

Russia Teases New S-550 Missile System

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Russia is developing an advanced, never-before-seen S-550 missile system, the Defense Ministry [announced](#) Tuesday.

Reports suggested the model is a revival of a late Soviet project shuttered in a deal with the United States.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said the orders came from President Vladimir Putin at a recent meeting with military top brass.

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“The head of state placed special emphasis on the importance of advancing the development of domestic air and missile defense systems, and the supply of S-350, S-500 and S-550 to the Armed Forces,” Shoigu said at a Defense Ministry conference as footage of existing systems

played on a screen behind him.

Shoigu did not provide any details on the newly mentioned S-550 missile system.

According to the state-run [TASS](#) news agency, the Soviet Union had been developing S-550 “high-mobility terminal air defense system” in 1981-1988. That project, along with many others, was reportedly scrapped as part of Soviet-U.S. arms control agreements.

It was not immediately clear if the newly announced S-550 is related to the Soviet development.

Shoigu’s announcement comes after the Russian military for the first time showed footage of a live fire test of the S-550’s predecessor S-500, an intended replacement for S-300 and a supplement to the advanced S-400 systems, in July.

Reports have said that the S-500 carried out the world’s longest surface-to-air missile system test in 2018.

Shoigu’s former deputy and current Deputy Prime Minister Yury Borisov [said](#) in September that the Armed Forces have started taking delivery of the S-500, though it was thought to be scheduled for delivery in 2025.

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