Tekever

First invested: July 2024
Status: Private

What does it do?

Tekever is Europe's leading aerial intelligence company, transforming maritime surveillance and critical infrastructure monitoring whilst proving indispensable in modern defence operations.

Tekever builds advanced surveillance drones that function as "data centres with wings," serving both civilian and defence applications. Their software-first approach uses proprietary machine learning for target detection, autonomous navigation, and real-time analytics - capabilities that prove invaluable across diverse use cases from maritime surveillance to military intelligence.

The company's Intelligence-as-a-Service (IaaS) model has changed how governments and corporations approach surveillance challenges. They manage comprehensive Channel surveillance for the UK's Home Office, daily pipeline inspections for Shell, whilst simultaneously providing long-range intelligence systems to Ukraine.

Why do we invest?

As both civilian drone applications and defence modernisation accelerate globally, Tekever is uniquely positioned to capture growth across both markets.

Whilst capable of defence applications, Tekever deliberately focuses on surveillance and intelligence rather than weaponised systems, positioning them as a trusted partner for humanitarian and protective missions whilst remaining relevant for defence procurement.

They control both their software and the full production process for drones. Their integrated model gives them a cost advantage, and the ability to tailor their products to customer needs.

Who is key?

Co-founder and CEO Ricardo Mendes has built Tekever over 20 years with a "good enough, fast enough" philosophy that prioritises solving real operational challenges across both civilian and defence sectors. The company's clear mission focus has helped attract committed talent whilst building partnerships with customers ranging from humanitarian organisations to military forces.

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