The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russian Missile Maker Almaz-Antey to Promote Russian Technology in Iran

By The Moscow Times

June 25, 2015



Iranian Vice President Sorena Sattari opening a technology forum this month in which Almaz Antey participated.

Russia's biggest defense contractor, Almaz-Antey, said Thursday it had signed an agreement to promote Russian civil technology in Iran.

The move follows a breakthrough in negotiations over Iran's nuclear program that has sent companies from around the world hunting for opportunities in the Middle Eastern country in the hope that international sanctions on Tehran will be lifted.

Almaz-Antey has agreed with the Center for Innovation and Technology Cooperation, an advisory body to the Iranian government, to promote innovative non-military Russian products in Iran, the TASS news agency quoted the company's press service as saying.

The defense contractor, which was sanctioned last year by the U.S. and EU over Russia's role

in the Ukraine crisis, will also help organize joint production of these products at Russian and Iranian factories.

Foreign investment in Iran has been obstructed over recent decades by a string of sanctions imposed by the United States, European Union, United Nations and others in an effort to prevent the country from developing nuclear weapons. Iran has maintained that its nuclear program is dedicated to civilian purposes.

Iran, the UN Security Council and the EU are expected to reach a deal on Iran's nuclear program by June 30, although negotiators have said they may miss the deadline.

Almaz-Antey, the world's largest missile maker, is also looking to sell military technology to Iran. Following a preliminary deal on Iran's nuclear program in April, Russian President Vladimir Putin canceled a freeze on the export of the company's S-300 missile defense systems to Iran.

Russian and Iranian officials have said they are negotiating the final terms for a delivery of the weapons systems, which would radically boost Iran's ability to repulse air attacks.

The possible end to economic sanctions has also seen executives from major global oil companies such as Shell and Eni appear in Tehran in recent days to discuss business plans, according to media reports.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2015/06/25/russian-missile-maker-almaz-antey-to-promote-russian-technology-in-iran-a47697