reconnaissance and electronic warfare systems, training and simulation systems

I Directorate - Information Technology
• Mission-related IT systems (communication systems, command and control systems)
• Specialist IT tasks (IT security, cyber defense technology, IT standards and IT conformity)

G Directorate – IT Support
• Software maintenance and modification of existing technical information systems
• Implementation of the SASPF (Standard Application Software Product Families) project including in-service and product management
• Transfer of existing systems in use to SASPF

PMO – Program Organization
• All project management tasks for the MKS 180 multirole combat ship, TLVS tactical air defense system and EUROPEAN MALE RPAS armaments projects

E Directorate – Complex Services, Purchasing
• Purchasing of spare parts for weapon systems
• Procurement of COTS common goods and services

T Directorate – Common Technical, Logistic and Economic Tasks
• Logistics, protective tasks, R&T overall coordination
• Cost competence center, price audits
• Disposal, Scientific Collection of Defense Engineering Specimens (WTS)

ZA Directorate – Central Affairs
• Organization, security, internal services and finance
• IT services, personnel-related tasks
• Technical Information Center

ZtQ Directorate – Technical Quality Management Center
• Quality assurance tasks performed by QA regional offices of the „North“, „Central“, and „South“ districts
• Technical QA policy issues, participation in national / international QA bodies