



Press release

08. April 2015

Statement No. 3 by Heckler & Koch regarding the G36 assault rifle

In the current article in the Stern magazine: "Deficiencies of the G36 assault rifle: authorities in the Ministry of Defence had been warned since 2011" by Hans-Martin Tillack, it is contended that an "approval demonstrator" of the G36 in 1993 had been made of a different quality plastic than the serial weapon purchased later by the German government.

The material properties of the HK50 tested by the German Armed Forces, later introduced as the G36, were known to the German government at all times. They were fully informed at all times by the provided technical drawings and the "Technical Terms of Supply". As a consequence, full transparency was given during all phases of procurement, and this also applies to the casing material of the HK50/G36. Furthermore, the configuration of the material was discussed in close cooperation with the German Armed Forces.

Heckler & Koch is not aware of the term "approval demonstrator", and the tender documents of the German Armed Forces do not mention any such term. A "demonstrator" is a prototype-like sample weapon at a very early development stage. Under no circumstances does this relate to so-called "weapons for testing", which, as a rule, correspond to a "pre-series status", for example at the time with the HK50 as predecessor of the G36.

In contrast, "Approval samples" as a rule represent serial weapons which are approved at the start of serial production.

In view of the exceedingly damaging legal extent of the false accusations and suspicions raised against Heckler & Koch, we will definitely undertake all legally required steps against unlawful publications, in particular with regard to enforcing claims against those responsible for all resulting damages.

Press office

Heckler & Koch GmbH