THE DEFENCE SUPPLYCHAIN PANEL

Naval Stage · Hall B8 · Stand B8.123 · SMM Hamburg

1 September 2026 |15:00 – 16:45

BRIDGING THE GAP: MARITIME DEFENCE INDUSTRY MEETS PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY CHAIN

Presented & hosted by SVI-Connect

Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

A Cooperation between BME e.V. and BDSV e.V.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Europe's maritime defence sector faces a defining moment. NATO's commitment to 5% of GDP defense spending by 2035, combined with the German BwPBBG procurement acceleration law (January 2026), creates unprecedented demand – yet shipyard capacity, highly qualified supply chains, and digital connectivity between buyers and suppliers remain critical bottlenecks.

This panel convenes decision-makers from procurement authorities, OEM and tier-1 naval industry, dual-use innovators, supplier and geo-political experts to address the three structural gaps that define maritime defence readiness in Europe today.

THREE MARITIME ANCHOR THEMES

1

Shipyard Capacity & Supply Chain Diversification — The Structural Bottleneck
With naval order books at record levels, worksforce retiring and supply chains under geopolitical pressure how will the fleet actually be built and maintained?

2

Autonomous Maritime Systems — New Platforms, New Supply Chains, New Cyber Risks
As unmanned surface and subsurface systems move from prototype to procurement, the supplier ecosystem for sensors, AI and propulsion must be qualified at speed.

3

Transparency & Matching — SVI-Connect.com Closing the Gap
Procurement requirements and verified suppliers rarely find each other efficiently. SVI-Connect.com provides the digital infrastructure to bridge defence industry and supply chain partners.

PROGRAMME — 1 SEPTEMBER 2026 | 15:00 – 16:45

TIME	SESSION
3 pm	**Opening Address: The State of European Maritime Defense Industry** Dr. Hans Christoph Atzpodien, CEO, BDSV (Federation of German Security & Defence Industries) Setting the strategic scene: NATO ramp-up, the BwPBBG procurement law, and what the German and European maritime defence industry must deliver over the next decade. Dr. Atzpodien brings unique authority, having co-founded the BDSV in 2009 and served previously as CEO of thyssenkrupp Marine Systems.
3:10 pm	**Keynote I — Shipyard Capacity as a Strategic Risk** Suggested: Senior Representative, TKMS / Damen / Fincantieri (tbc) ANCHOR 1 · OEM best practice scenarios. The gap between naval order volumes and industrial capacity. Real-world examples: the European frigate and submarine programme pipeline.
3:25 pm	**Keynote II — Autonomous Naval Systems: Qualification at the Speed of Innovation** Suggested: Programme Director, Naval Autonomous Systems (BAAINBw / EDA / BWI tbc) ANCHOR 2 · From FREMM EVO to unmanned surface vessels: how procurement authorities are adapting qualification frameworks for dual-use AI, sensor fusion, and autonomy-ready hulls. Who needs to be in the supply chain — and how are new entrants vetted?
3:40 pm	**SVI-Connect.com — Platform Presentation & Live Demo** SVI-Connect.com — Olaf Holzgrefe, Head of SVI-Connect, BME e.V. ANCHOR 3 · How SVI-Connect.com connects verified defence suppliers with procurement requirements. Live demonstration: supplier search, compliance filtering, and procurement matching for maritime defence use cases. Call to action for industry participants in the room.
3:55 pm	**Moderated Panel Discussion** Panelists: BDSV · Naval OEM (tier-1) · Dual-Use SME · BAAINBw/NSPA Procurement · MRO/Supply Chain Specialist Four guiding questions for the panel: (1) Where is the maritime supply chain most fragile today — and what does industry need to fix it? (2) How do civil maritime companies enter the defence market, and what are the real barriers beyond compliance? (3) Can digital platforms like SVI-Connect.com meaningfully change how procurement and suppliers find each other? (4) Cyber security crisis: what must industry, government, and the education sector do — and how fast?
4:25 pm	**Open Q&A — Audience** Moderated Questions from the floor.
4:30 pm	**Networking Invitation: Wine o'clock** It's wine time! Join SVI-Connect for a selected mactching session in an informal setting. Invitation to continue conversations with wine and beer!

SPEAKER PROFILES

Dr. Hans Christoph Atzpodien CEO (Hauptgeschäftsführer) BDSV — Federation of German Security & Defence Industries	Co-founder and CEO of the BDSV since 2017. Former CEO of thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (2007–2016) and former Chairman of Atlas Elektronik, Bremen. A leading voice on German and European defense industrial policy, procurement reform, and maritime security. He publicly endorsed the BwPBBG procurement acceleration law (January 2026) as a critical step toward faster Bundeswehr supply.
Panel Seat — Naval OEM / Tier-1 Senior Executive TKMS · Damen · Fincantieri · Saab (tbc)	Perspective: Shipyard capacity constraints, supplier qualification requirements, and the industrial ramp-up needed to meet the European submarine and frigate pipeline. Should be a programme director or supply chain lead with direct procurement authority.
Panel Seat — Procurement Authority Programme Director BAAINBw · NSPA · EDA (tbc)	Perspective: How procurement authorities are adapting processes for dual-use technology, autonomous systems, and SME access. Direct user of platforms like SVI-Connect.com for supplier discovery and qualification management.
Panel Seat — Dual-Use SME / Innovator Founder or CTO Naval Start-ups Area, Hall B8 (tbc)	Perspective: The real-world experience of transitioning from civil maritime technology into defense procurement. Barriers encountered (compliance, security clearance, contracting terms) and how digital platforms changed their market access.
Panel Seat — Supply Chain / MRO Specialist Director, Defense Supply Chain Maritime MRO / Tier-2 Supplier (tbc)	Perspective: Maintenance, repair and overhaul readiness for deployed naval assets; critical component availability; and the workforce crisis in specialist maritime trades. How supply chain digitalisation and platforms like SVI-Connect.com can reduce lead times and improve resilience.

ABOUT THE HOST — BME, BDSV & SVI-CONNECT.COM

BME - A strong community for purchasing and logistics - BME
Bundesverband der Deutschen Sicherheits- und Verteidigungsindustrie e.V. - BDSV - EN
SVI-Connect: SVI-Vernetzungsplattform

VENUE & CONTEXT

Event	Detail	Note
Fair	SMM Hamburg 2026	1 – 4 September 2026
Special Area	MS&D Expo — Hall B8 (3,000 m²)	Maritime Security & Defence
Stage	Naval Stage — Stand B8.123	Open programme, Hall B8
Panel Date & Time	1 September 2026, 15:00 – 16:45	Day before MS&D Conference
Format	Keynotes + Moderated Panel + Q&A	English language
Host	BME & BDSV	www.svi-connect.com

Gefördert durch:
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For speaker enquiries and programme coordination:
SVI-Connect.com · www.svi-connect.com
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