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German hunting and sporting firearms industry continues to stagnate in 2018

The declining export figures for hunting and sporting firearms have caused the production value of the industry to stagnate, at €185 million, for the fourth year in a row. This is the estimate of the German Firearms and Ammunition Manufacturers Association (JSM) based on preliminary production and export figures from the German Federal Bureau of Statistics for 2018.

"The declining export values are a result of the negative trend in US business, which was already apparent last year, and the increasingly protracted export licensing procedures for hunting and sporting firearms," said Klaus Gotzen at the IWA OutdoorClassics in Nuremberg. "Unfortunately, the export situation for hunting and sporting firearms does not appear to be improving in 2019," he continues. As a result, expectations for 2019 are more than subdued. This is also because inconsistent implementation of EU labelling requirements in the various EU member states is expected to lead to problems with the movement of hunting and sporting firearms within the EU. In addition, the imminent Brexit process is also likely to make it more difficult to export hunting and sporting firearms to the UK.

In its capacity as the industry association, the German Firearms and Ammunition Manufacturers Association (JSM) will once again sponsor the IWA OutdoorClassics in 2019.

	2018* in million €	2017 in million €	Change relative to 2017
Production			
Hunting and sporting firearms and their components	185	185	0%
Exports			
Hunting and sporting firearms and their components	165	176	+ 6.25%
Imports			
Hunting and sporting firearms and their components	77	77	0%

^{*} Estimate based on data from the Federal Bureau of Statistics for the 1st – 3rd quarters 2018