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On the cover:

Germany's Type F125 frigate project achieved a major milestone last spring with the builder's sea trials of the first-in-class FGS "Baden-Württemberg" (F 222) in the North Sea and Baltic Sea. The frigate is scheduled to be handed over to the German BAANBw defence procurement agency in mid-2017. thyssenkrupp Marine Systems heads the ARGE F125 consortium that was awarded the contract in 2007 to build four F125 frigates costing about €2.69Bn (US\$3.05Bn). The consortium also includes Fr. Lürssen Werft at its two shipyards in Bremen and Wolgast (Peene-Werft). The 7,300 tons (full displacement) ship will be capable of remaining at sea for 24 months, representing the first realisation of the intensive use concept allowing longer deployments in international stabilisation, peacekeeping, and counter-terrorism missions. This capability is supported by a reduced crew of 120. (Photo: Courtesy of German Navy)

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