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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia to Replace Ukrainian Imports for Defense by 2018

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Russia's plans to replace defense industry imports from Ukraine by the end of next year, the Interfax news agency reported on Thursday.

Deputy Defense Minister Yury Borisov made the claim during a visit to the Saturn aircraft engine manufacturer.

"The import replacement program is being carried out, and all activities with Ukraine should be completed by 2018," Borisov said.

"This work is going according to schedule, and it's being reported quarterly to the higher command."

Borisov's trip to the Saturn factory is part of an inspection aimed at ensuring that defense enterprises have been fulfilling their state orders. He also presented medals and awards to the enterprise's distinguished staff for their labor.

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