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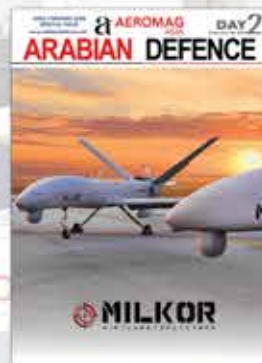
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Zenith of Alliance

India & France Forge an Unrivalled Defence Nexus



Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi with President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron during G20 Summit at Rio de Janeiro, in Brazil on November 18, 2024.

In an increasingly complex and multipolar global landscape, the strategic partnership between India and France stands as an exemplary pillar of stability and a testament to profound foresight. At the very core of this enduring alliance lies a rapidly expanding cooperation in aerospace and defence, a collaboration that has transcended traditional buyer-seller dynamics to embrace joint development, critical technology transfer, and deep strategic convergence. This wide-ranging cooperation, spanning everything from planes and ships to land systems and cyber warfare, is built on trust and a commitment to making defence systems together. In today's changing world, this partnership stands out as a key example of strength and new ideas. Let's try to understand the sheer depth and expansive breadth of this Indo-French nexus, which shows how independent nations can forge robust security ties amidst pressing geopolitical challenges.



The genesis of Indo-French defence cooperation can be traced back decades, meticulously nurtured by a mutual commitment to strategic autonomy. A defining characteristic of this relationship has been France's consistent willingness to share cutting-edge technologies and steadfastly support India's burgeoning indigenous defence capabilities. This policy resonates powerfully with India's overarching vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India). This deep-seated trust has been the bedrock, allowing the partnership to flourish even when other international collaborators might have hesitated, thereby laying robust groundwork for the comprehensive and reliable alliance we observe today. The Indo-French defence relationship is consistently highlighted as one of India's most strategically vital and dependable partnerships. It is undoubtedly a legacy of trust and strategic autonomy.

Charting New Skies

The aerospace domain forms a vibrant core of the Indo-French defence partnership, witnessing both historic procurements and ambitious future-oriented projects. The acquisition of the Rafale multi-role fighter jets, a cornerstone of air superiority, by the Indian Air Force (IAF) stands as a monumental success story. With 36 Rafales already inducted, India's air superiority and strike capabilities have been significantly enhanced. This landmark deal underscored France's unwavering commitment to timely deliveries and comprehensive support. Building on this success, India and France inked a mega-deal in April 2025, valued at approximately ₹63,000 crore (around \$7.5 billion), for the acquisition of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft for the Indian Navy. These

naval variants are specifically designed to operate from India's aircraft carriers, INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya, drastically bolstering the Navy's maritime strike capabilities. Expected between 2029 and 2031, these deliveries, along with provisions for weapons, training, and support, will ensure seamless interoperability with the IAF's existing Rafale fleet, offering considerable long-term logistical and operational advantages.

Joint Aero Engine Development

India's long-term aspiration for self-reliance in aerospace hinges on mastering advanced jet engine technology. France, with its formidable legacy in aero engine design and manufacturing through companies like Safran, emerges as an ideal partner. Active discussions are underway for the joint development of a high-thrust engine for India's indigenous Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program. This collaborative initiative, spearheaded by Safran and India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is designed to involve significant technology transfer, co-design, and co-production, effectively seeding a self-sustaining ecosystem for advanced aero engines within India.

Helicopter Programmes

India has a long history of producing Chetak and Cheetah helicopters under license, based on French designs, which have served the Indian Armed Forces for decades. Furthermore, the Shakti engine, a powerful turboshaft engine co-developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran, is a testament to successful joint ventures. This engine powers several key Indian helicopters, including the indigenous Dhruv and Rudra platforms,

ensuring robust performance and reduced foreign reliance.

MRO & Industrial Cooperation

A robust Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) ecosystem is indispensable for maintaining the operational readiness of any modern air force. The Indo-French partnership significantly strengthens this domain. As the Rafale fleet expands, French companies such as Dassault Aviation and Safran are actively facilitating the establishment of comprehensive MRO facilities in India. This not only ensures rapid turnaround times and diminishes reliance on overseas maintenance but also fosters crucial skill development and job creation within India's defence sector. The long-term objective is to position India as a regional MRO hub for French-origin platforms, further integrating the industrial bases of both nations through initiatives like the recently announced Defence Industrial Roadmap.

Deepening Maritime Dominance

The naval dimension of Indo-French cooperation is equally profound, playing a vital role in deepening maritime security and enhancing blue-water capabilities. Beyond the Rafale Marine deal, France has historically been a pivotal supplier of naval technology to India. India's Project-75, executed in collaboration with France's Naval Group, has been a crowning achievement, leading to the construction of six Scorpène-class submarines (designated Kalvari-class in India) at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai. This project has not only delivered cutting-edge submarines but has also significantly bolstered India's indigenous submarine-building capabilities through extensive

technology transfer. Efforts are now vigorously underway to integrate DRDO-developed Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) systems into these submarines, which will dramatically extend their underwater endurance and operational stealth. Discussions for potential additional submarines, possibly with integrated AIP from the outset, are ongoing.

Furthermore, France is a strong contender for various future Indian Navy projects, including potential frigate and destroyer programs, leveraging its expertise in advanced naval architecture and systems integration. Cooperation also extends to maritime surveillance and reconnaissance, vital for maintaining domain awareness in the expansive Indo-Pacific.

Land Systems and Emerging Domains

The cooperation in land systems also is steadily gaining traction. France has a strong presence in various critical areas, from advanced artillery systems to anti-tank guided missiles and specialised combat vehicles. Notably, a significant development sees France in advanced negotiations to procure India's indigenous Pinaka multi-barrel rocket launcher system. This potential deal marks a significant shift, positioning India as an emerging defence exporter to France, a nation traditionally its second-largest arms supplier. Future collaborations could also explore areas like advanced armoured vehicles, next-generation infantry weapons, and integrated air defence systems, aligning perfectly with the Indian Army's ongoing modernization blueprints.

Drones & Cyber Warfare

India is keenly interested in acquiring and co-developing advanced UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technology, including high-altitude long-endurance (HALE) drones, where France is developing significant capabilities in both drone technology and counter-drone systems. In the crucial domain of cyber warfare, where threats transcend geographical boundaries, Indo-French collaboration is vital. Both countries face sophisticated and persistent cyber threats, sharing a common interest in developing robust cyber defences, enhancing intelligence sharing, and establishing comprehensive protocols for cyber crisis management.

Forging Interoperability Through Military Exercises

India and France conduct a

comprehensive series of bilateral exercises across all three services, meticulously designed to enhance joint operational capabilities, build trust, and deepen the understanding of each other's military doctrines, which is unequivocally crucial for potential joint operations and collective security responses in the future.

Garuda (Air Force): This exercise focuses intensely on-air combat training, refining tactical procedures, and enhancing interoperability between the Indian Air Force and the French Air and Space Force. The seventh edition, held in 2022, involved advanced fighter jets like the Sukhoi Su-30 MKI and Dassault Rafale, engaging in complex aerial manoeuvres.

Varuna (Navy): Epitomising operational synergy, the 'Varuna' naval exercise emphasises maritime security, anti-submarine warfare (ASW), and surface operations. The 23rd edition in March 2025 featured complex drills involving aircraft carriers, destroyers, frigates, and submarines from both navies.

Shakti (Army): This army-to-army exercise concentrates on vital counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency operations, building tactical proficiency and shared understanding in demanding ground environments.

Why Close Indo-French Defence Ties Are Crucial

The rationale for strengthening Indo-French defence cooperation is multifaceted and deeply rooted in the current, volatile geopolitical landscape:

Indo-Pacific Stability: Both India and France are indispensable players in the Indo-Pacific, a region increasingly defined by geopolitical competition, rising maritime tensions, and asserting territorial claims. Closer defence ties enable them to contribute jointly to maritime security, freedom of navigation, and overall regional stability, acting as crucial balancers.

Strategic Autonomy: Both nations are ardent proponents of strategic autonomy, fiercely valuing their independent foreign policy choices and actively seeking to reduce over-reliance on any single power bloc. This shared philosophical foundation forms a robust ideological basis for their defence partnership, fostering a relationship built on mutual respect, reciprocal benefit, and genuine independence rather than hierarchical dependency.

Countering Evolving Threats: The

rapid emergence of hybrid warfare, sophisticated cyber threats, the increasing militarisation of space, and persistent transnational terrorism necessitates increasingly advanced defence capabilities and seamless intelligence sharing. The Indo-French partnership provides an agile and effective platform to collectively address these complex, multifaceted, and constantly evolving security challenges, pooling resources and expertise.

Diversification of Defence Procurement & Indigenous Growth:

For India, diversifying its defence procurement base is not just an option but a critical strategic imperative. France has consistently proven to be a reliable partner willing to genuinely transfer sensitive technology, a characteristic that often differentiates it from some other traditional suppliers. This approach significantly reduces India's strategic vulnerability and actively accelerates the growth and enhancement of its indigenous defence industrial base, fostering self-reliance.

Defence Industrial Roadmap: The recent, transformative announcement of an Indo-French Defence Industrial Roadmap represents a pivotal step forward. This roadmap is particularly designed to foster even closer collaboration between defence industries, proactively facilitate extensive co-development and co-production projects, and strategically integrate supply chains.

A Partnership Built for the Future

As the world continues to grapple with rapidly shifting power dynamics, emergent non-traditional threats, and persistent regional instabilities, the Indo-French defence partnership serves as a powerful and compelling model. It convincingly demonstrates how two independent nations, united by shared core values, democratic principles, and convergent strategic interests, can collaborate synergistically. This collaboration not only enhances their respective national security frameworks but also significantly contributes to broader regional stability, enabling them to collectively and effectively navigate the inherent complexities of an increasingly volatile global landscape. The skies over the Indo-Pacific, and indeed the world, will undeniably continue to bear witness to the tangible and transformative results of this soaring and strategically vital alliance. ■

NYCO: Unlocking Performance with Advanced Lubrication



NYCO has built a solid reputation in the aerospace industry for delivering high-performance lubrication solutions designed to meet the demanding requirements of both military and civil aviation. Renowned for its expertise in synthetic esters, the company offers a broad portfolio of lubricants, greases, and hydraulic fluids that comply with stringent international standards and support mission-critical operations. In this interview with Aeromag, Raphaël NADJAR, CEO of NYCO, shares insights into the company's comprehensive product offerings for the aviation sector, its forward-thinking sustainability initiatives, strategic collaborations with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), and its growing global footprint, including the pivotal role of its joint venture in India.

Raphaël NADJAR
CEO of NYCO

With over six decades of expertise in aerospace lubrication, NYCO has built a strong reputation. Could you walk us through the specific products NYCO supplies to meet the needs of both military and civil aviation?

At NYCO, we proudly offer a comprehensive range of high-performance lubricants, greases and hydraulics fluids based on our extensive knowledge in synthetic ester development over more than 70 years in the aim to support military and civil aviation as well as industry and automotive sectors.

As an example, our TURBONYCOIL 600 turbine oil has been and is a trusted choice for major airlines globally since 1985, known for its reliability and performance in demanding conditions (MIL-PRF-23699 STD & SAE-AS-5780 SPC). In the military sector, we provide specialized lubricants like TURBONYCOIL 601, HYDRAUNYCOIL FH51 or NYCO GREASE GN22 which are designed in close collaboration with defence forces to ensure optimal performance in various aircraft and land forces applications.

We take pride in our ability to meet

rigorous specifications while also tailoring our solutions to the unique needs of our diverse customer base.

How does NYCO address the environmental impact of its activities and products, and what steps are being taken to reduce the company's carbon footprint?

Guided by our commitment to corporate social responsibility, NYCO has embarked on an ambitious journey to minimize our environmental footprint. Since 2019, we have been measuring our carbon emissions and have set clear targets to achieve a 25% reduction by 2025 and a 40% reduction by 2030.

Our efforts include prioritizing low-carbon, bio-based materials when available in our purchasing policies and continuously improving our manufacturing processes for enhanced eco-efficiency by reducing energy and water consumption. In that regard, our 2-year Ecovadis Bronze Medal reflects our dedication to promoting sustainability within our industry.

How does NYCO work with OEMs

globally to bring value to its customers and the Aviation sector in general?

Our partnerships with OEMs are vital to our mission of delivering cutting-edge lubricants to the aviation sector. NYCO has established strong relationships with key stakeholders, including engine manufacturers and airframe producers, to facilitate the qualification process for our lubricants. This collaboration not only enhances trust but also ensures that products like TURBONYCOIL 600 are readily available on final assembly lines, supporting airlines in their operational needs. Through this synergy, we also drive technological advancements that benefit the aerospace industry as a whole.

NYCO serves a wide range of international markets. Could you tell us more about your export operations and the key regions where NYCO has a strong presence or is looking to expand?

NYCO is a global company, proud to serve customers in more than 100 countries, with a strong foundation in Europe for more than 70 years and significant growth in the U.S. military

sector over the past 20 years. Our recent investment in a new manufacturing plant in Newnan, Georgia (USA) aims to meet the rising demand for our portfolio of products in each market we serve.

Complementary, AVI-OIL - our joint venture in India (Indian Oil, Balmer Lawrie & NYCO)- continues to thrive, and with our partners we are in a good position to respond to the growing "Make in India" initiative.

Additionally, we are enhancing our presence in the APAC region with our offices in Singapore and dedicated sales & technical forces in China, positioning ourselves to adapt to the evolving geopolitical landscape.

Can you outline the significance of AVI-OIL's contribution to the Indian Defence sector, including specific product examples, and also detail its support for

Civil Aviation?

With a legacy of over 30 years, AVI-OIL plays a crucial role in the Indian Defence sector as a trusted provider of high-performance lubricants and greases tailored for military applications. Aligned with the "Make in India" vision, AVI-OIL is dedicated to ensuring self-reliance in aviation lubricants, offering a wide range of turbine oils, hydraulic fluids, and specialty products that meet the highest military standards.

The company invests significantly in R&D to develop new formulations, ensuring reliability and operational readiness for the Indian Armed Forces while also supporting civil aviation through its commitment to quality. We are currently looking for more opportunities to grow our business in India even more.

What is NYCO aiming to showcase

at the Paris Air Show, and what are the company's main goals and priorities for participating in this global event?

At the upcoming Paris Air Show, we will showcase our latest innovations and highlight our commitment to strategic partnerships within the aerospace lubrication sector. As a leading Global manufacturer of synthetic esters and specialty lubricants, our participation underscores our dedication to advancing high-performance solutions tailored to the current and future needs of both military and civil aviation operations. We look forward to connecting with industry leaders and exploring new opportunities to drive the future of aviation.

Dassault Aviation and Tata Ink Deal to Manufacture Rafale Fuselages in India



Dassault Aviation and Tata Advanced Systems Limited have signed four Production Transfer Agreements to manufacture the Rafale fighter aircraft fuselage in India, marking a significant step forward in strengthening the country's aerospace manufacturing capabilities and supporting global supply chains. This facility represents a significant investment in India's aerospace infrastructure and will serve as a critical hub for high-precision manufacturing.

Under the scope of the partnership, Tata

Advanced Systems will set up a cutting-edge production facility in Hyderabad for the manufacture of key structural sections of the Rafale, including the lateral shells of the rear fuselage, the complete rear section, the central fuselage, and the front section.

The first fuselage sections are expected to roll off the assembly line in FY2028, with the facility expected to deliver up to two complete fuselages per month.

"For the first time, Rafale fuselages will be produced outside France. This is a decisive

step in strengthening our supply chain in India. Thanks to the expansion of our local partners, including TASL, one of the major players in the Indian aerospace industry, this supply chain will contribute to the successful ramp-up of the Rafale and, with our support, will meet our quality and competitiveness requirements," said Eric Trappier, Chairman and CEO of Dassault Aviation.

Sukaran Singh, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Tata Advanced Systems Limited, said, "This partnership marks a significant step in India's aerospace journey. The production of the complete Rafale fuselage in India underscores the deepening trust in Tata Advanced Systems' capabilities and the strength of our collaboration with Dassault Aviation. It also reflects the remarkable progress India has made in establishing a modern, robust aerospace manufacturing ecosystem that can support global platforms."

The signing of these contracts reflects Dassault Aviation's strong commitment to India's 'Make in India' and AtmaNirbhar initiatives. This partnership aims to strengthen India's position as a key player in the global aerospace supply chain while supporting its goal of greater economic self-reliance.

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DRDO @ The Paris Air Show 2025



The Paris Air Show proudly holds the title of the world's oldest and largest aerospace exhibition, with a history as rich as the industry it represents. Its origins trace back to 1908, a time when aviation was in its infancy and capturing the public's imagination. Initially, aircraft were just a small feature within the grand Paris Motor Show. However, the immense fascination with these new flying machines was undeniable. This led pioneers of the burgeoning French aerospace industry to organize the very first event dedicated entirely to flight, held in 1909 at the magnificent Grand Palais. The reason for its creation was simple yet powerful: to provide a dedicated stage for the incredible new technology of aviation that was set to change the world.

Fast forward to the present day, and the world of aviation and defence is gearing up for the 56th iteration of this prestigious event, which will take place from June 16th to June 22nd, 2025. Now held at the

Le Bourget Parc des Expositions, a venue synonymous with aviation history, the show has evolved into the most critical platform for the global aerospace industry. For professionals and enthusiasts in the defence sector, this is far more than a simple exhibition. It is the global epicenter where the future of aerospace and defence technology is unveiled, debated, and decided. It is where multi-billion dollar deals are struck, strategic alliances are forged, and the technological trajectory for the coming years is set. The event brings together the most important players in the industry, from manufacturers and prime contractors to military delegations and government officials, all gathered to showcase cutting-edge innovations and foster vital international cooperation.

Le Bourget: A Landmark of Aviation History

The Paris Air Show boasts a rich history, tracing its origins back to 1908 as a section

of the Paris Motor Show. A dedicated air show was launched the following year at the Grand Palais. After a break during the World Wars, the show resumed in 1946 and has been held biennially in odd years since 1949. The choice of Le Bourget as the venue is deeply significant. This is not just any exhibition center, it is a place etched in the annals of flight. Paris-Le Bourget Airport is one of Europe's oldest and most famous airfields, having witnessed countless pivotal moments in aviation. Its history is a timeline of aviation milestones. Charles Lindbergh famously landed here in his "Spirit of St. Louis" in 1927, completing the first-ever solo non-stop transatlantic flight and instantly making Le Bourget a household name. Since its inception in 1909, the Paris Air Show itself has chronicled the story of flight, from the fragile wood-and-fabric biplanes of the early 20th century to the supersonic jets and advanced unmanned systems of today. Held at Le Bourget



since 1953, the show benefits from the airport's expansive grounds and historic atmosphere, providing a fitting and inspiring backdrop for the cutting-edge technology on display. Since the 1970s, it has solidified its position as a primary international reference point within the aeronautical sector.

The India-France Strategic Partnership: A Foundation of Trust

The relationship between India and

France is a cornerstone of international diplomacy, built on decades of mutual trust and shared democratic values. This strategic partnership, formally established in 1998, has grown to encompass deep and resilient cooperation in defence, space, and civil nuclear matters. For the defence sector, this relationship is particularly vital and has stood the test of time. It serves as a cornerstone for their collaborative efforts across various sectors, particularly in defence and security.

This relationship, built on mutual trust and respect, celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023 with roadmaps set for cooperation until 2047, including a specific focus on the Indo-Pacific region. Beyond defence, their partnership encompasses civil nuclear cooperation, maritime and Indo-Pacific security, counter-terrorism, space, and cyber security. High-level engagements, including annual strategic dialogues and official visits between leaders like Prime Minister Modi and President Macron,



LCA) Tejas Mark-II



Airborne Early Warning & Control System (AEW&C)

continually strengthen these vital bilateral ties. It is characterized by a high level of understanding on strategic issues and has led to significant collaborations, including the landmark acquisition of Rafale fighter jets and the joint production of Scorpene-class submarines. France has consistently been a reliable partner for India, supporting its security needs and its ambition to develop a self-reliant defence industrial base through the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. The Paris Air Show serves as a key event to further strengthen these

time-tested ties.

DRDO Takes Center Stage at the Paris Air Show

The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), the R&D arm of India's Ministry of Defence, is set to participate in the 55th International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget Parc des, France, from June 16-22, 2025. This participation represents a significant opportunity to engage with one of the world's largest and most prestigious air shows, fostering

connections with aerospace professionals globally. DRDO is actively involved in the design and development of advanced military systems and technologies, aligning with India's "Make in India and Make for the World" initiative. Their work spans a wide array of defence products, including missiles and missile-based air defence systems, Light Combat Aircraft, Main Battle Tanks, gun systems, UAVs, counter-UAV systems, multi-barrel rocket launchers, radars, naval systems, and soldier support systems. This event is a prime opportunity for DRDO to connect with aerospace professionals from around the world and demonstrate India's technological prowess. DRDO has been instrumental in creating a robust and dynamic military-industrial ecosystem in India, developing a wide spectrum of technologies ranging from missiles and fighter jets to main battle tanks, electronic warfare suites, and advanced radar systems. Many of these systems are now the backbone of the Indian Armed Forces, and several have been successfully exported, demonstrating their world-class quality and reliability.



Astra - Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM)

Showcasing 'Made in India' Excellence



Medium Range Maritime Reconnaissance (MRMR)

At the Paris Air Show, DRDO will display a range of its flagship products, offering a comprehensive glimpse into the future of Indian defence technology. Here are some of the key systems that will be showcased:

Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas Mark-II: A significant evolution of the proven Tejas platform, the Mk-II is a state-of-the-art multirole supersonic fighter. It features a delta wing and close-coupled canards for exceptional agility, advanced avionics, and an enhanced weapon-carrying capacity. It is designed for long-range missions and is fully equipped for modern network-centric warfare, making it a formidable asset in the air.

Airborne Early Warning & Control System (AEW&C): This system acts as a crucial "eye in the sky." Mounted on an aircraft platform, it provides 360-degree surveillance, tracking, and identification of aerial and sea-surface targets over a vast area, giving a decisive tactical advantage and acting as a potent force multiplier in any conflict.

Medium Range Maritime Reconnaissance (MRMR): Based on the versatile Airbus C-295 aircraft, this system is custom-designed for the Indian Navy's demanding maritime surveillance and anti-submarine warfare (ASW) requirements, enhancing India's ability to monitor its extensive maritime domain.

Astra - Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM): India's first

indigenously designed BVRAAM, the Astra is a game-changing weapon. It can engage highly manoeuvrable supersonic targets at ranges up to 100 km, allowing Indian Air Force fighters to dominate the skies by engaging enemy aircraft from a safe standoff distance.

Helina - Helicopter Launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile: This third-generation "fire and forget" missile is designed to be launched from the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH). It can accurately destroy heavily armoured tanks and other targets from a safe distance of up to 7 km, providing a significant anti-armor capability to army aviation units.

Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) – Swathi: This advanced electronically

scanned phased array radar is a battlefield essential. It can automatically and instantly detect the location of enemy artillery, mortars, and rocket launchers, allowing for a swift and precise counter-attack.

SHYEN (Payloads for Dornier Mid Life Upgrade): This is a fully integrated sensor suite designed to upgrade the Dornier surveillance aircraft. It combines a Maritime Patrol Radar, Electronic Support Measures, and an Electro-Optical/Infra-Red system to provide a comprehensive, real-time picture of the maritime domain.

A Catalyst for Collaboration and Growth

The Paris Air Show is far more than a mere exhibition; it stands as a powerful catalyst



Helina - Helicopter Launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile



Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) – Swathi

for both fostering growth and driving innovation within the global aerospace and defence sectors. For the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), participating in this prestigious event offers an invaluable confluence of opportunities. It provides a direct platform to engage and interact with leading global industry figures, fostering dialogues that can shape future technological advancements. This interaction also allows DRDO to rigorously benchmark its indigenous technologies and products against the best in the world, identifying areas for further refinement and excellence. Crucially, the show is a fertile ground for exploring new frontiers of research and development, connecting with international partners on cutting-edge projects, and identifying promising new markets for India's indigenously developed defence solutions.

For the robust India-France relationship, the Paris Air Show serves as a potent reinforcement of the deep-seated defence cooperation that underpins their strategic partnership. This long-standing alliance, built on mutual trust and shared strategic interests, finds new vigor at such international platforms. The event proactively opens new avenues for future collaborations, encouraging joint ventures in critical technologies and facilitating vital technology sharing agreements. These cooperative efforts are not just beneficial for commercial gain; they are absolutely

essential for ensuring mutual security and fostering shared prosperity in an increasingly complex global environment. As Dr. Samir V Kamat, the distinguished Chairman of DRDO, has rightly observed, the show continues the proud legacy of India-France defence relations, a legacy marked by consistent cooperation and innovation. DRDO's prominent presence and the showcasing of its world-class products at this global stage send a clear and unequivocal signal to the world: India has firmly established itself as a major player in the global defence and aerospace landscape, equipped with world-class products and a robust, forward-looking vision for the future of defence technology. This participation underscores India's growing confidence in its defence capabilities and its readiness to contribute significantly to global security.

Conclusion A Global Statement: India's Ascent in Defence

The participation of the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) in the Paris Air Show 2025 is more than just an attendance; it is a profound and confident stride forward for India's burgeoning defence industry. This prominent presence on such an esteemed international platform serves as a powerful testament to the nation's rapidly advancing scientific and technological prowess. It underscores India's unwavering ambition

not only to achieve self-reliance in defence but also to emerge as a significant global defence manufacturing hub, capable of meeting both its own needs and those of friendly nations.

By presenting its array of advanced, indigenously developed, and, crucially, combat-proven systems at this prestigious world stage, India achieves multiple strategic objectives. Firstly, it undeniably strengthens its deep-rooted strategic partnership with France, reinforcing the collaborative spirit and mutual trust that define their defence relationship. Secondly, and perhaps more broadly, it unequivocally demonstrates India's capability as a credible and reliable defence partner to the wider international community. This showcases India's commitment to contributing to global security through its high-quality, cost-effective, and cutting-edge defence solutions.

For professionals and decision-makers within the global defence community, the Indian pavilion at Le Bourget will undoubtedly be a must-visit destination. It promises to offer a clear, compelling, and comprehensive view of a nation on the rise, showcasing its innovation, its manufacturing capabilities, and its strategic vision for the future of defence and aerospace. This engagement is a vital step in cementing India's position as a dependable and formidable force in the international defence landscape.



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AEPL: Soaring Higher in Aerospace



As India rapidly scales its aerospace and defence capabilities, AEPL (Aerospace Engineers Private Limited) has emerged as a key player driving innovation, quality, and self-reliance in manufacturing. With advanced competencies in both metallic and non-metallic domains, AEPL is pioneering next-generation solutions that meet the stringent demands of military, civil, and space applications. From contributing to prestigious missions like Chandrayaan-3 and Gaganyaan to being one of the few certified Indian suppliers for the Airbus C295 program, AEPL exemplifies India's growing global stature in aerospace manufacturing. In an interview with Aeromag, R. Sundaram, Managing Director and Founder of AEPL, shares insights into its advanced manufacturing ecosystem, product capabilities, R&D strategy, international partnerships etc.

R. Sundaram,
Managing Director and Founder of AEPL

AEPL is pioneering next-gen solutions in both metallic and non-metallic domains. Could you elaborate on the advanced manufacturing capabilities and technologies that enable you to deliver such a diverse and high-precision product range?

AEPL operates as a vertically integrated aerospace manufacturing hub, offering robust capabilities in metallic, non-metallic (rubber and composites), and integrated assemblies—backed by precision technologies and a strong quality framework. Across our units in Salem and Hosur, and with our upcoming 700,000 sq. ft facility in Shoolagiri, AEPL brings together high-precision technologies under one ecosystem:

In the metallic domain, AEPL uses:

5-axis CNC machining, sliding head turning, and multi-axis VMCs for complex component fabrication.

A 6500T hydraulic press for advanced

sheet metal forming, complemented by CNC brake presses, stretch forming, and rolling machines.

NADCAP-accredited special processes including anodizing, titanium anodizing, cadmium plating, SS passivation, and solution analysis.

In the non-metallic and composite domain:

123 CEMILAC-certified rubber compounds tailored to various aerospace applications.

Injection and compression moulding, rubber-metal bonding, and rubber extrusion capabilities supported by automated chemical batching and calibrated ovens.

Although our previously certified Class 10000 cleanroom is currently inactive, composite manufacturing is still supported by autoclaves, prepreg cutting systems, and cold storage for critical process control.

AEPL is proud to be India's first NADCAP-certified manufacturer for elastomer seals, a milestone that underscores our commitment to quality and technical excellence. Our operations are built on robust global standards including AS13100, ISO14001, and ISO45001, ensuring consistency, safety, and sustainability. With digitally integrated quality systems, advanced inspection infrastructure, and a FOD-free manufacturing culture, AEPL is fully equipped to support mission-critical aerospace and defence programs on a global scale.

Could you walk us through AEPL's core product offerings and explain how they address the evolving requirements of the defense and aerospace sectors?

AEPL delivers a diverse spectrum of products tailored for military, civil aviation, and space missions. Its capabilities are

aligned with evolving demands such as weight reduction, extreme environment durability, and high-integrity system readiness.

Metallic Components: Engine parts, structural frames, rotary shafts, housings, precision fittings, clamps, and refueling adapters.

Non-Metallic & Rubber Components: Rotary shaft seals, thermal boots, seal for bleed valve and cockpit seals, flame-resistant mouldings, oxygen lines, and fabric-reinforced hoses.

Composites: Insulation panels, structural covers, BNC/BND assemblies, SATCOM radomes for Embraer aircraft, and radar housing modules like the AAAU for AEW&C systems.

Integrated Assemblies: Fuel tanks, jet pumps, electro-mechanical LRUs, and missile subassemblies—each tested rigorously for functionality and airworthiness.

Specialized Clamps & Hoses: AS, MS, NAS, and MIL-DTL compliant clamps and hose assemblies.

These components support 60% military aviation, 25% civil, and 10% space programs, reflecting our responsiveness to the sector's evolving needs—be it lightweighting, resistance to extreme environments, or readiness for space and supersonic applications.

Innovation is at the core of AEPL's identity. How is your R&D strategy driving breakthroughs in aerospace manufacturing and defense aviation?

AEPL's R&D is engineered around three principles: precision, sustainability, and future-readiness. The company invests in advanced elastomers and composite technologies suited for extreme aerospace conditions, including space and hypersonic environments.

Our in-house teams are innovating in:

Advanced elastomers and composites for space and hypersonic environments (including MIL-R-25988-based materials).

Cleanroom assembly for high-integrity bonded structures, radomes, and multi-material LRUs.

Process innovation using semi-automated batching, CNC prepreg cutting, simulation-based forming, AI-assisted inspection, and cold storage-integrated thermal process control.

Our roadmap includes new NADCAP accreditations for heat treatment, hydraulic hoses, surface treatment, and fitting qualifications by 2026. Collaborations

with DRDO, CEMILAC, and the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Centre fuel both product and talent innovation.

AEPL serves key defense and aerospace clients and has also played a pivotal role in landmark initiatives like Chandrayaan, Gaganyaan, and the Airbus C295 program. Could you share insights into your primary customer base?

AEPL is a trusted partner to India's flagship organizations and global OEMs. We have contributed critical parts and assemblies to:

Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, and Gaganyaan through structural assemblies and valve systems.

Airbus C295 through approved supply of airframe and elastomeric parts (one of 37 certified Indian suppliers).

HAL, ISRO, DRDO, BDL, BEML, and BEL, along with listed supply for Boeing (BAC 5071 QPL) and Pratt & Whitney.

Our certifications—NADCAP accreditation for Elastomer Seals, NADCAP accreditation for Fluid Distribution Systems, NADCAP accreditation for Chemical Processing, Listed in Boeing QPL to specification BAC5071 and in Pratt Whitney QPL for seal bleed valve, Airbus IPCA, HAL ASQMS, DGCA ITSO, DGAQA—underscore the global standards we meet. AEPL's focus on "Make in India, Make for the Globe" is more than a slogan; it's a demonstrated capability.

AEPL has been actively expanding its global footprint through strategic collaborations and joint ventures. Can you share more about these international partnerships?

AEPL's international strategy centers on qualification-led collaborations, joint development, and contract manufacturing. The company partners with primes and Tier-1 suppliers in the US and Europe to co-develop integrated rubber-metal-composite assemblies and accelerate QPL/QML approvals.

It supplies certified elastomer seals and fittings for global MRO and OEM programs, backed by NADCAP-accredited processes. Airbus, Boeing, and Pratt & Whitney certifications enable AEPL to contribute to multiple international platforms.

To support global demand, AEPL is setting up specialized hose assembly and surface treatment facilities aligned with international aviation standards. Participation in offset programs and

exhibitions such as Aero India and the Paris Air Show further boosts its visibility and access to long-term global collaborations.

Looking ahead, what is your vision for AEPL over the next 5 to 10 years, particularly as India scales up its defense manufacturing ecosystem?

AEPL's Vision 2030 is to become a globally recognized Tier-1 partner for certified aerospace systems that combines scale, sustainability, and sophistication. This transformation is built on a roadmap that includes:

Commissioning a 700,000 sq. ft facility at Shoolagiri with dedicated aero structure hangars and civil aviation-grade surface treatment lines.

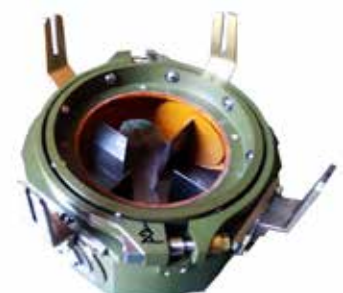
Achieving complete NADCAP and ISO17025 coverage across heat treatment, chemical processes, surface treatments, and fluid systems.

Deepening R&D into unmanned systems, bonded composites, and defense based electronics.

Adding over 500 new jobs and launching a Skill Development Center to train the next generation of aerospace talent.

Driving gender and diversity inclusion across roles and functions.

With a foundation built on engineering excellence, customer trust, and purpose-driven growth, AEPL is committed to leading India's aerospace ambition—from Earth to orbit. ■



Driving Global Aerospace Dialogue from Singapore



The Singapore Airshow has grown into a cornerstone event for the global aerospace and defence industry, not only in Asia, but on the world stage. As the organiser behind this flagship event, Experia Events has consistently created a high-impact platform that brings together industry leaders, innovators, and policymakers to shape the future of aerospace. In an interview with Aeromag, Leck Chet Lam, Managing Director of Experia Events, shares insights into what has fueled the Singapore Airshow's global reputation, how it continues to evolve with the industry, and what to expect from its milestone 10th edition in 2026, including the debut of the pioneering Space Summit.

Leck Chet Lam
Managing Director of Experia Events

The Singapore Airshow has cemented its status as Asia's most influential aerospace and defence exhibition. What do you think has driven its global success and reputation?

Singapore Airshow is one of our flagship events at Experia Events and a big part of what makes it so special is its ability to bring the aerospace and defence leadership and community together from across the globe. With Singapore's position as a major air and aviation hub, Singapore Airshow has naturally grown to become a key event in the region – not just for showcasing cutting-edge aerospace innovations, but for shaping the conversations that define the future of the industry.

As the organisers, one question we always come back to is: How can we ensure that every attendee walks away with valuable insights and an experience that surpasses the last? That question has been at the heart of how we build every show. And it's something we're proud to see reflected in the results, with the last edition generating the largest number of

trade attendees ever – which truly speaks to the scale and impact of what Singapore Airshow delivers.

How has the Singapore Airshow evolved over the years to keep pace with the shifting demands of the global aerospace and defence landscape?

Singapore Airshow has always been more than just an exhibition – for us, it's really about creating a value adding platform where the global aerospace and defence community can come together to connect, exchange ideas, explore opportunities and chart the way forward for the global aerospace and defence industry.

Over the years, we've been intentional with our programming to ensure that each edition reflects the industry's evolving priorities. Whether it's the growing focus on sustainability, the rise of AI and digital technologies, or the rapid momentum in space, we're constantly refining the programme to stay relevant and most importantly – ensuring that we are bringing the right people into the room – the leaders, changemakers and innovators

who will shape the future of our industry.

How does the Singapore Airshow reinforce Singapore's position as a global aviation and defence hub and what broader impact does it have on the nation's economy, particularly in sectors like tourism, hospitality, trade and innovation?

The success of our last edition really shows how much the Singapore Airshow resonates both locally and internationally. To put things into perspective, Singapore Airshow 2024 generated over S\$391 million in economic value – the highest contribution in the show's history – and welcomed more than 110,000 attendees from around the world.

What stands out is how we created a ripple effect that goes beyond just the event itself. From boosting tourism and hospitality through international visitors, to driving trade and business opportunities for local companies and even sparking innovation in aerospace technologies, it is clear that Singapore Airshow plays a big part in strengthening Singapore's position as a global aviation and defence hub.



Looking ahead to the Singapore Airshow 2026, what new or groundbreaking features can attendees and industry stakeholders expect?

As the 10th edition of Singapore Airshow, we are looking to do something different. One of the most exciting programmes in development is the introduction of the Space Summit, launched in partnership with the Office for Space Technology & Industry (OSTIn), Singapore's national space office under the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB).

While I can't share more details at this stage, what I can say is that it will be an important extension to Singapore Airshow, that brings together leading experts, innovators and government stakeholders to further grow the fast-evolving space sector. Stay tuned as we reveal more about this exciting new chapter!

The introduction of the Space Summit 2026@Singapore Airshow marks a major milestone. What inspired the addition of a dedicated space segment and what opportunities do you foresee it unlocking

for the broader industry?

The inspiration behind adding a dedicated space segment came from the rapid growth and strategic importance of the space industry globally – and Singapore is no exception. The government's recent moves, such as increased investment in satellite technologies and the regional satellite imaging project, reflect a clear intention to grow our local space capabilities.

While Singapore is still in the early stages to penetrate this sector, the Space Summit 2026@Singapore Airshow is designed to support and accelerate that trajectory. By bringing together government, industry leaders and innovators, Space Summit 2026 will be the launchpad for meaningful conversations, new partnerships and fresh opportunities – and ultimately, helps position Singapore as a key player in shaping the space landscape.

From launching the Singapore Airshow to expanding into sectors like defence, government, lifestyle and now space, Experia's journey has been impressive. Can you share some reflections on this growth and diversification?

When we first launched Singapore Airshow, the goal was to create a platform





that could bring global aviation and defence leaders together in Asia Pacific. Over the years, we've not only achieved that but have also seen how we are contributing to something much bigger – driving economic growth, facilitating industry partnerships and strengthening regional collaboration. Naturally, that success got us thinking: where else could we create that kind of impact?

Rather than diversification, I see it more as a deliberate move – recognising where the momentum was and identifying where we could add value. But at the heart of it, our focus remains the same: to create platforms that spark collaboration, support innovation and drive long-term progress.

What are your long-term goals for both Experia Events and the Singapore Airshow?

I've spent over a decade at Experia Events and my vision has always been centred on building platforms that go beyond simply bringing people together. We have created ecosystems that connect industries, spark innovation and create meaningful economic and strategic value, not just for Singapore, but for the wider region. Looking ahead, our long-term goal is to continue developing events that are closely aligned with market demand, events that

stays relevant to the industry, have the potential to shape global conversations and those that exert global influence.

We've never seen ourselves as just event organisers. What we truly aspire to be is a catalyst for progress – to create the kind of spaces where real conversations happen, where ideas turn into action and where industries move forward.

For the Singapore Airshow, the goal has always been to keep pace with where the industry is headed. We want to reflect those shifts, stay future-focused and continue to be the place where the right people come together to do serious business and shape the future of the industry.



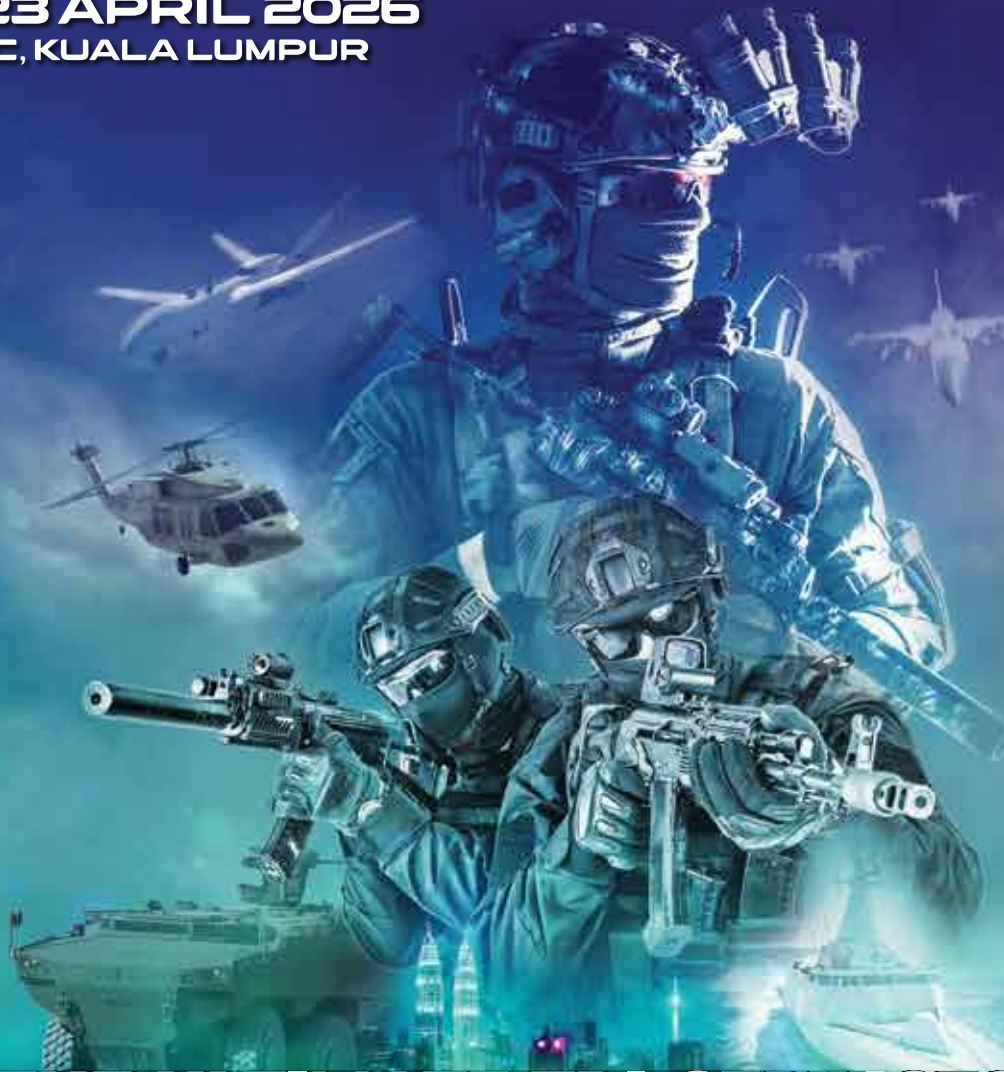


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DEFEA 2025 Drew Strong Global Attendance in Athens



The International Defence, Security & Technology Exhibition (DEFEA 2025) officially opened on May 6 in Athens, inaugurated by the Minister of National Defence, Nikos Dendias, in a ceremony attended by senior government officials, military leaders, and international dignitaries.

The opening ceremony underscored the strategic significance of the event,

bringing together top-level representatives from key ministries including Defence, National Security, Digital Governance, and Maritime Affairs. Their presence highlighted Greece's commitment to strengthening its role in the global defence and security arena.

DEFEA 2025 is conducted under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence – General Directorate for

Defence Investments and Armaments (GDDIA) with the support of Hellenic Manufacturers Association of Defence Material and is organised by ROTA Exhibitions Greece.

DEFEA 2025 has drawn strong international participation, with ministers and deputy ministers from numerous countries joining the event, reinforcing the exhibition's growing global influence. Chiefs of the Hellenic Armed Forces and senior leadership from Greece's defence establishment also took part in the inauguration and toured the exhibition halls.

This year's edition features a robust international footprint, with 436 exhibitors from 37 countries, 18 national pavilions, and 98 official delegations representing 45 nations. These numbers reaffirm DEFEA's status as a premier platform for defence cooperation, strategic dialogue, and technological innovation. ■



Paris Air Show: MBDA Showcases Sovereign Solutions to Protect Citizens

MBDA, Europe's leading manufacturer of complex weapon systems, will be presenting an evolving portfolio of sovereign European defence solutions at the Paris Air Show 2025 at Le Bourget, to enable armed forces to carry out all their missions and ensure the protection of European citizens.

Drawing on feedback from high-intensity conflicts, MBDA continues to innovate to meet the current and future needs of armed forces. Thanks to its DNA of European cooperation, MBDA is the only player in Europe offering forces decisive, high-tech weapon systems, while taking into account the new challenges that armed forces are facing. MBDA is developing new effectors, particularly saturation effectors, based on new ways of doing things. This comprehensive portfolio of solutions enables forces to maintain their operational superiority on the battlefield.

New effectors :

The new effectors presented by MBDA at the show illustrate the Group's ability to combine agility and innovation in order to meet the evolving needs of forces, in particular through the implementation of new ways of mass-producing

One of MBDA's solutions to the need to saturate adversary defences is the new One Way Effector

Development of this sovereign long-range solution, presented at the Paris Air Show 2025, is through an innovative production scheme in partnership with a drone manufacturer and civilian industrial players, notably from the automotive sector. One Way Effector is a compromise between the need for mass and performance at a lower cost, meeting the challenges faced by armed forces in high-intensity conflicts.

A complete range of Remotely Controlled Ammunitions (RCA)

The RCA developed by MBDA combine the precision, reliability, agility and weight required for high-intensity conflicts. They offer ease of deployment, flexibility of use, simultaneous observation and neutralization capabilities, and are accurate against localized targets in compartmentalized or difficult-to-access environments. They also offer the capacity to saturate enemy systems at a cost optimized for mass production. In particular, MBDA will be presenting the AKERON RCX 50 and AKERON RCH 170 munitions, part of the AKERON family of beyond line-of-sight firing capabilities.

The SMART missile family

Recent operations have highlighted a lack of SEAD / DEAD (suppression/destruction of enemy air defences) capabilities that counter enemy denial of access strategies in air combat. MBDA is working on saturation weapons and in particular on the design of the SMART missile family, a low-cost intelligent weapon to equip new-generation fighter aircraft.

Decisive capabilities for armed forces

The design of MBDA's decisive complex weapon systems bring superiority combat to gain advantage on the battlefield and provide penetration capability. Current conflicts demonstrate the importance of multi-layered air defence and the importance of

decision-making capabilities in Deep Precision Strike. Two areas also considered priorities by NATO and the EU.

Multi-layered air defence to protect European skies, from the battlefield to outer space :

MBDA has every layer of air defence. Offering solutions ranging from anti-drone capabilities to the handling of the most complex threats such as cruise missiles, manoeuvring ballistic missiles and hypersonic glide vehicles. Sky Warden - which integrates effectors such as directed-energy weapons - MISTRAL, MANPAD VSHORAD, VL MICA, and the CAMM, ASTER and Aquila families of missiles are those solutions. Some, such as the already available Aster, have proved their worth in operations, for example in the Red Sea against ballistic missiles. Its latest version, the Aster B1 NT, will offer a new capability in the face of the hypersonic threat, guaranteeing the effectiveness of the SAMP/T long-range air defence system.

Finally, beyond the atmosphere, space represents a new domain to defend. For the first time at the Paris Air Show, MBDA will be presenting a mock-up of the SPLINTER satellite, part of the TOUTATIS project. TOUTATIS is an experiment to demonstrate actions in Low-Earth orbit for the French Space Command (CDE – Commandement De l'Espace).

Deep strike: a complete portfolio of sovereign European capabilities

MBDA is the only player to offer a complete portfolio of sovereign European solutions in the field of deep precision strike, notably with the SCALP/Storm Shadow, TAURUS and Land Cruise Missile (LCM). MBDA continues to adapt to prepare for the future, and is working on the next generation of these solutions. MBDA is displaying the Future Anti-Ship Missile/Future Cruise Missile (FC/ASW), the fruit of European cooperation between France, the UK and Italy, and expected to enter the development phase this year. With this system, MBDA will enable armed forces to maintain their operational advantage beyond 2030.

Preparing for the air combat of the future:

MBDA's range of air-to-air combat missiles is unrivalled in Europe, ensuring air superiority for armed forces in all situations, notably with the Meteor air-to-air missile, developed through European cooperation between six countries. To prepare for the air combat of the future, MBDA is also working on the new generation of this missile, as well as on new effectors, Expandable Remote Carriers, adapted to the challenges of collaborative combat in a high-intensity context. Designed to accompany new-generation fighter aircraft, such as the Future Air Combat System (SCAF), their mission is to penetrate enemy territory, particularly in the most dangerous and remote denial-of-access zones.

Over 320 American Companies Come Together for the Future of Aerospace at Paris Airshow 2025



The USA Partnership Pavilion at the Paris Airshow with over 320 US companies held its Opening Ceremony. Spanning over 8,000 square meters and including over 100 first-time exhibitors, the Pavilion is the largest international group exhibit at the show. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the USA Partnership Pavilion, organized by Kallman Worldwide, at the Paris Airshow, exemplifying the company's decades-long commitment to industry and global collaboration.

At the heart of this anniversary celebration was the Endeavour Victory Ride, a three-day journey and tribute to both the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II and the resilience of U.S. industry 80 years later. A group of cyclists—representing the Endeavour Scholarship, U.S. and French air forces, and veterans including wounded airmen—rode from the historic Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer to Le Bourget Airfield carrying French and American flags.

The ride commenced at the Opening Ceremony of the USA Partnership Pavilion where the flags were formally presented to industry leaders. Guests included Kelli Seybolt, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for International Affairs, Mr. Frédéric Parisot, President of GIFAS (the French Aerospace Industries Association), and Mr. Eric Fanning, President of the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA).

As part of the events and attractions organized by Kallman Worldwide, a series of thought-leadership presentations will be held at the Forum throughout the week, covering a variety of timely topics from cyber security trends to the future of aviation (click here for the full schedule). There will also be a feature panel discussion, “Elevating Women: Tangible Strategies for a Dynamic Workforce,” featuring global leaders in aviation: Heidi Grant, Captain Theresa Claiborne (USAF, Ret.), Lynda Coffman, and Colonel Jennifer Aupke (USAF & ANG, Ret.).

Showcasing U.S. leadership and innovation, the USA Partnership Pavilion will host some of the world's most advanced defense technologies. This includes the display of a Collaborative

Combat Aircraft (CCA), an unmanned aircraft “wingman” and cutting-edge development poised to reshape modern air combat created by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems. The week will culminate with the Endeavour Scholarship Award Ceremony on Friday, June 20th at the Paris Space Hub, where French recipients of this year's scholarship will be announced. The recipients include four students and an educator who will attend Space Camp in the USA. The program showcases Kallman Worldwide's commitment to investing in the future of the aerospace industry and the ceremony will feature invited special guests, astronauts Mike Bloomfield (USA) and Jean-Loup Chrétien (France) and Captain Theresa Claiborne (USAF, Ret.).



GAMI Participates in the International Paris Air Show 2025



In the presence of His Excellency Eng. Ahmad bin Abdulaziz Al-Ohali, Governor of the General Authority for Military Industries (GAMI), the participation of GAMI in the international Paris Air Show 2025, one of the largest and most prestigious aviation and defense exhibitions in the world.

GAMI's participation in the show was also attended by His Excellency Eng. Saleh bin Nasser Al-Jasser, Minister of Transport and Logistics Services; His Excellency Abdulaziz bin Abdullah Al-Duailej, President of the General Authority for Civil Aviation; Mr. Fahd bin Mayouf Al-Ruwaili, Saudi ambassador to the French Republic; and a number of officials, experts, and

specialists from various countries around the world.

His Excellency Eng. Ahmad bin Abdulaziz Al-Ohali, Governor of GAMI, emphasized that GAMI's participation in the international Paris Air Show 2025 aligns with its efforts to strengthen international partnerships, attract high-value investments, and enable national talent. These efforts contribute to achieving the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030, including localizing over 50% of military spending. His Excellency noted that such international engagements underscore Saudi Arabia's global influence and highlight the significant progress in developing investor-friendly

policies and regulations, as well as an industrial environment that supports the sector's growth both domestically and internationally.

It's worth noting that GAMI's participation in the international Paris Air Show 2025 builds on the Kingdom's ongoing successes at international forums and affirms GAMI's commitment to developing a competitive defense and security industrial sector that contributes to supporting the national economy and achieving sustainable security by building international partnerships that serve common interests.



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DMC to deliver custom rudders for 4 Dutch and Belgian Anti-Submarine Warfare Frigates



Scope: design, produce and deliver shock-proof rudder systems for Damen-built ASWF series Damen Marine Components has received the order to design, engineer and produce eight rudders for the four Anti-Submarine Warfare Frigates that Damen Naval is building for the

Belgian and Dutch Navies. Each vessel will be equipped with two rudders, developed to be resilient and to improve the hydrodynamic properties of the vessels that will be used for the defence and security of both countries.

The ASWFs will replace the M-Frigate class vessels as of 2029.



In addition to surface and sub-surface duties for monitoring or repelling submarines, these four ships will be deployed for several other (inter)national tasks. The vessels are built and outfitted on Damen Naval shipyards in Romania and the Netherlands in close collaboration with the Dutch and Belgian Ministries of Defence, navies and suppliers.

As the focus is on anti-submarine duties, much attention goes into creating vessels that sail as silent as possible, for example as to propulsion, pumps and moving parts. This is where DMC's range of naval products comes into play, especially the Atlantic type family of rudders, which have also been installed on earlier frigates and are adapted to their specific operational profile.

A special requirement for naval operations is that the whole vessel, including the rudders, needs to be built to shock resistant specifications. The eight new rudders are designed to withstand shock loads. DMC has strengthened critical areas and has applied special welding details, based on both experience and extensive calculations.

"All of us at DMC are proud to be able to contribute to these ultra-modern vessels," says Ronald Beekhof, Sales Manager at DMC. "Being part of this high-profile Damen Naval project – together with many other Dutch suppliers – means that we can truly show our capacity to deliver equipment and systems fit for top-tier vessels. I want to thank Damen Naval and the Dutch and Belgian navies for their trust, and my colleagues for their professionalism in securing this deal. This is a real team effort – engineers, sales, QA-QC, and production in Gdansk. Both in a technical and commercial sense, this is a great package, and we are looking forward to serve other navies as well."

GKN Aerospace delivers first high voltage EWIS system for Clean Aviation's SWITCH project



GKN Aerospace has completed and delivered the first high voltage Electrical Wiring Interconnection System (EWIS) for the Clean Aviation SWITCH project. The system, developed at GKN Aerospace's site in Papendrecht, the Netherlands, is designed for megawatt-class hybrid electric propulsion and will undergo system integration testing later this year at Collins Aerospace's advanced electric power systems lab, The Grid, in Rockford, Illinois. Following this, it will support future hybrid-electric Pratt & Whitney GTF™ engine demonstrator testing at EME Aero in Poland.

The SWITCH project is a major international collaboration focused on developing advanced aircraft propulsion technologies for enabling improved efficiency and performance in future short and medium range aircraft. Led by a consortium including MTU Aero Engines AG, RTX businesses Pratt & Whitney and Collins Aerospace, Airbus, and GKN Aerospace, SWITCH is supported by the European Union through the Clean Aviation Joint Undertaking.

GKN Aerospace is responsible for the

design, assembly, testing and delivery of the high voltage AC wire harnesses - a critical component in enabling safe, efficient power distribution in hybrid-electric aircraft.

"The delivery of GKN's high voltage electric wiring system to RTX is a critical next step toward demonstrating the effectiveness of hybrid-electric propulsion technology for future aircraft platforms," said Kristin Smith, vice president, Electric Power Systems at Collins Aerospace. "As part of the SWITCH project, Collins' powertrain system will begin testing later this year at The Grid lab before assembly and test of two Collins megawatt-class power motor generators within a full-scale Pratt & Whitney GTF demonstrator engine."

John Pritchard, President of Civil Airframe at GKN Aerospace said: "Delivering these first harnesses is a proud milestone for our team in Papendrecht and for GKN Aerospace. The collaboration with our consortium partners is incredibly valuable and brings deep technical insight to this groundbreaking work. Together, we're shaping the future of flight."

Hybrid electric aircraft are central to the

aviation industry's ambition to achieve more sustainable aviation. However, as power levels scale from hundreds of kilowatts to multiple megawatts, new high voltage distribution systems are essential. With decades of experience in EWIS technologies for both commercial and military platforms, GKN Aerospace is contributing to building the electrical backbone of future flight.

GKN Aerospace is a global multi-technology leader in the aerospace industry, specialising in the development and delivery of cutting-edge aerostructures and engine systems. Our unrivalled products, systems, and services are integral to 90% of today's aircraft ranging from helicopters, business jets, passenger planes and advanced air mobility vehicles to state-of-the-art fighter aircraft.

Our commitment to innovation and cutting-edge technology is evident in the application of lightweight composites, additive fabrication, electrical wiring interconnection systems, and groundbreaking engine systems, reducing both weight and cost in today's aircraft and engines. GKN Aerospace is at the forefront of sustainable technology, developing breakthrough solutions to achieve emission-free flight. Our global technology centres collaborate with industry partners around the world to accelerate the development of pioneering technologies, including hydrogen-powered propulsion and all-electric flight.

Operating in 12 countries, GKN Aerospace employs a workforce of 16,000 employees across more than 30 locations. GKN Aerospace has global sales of £3.4bn and is listed under its parent company name Melrose Industries PLC (LSE:MRO).



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IMDEX Asia 2025

Ends on a High Note



IMDEX Asia 2025, the premier maritime and defence exhibition, concluded successfully after a three-day run from 6 to 8 May at the Changi Exhibition Centre, Singapore. Renowned as the biennial gathering where the world's finest fleets and cutting-edge maritime innovations converge, this year's edition once again underscored its status as Asia's leading naval and maritime defence event.

A key highlight of the event was the techStage, where industry pioneers and artificial intelligence experts convened to explore the future of innovation in maritime defence. Leaders from Kookree, Naval Group, Seadronix, and Shield AI shared valuable insights, sparking dynamic discussions on the transformative role of

AI in autonomous navigation, situational awareness, and the development of next-generation naval capabilities.

Since its inception in 1997, IMDEX Asia has served as a critical platform for naval professionals and maritime businesses to unveil the latest in vessels, systems, and technologies. The 2025 edition continued this legacy with a comprehensive exhibition showcasing integrated defence technologies across traditional and emerging sectors—ranging from shipbuilding and propulsion systems to cybersecurity, unmanned systems, sensors, and surveillance.

Key Highlights of IMDEX Asia 2025:

Exhibition: Featured cutting-edge naval and maritime defence solutions, bridging

established technologies with next-generation innovations.

Conferences and Forums: Hosted in-depth discussions with industry leaders, maritime organisations, and government representatives on pressing issues and future strategies in maritime security.

Warships Display: Held at Changi Naval Base, the ever-popular warships display offered visitors a rare chance to tour vessels from navies around the world and engage with senior naval officials.

Among the participating naval forces, the Indian Naval Ship INS Kiltan made its presence felt, arriving in Singapore as part of the Indian Navy's operational deployment. The visit reflects the strong maritime partnership between India and Singapore and included a series of bilateral and multilateral engagements such as professional exchanges with the Republic of Singapore Navy and other participating navies.

Further activities included guided tours for school children, cross-deck visits, and curated visits for defence industry professionals—efforts aimed at raising awareness about maritime security and India's naval heritage. The Indian Navy's participation underscored its commitment to regional stability and its enduring partnership with Singapore.

IMDEX Asia 2025 reaffirmed its role as a cornerstone for global maritime collaboration, innovation, and strategic dialogue.





HOST STATE



Ministry of Civil Aviation
Government of India



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Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad, India

Wings India 2026 was officially **launched with a Curtain Raiser** on **23rd May 2025** at the Taj Palace, New Delhi featuring key participation from industry leaders, embassies, and government officials.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



THEME UNVEILED

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USA Partnership Pavilion Marks 30 Years of Global Collaboration at 2025 Paris Air Show



More than 320 U.S. aerospace and defense companies from 36 states will come together at the 2025 Paris Air Show under the banner of the USA Partnership Pavilion, organized by Kallman Worldwide. Marking its 30th anniversary at the world's premier aerospace event, the Pavilion is a powerful symbol of American industry's enduring commitment to international cooperation, innovation, and shared progress.

Spanning over 8,000 square meters and including over 100 first-time exhibitors, the Pavilion is the largest international group exhibit at the show. The Kallman Worldwide presence also includes the largest Chalet group with 12 units representing 14 American companies. This milestone year reflects not only the growth of American presence in the global aerospace marketplace but also Kallman Worldwide's steadfast dedication to supporting U.S. exporters abroad.

"The Paris Air Show has always been more than just a marketplace—it's where history, innovation, and global collaboration converge," said Tom Kallman, President and CEO of Kallman Worldwide. "This anniversary is a celebration of American leadership and lasting partnerships built over decades. The USA Partnership Pavilion and Chalet

program have more than tripled in size from when they first started at Paris Air Show in 1995."

Launching this special anniversary is the Endeavour Victory Ride, a three-day, 240-mile cycling journey from the Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer to Le Bourget Airfield. The ride honors the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII and pays tribute to the enduring transatlantic alliance and the resilience of U.S. industry.

Cyclists representing the Endeavour Scholarship, U.S. and French air forces, and veterans including wounded airmen will carry American and French flags flown over the cemetery in an observance service hosted with American Battle Monuments Foundation (ABMF). The flags will then be formally presented at the Pavilion's Opening Ceremony to invited industry leaders where they will remain on display throughout the week.

The USA Partnership Pavilion Opening Ceremony, taking place on Monday, June 16, will feature a ribbon cutting, remarks from distinguished speakers, and special photo opportunities.

Invited Guests of Honor include:

- Kelli Seybolt, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for International Affairs
 - Eric Fanning, President and Chief Executive Officer, AIA
 - Frédéric Parisot, Chief Executive Officer, GIFAS
- Showcasing U.S. leadership and

innovation, the USA Partnership Pavilion will host some of the world's most advanced defense technologies. This includes the display of a Collaborative Combat Aircraft (CCA), an unmanned aircraft "wingman" and cutting-edge development poised to reshape modern air combat created by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems. Other planned events include a series of thought leadership sessions at the Pavilion's Forum that explore topics such as women in aviation, cybersecurity, aerospace innovation, and next gen training systems.

Continuing its commitment to inspiring the next generation of aerospace leaders, Kallman Worldwide will host the Endeavour Scholarship Award Ceremony at the Paris Space Hub on-site at Le Bourget, on Friday, June 20, where four French students and one educator will be announced as recipients of scholarships to attend Space Camp USA.

Invited special guests include:

- Général de Brigade Jean-Loup Chrétien (Armée de l'Air, Ret.)
Mission Specialist, Soyuz T-6, TM-6, TM-7, and STS-86
- Colonel Mike Bloomfield (USAF, Ret.)
Shuttle Pilot and Commander, STS-86, 97, and 110
- Theresa Claiborne (USAF, Ret.)
First female African American pilot in the United States Air Force and co-founder of Sisters of the Skies

ATR To Highlight Market Momentum at the Paris Airshow

ATR, the world number one regional aircraft manufacturer, will be present at the 55th International Paris Airshow, taking place from June 16 to June 22, at Chalet #A240-242. As a global leader in low-emission regional aviation, ATR will highlight its commitment to accelerating sustainable connections through a static display featuring the highly-efficient ATR 72-600 in the colours of Brazilian airline Azul.

Visitors will be able to explore a wide range of product advancements, including the ATR Highline cabin mock-

up, offering high-end interiors for an elevated flying experience. This premium cabin concept will also be on display in our virtual reality tool, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the comfort and sophistication of ATR's latest cabin innovations.

Guests will additionally have the opportunity to explore ATR's Mobility Monitor, an innovative software tool designed by ATR, offering in-depth market analysis and providing valuable insights into untapped opportunities for sustainable and efficient regional mobility,

in the United States and India, for instance.

To further showcase the aircraft's adaptability and reliability, an ATR 72-600 will participate in the daily flying display throughout the forum. Recognised as the lowest-emission aircraft in the regional market, ATR turboprops emit 45% less CO₂ than similar-size regional jets. Committed to shaping the future of sustainable regional aviation, ATR is actively engaged in multiple initiatives aiming at accelerating the industry's transition towards more responsible air travel.

Italy Brings Innovation in Pilot Training: M-345 Enters Service with Italian Airforce



The new trainer aircraft replaces the MB-339 and strengthens Italy's leadership in military pilot training. A simple, smart and efficient system offering high performance while reducing operational costs.

Rome, 12/06/2025 - The date 12 June 2025 marks a key milestone for the Italian Air Force and for Leonardo with the official introduction of the M-345 (designated T-345A by the Armed Forces) into its fleet of training aircraft for military pilots. Now operational with the 61st Wing at Galatina (LE), replacing the MB-339 (T-339A), the M-345 system together with the M-346 – both designed, developed and manufactured by Leonardo at its Venegono Superiore (Varese, Italy) site – consolidate Italy's leadership in the training of current and future military pilots. The

combination of these two training systems allows to cover the entire military pilot training process – from the basic initial phase to the most advanced phase. The M-345 builds on Leonardo's longstanding experience in the field of military trainers, which stems from the success of aircraft such as the SIAI-Marchetti SF-260, the Aermacchi MB-326, and the Aermacchi MB-339. The MB-339, in particular, served for over 40 years training Italian and foreign military pilots and gracing skies across the globe with the tricolour trails of the National Aerobatic Team – which will soon adopt Leonardo's M-346 as its new aircraft. With the M-345 now integrated into the Armed Force's training syllabus, the Italian Air Force will boast the most modern fixed-wing military training

system in Europe.

Jet performance at turboprop cost

The M-345 jet aircraft delivers performance superior to those of a high-end turboprop jet at comparable operating costs.

Definitively a state-of-the-art integrated training system that encompasses both the basic and advanced stages (Phases II and III) of pilot training. Thanks to its full-digital avionics and innovative human-machine interface, the M-345 fits perfectly into the training syllabus assisting pilots for the transition to new-generation fighter jets.

Advanced technology and sustainability

The M-345 is powered by a Williams FJ44-4M-34 turbofan engine, optimised for military use, with high performance along with reduced fuel consumption. The aircraft is designed for an extended operational life, featuring an integrated monitoring system that reduces maintenance times and costs while increasing fleet readiness and efficiency.

In line with the standards of new-generation military jets, the digital cockpit avionics feature a highly advanced human-machine interface, comprising three colour touch-screen Multi-Function

Displays (MFDs) and a Head-Up Display (HUD), which provides an immersive flying experience. The cockpit features excellent external visibility and stepped tandem seating, with HOTAS (Hands On Throttle-And-Stick) controls that allow pilots to fly the aircraft without removing their hands from the main controls.

System Capability

The M-345 Integrated Training System capability consists of a modern aircraft and the full set of innovative Ground Based Training System with unique capabilities, in terms of training performance, cost-efficiency and sustainability. Two aircraft for a unique, world-class training solution

The Leonardo M-345 and M-346 integrated systems offer a seamless training path that ensures a smooth transition through the different training phases, improving overall training programme effectiveness.



Saab and General Atomics Develop UAEW solution

Saab announces a strategic cooperation with General Atomics Aeronautical Systems relating to the development of an Unmanned Airborne Early Warning (UAEW) solution. The solution will be based on General Atomics Aeronautical Systems' unmanned aerial system MQ-9B.

The collaboration combines Saab's renowned expertise in AEW&C systems with General Atomics Aeronautical Systems' leading unmanned aircraft systems technology. General Atomics Aeronautical Systems will integrate Saab's AEW sensors with their unmanned MQ-9B-platform. The new capability will deliver persistent surveillance and situational awareness by providing continuous monitoring of designated areas.

"We are bringing our exceptional ability to detect and track challenging objects to customers looking to use MQ-9B to meet their specific needs. This unmanned medium-altitude AEW solution, leveraging core competencies of both companies, has excellent potential to complement our



existing AEW&C portfolio and provide customers with yet another cutting-edge capability," says Carl-Johan Bergholm, head of Saab's business area Surveillance.

This unmanned medium-range AEW solution complements Saab's existing portfolio of manned AEW&C systems

including GlobalEye. It will provide customers with a wider range of options, such as AEW capability from naval warships, to meet mission needs. The solution can be used stand-alone or in manned-unmanned teaming, leveraging the strengths of each capability. ■

PBS GROUP presents new PBS TJ200 jet engine at Paris Air Show 2025



PBS GROUP, a leading global high-tech manufacturer of aircraft jet engines and auxiliary power units, presents the new TJ200 jet engine for the first time.

The new engine symbolises the technological progress of PBS GROUP and its strategic focus on the aerospace and defence industry. "The TJ 200 is the result of our many years of experience in jet engine development and we are proud to present it at such a prestigious trade fair as the Paris Air Show. We believe that the PBS TJ200 will soon become the flagship product of our portfolio," said PBS GROUP CEO Ing. Petr Kádner.

The TJ200 expands the company's successful line of small jet engines. It is designed for unmanned aerial vehicles and other special applications where high reliability, compact size and performance are key. Its design opens up new possibilities for use in defence systems and commercial unmanned solutions. ■

UK MAA Certifies GA-ASI's Protector RG Mk1



The UK's Military Aviation Authority has issued a Military Type Certificate to the Royal Air Force's Protector RG Mk1 uncrewed aircraft, also designated the MQ-9B, certifying that it has passed a rigorous airworthiness assessment and verifying it's safe to operate without geographic restrictions, including over populous areas. This April 29 decision was a first-of-its-kind milestone for a large, unmanned aircraft system. It's a huge accomplishment for the UK and a technological watershed in the history of unmanned aircraft systems. GA-ASI is the first manufacturer of large, unmanned aircraft to receive an MTC based on rigorous compliance with STANAG 4671, the NATO standard for unmanned aircraft system airworthiness.

Obtaining the MTC has been a goal of GA-ASI since the inception of the MQ-9B in January 2014. The company took its proven UAS platform, the MQ-9A, and added performance enhancing features while ensuring that the design was capable of meeting NATO's STANAG 4671 Edition 2 airworthiness requirements. To meet those rigorous requirements, the aircraft incorporates numerous enhancements not found on other large UAS. These include lightning protection, fire protection, anti-icing systems and a fatigue-and-damage-tolerant building block design approach.

All flight critical software was designed in compliance with the rigor of Do-178/254. Mission software is rigidly separated from



flight critical software. These features not only address the aircraft's airworthiness but also enhance its reliability and operational flexibility to levels unmatched by other UAS.

"Earning an MTC for MQ-9B was a herculean effort and a seminal achievement for our company," said GA-ASI CEO Linden Blue. "We invested over \$500 million as part of an 11-year effort to develop an unmanned aircraft that meets NATO's rigorous airworthiness standards. This included three flight test aircraft, full component and system-level environmental testing to Do-160 and Mil-Standards (system level environmental testing at Elgin and Pax River), full scale static test airframe test to ultimate ground and flight loads, bird strike, hail protection and full-scale fatigue testing to three lifetimes (3x 40,000 notional aircraft flight hours = 120,000 hours total). Our engineers developed over 140,000 pages of detailed technical data verifying that the MQ-9B met those demanding

requirements. I congratulate our team for this outstanding accomplishment, and I know our customers need this type certification, which will open civil airspace for their flight operations."

The Royal Air Force continues to take delivery of new Protector aircraft at their home in the North of England at RAF Waddington. The UK has 10 aircraft of the 16 it has ordered.

"Achieving the award of a first in class Military Type Certificate has required years of dedication and perseverance and is a testament to the hard work of all involved. It is a privilege to be the first to be awarded an MTC for the Protector Air System," said Gp. Capt. Neil Venables, Type Airworthiness Authority and holder of the Protector Type Certificate.

MQ-9B is the world's most advanced medium altitude, long endurance UAS. MQ-9B includes the SkyGuardian® and SeaGuardian® models as well as the Protector operated by the RAF.

In addition to the UK, GA-ASI has MQ-9B orders from Belgium, Canada, Poland, Japan Coast Guard, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, Taiwan, India, and the U.S. Air Force in support of the Special Operations Command. MQ-9B has also supported various U.S. Navy exercises, including Northern Edge, Integrated Battle Problem, RIMPAC, and Group Sail.

Gulfstream G700 Sets Multiple City-Pair Records En Route to Paris Air Show



Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. announced the Gulfstream G700 set two new city-pair speed records en route to the International Paris Air Show at Paris-Le Bourget airport.

The G700 flew the record flights on sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and will receive Sustainable Wings accreditation from the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) for each flight.

On Friday, June 13, the aircraft flew from Teterboro, New Jersey, to San Francisco, traveling 2,272 nautical miles/4,208 kilometers in 4 hours and 57 minutes at an average speed of Mach 0.91. It then flew from San Francisco to Paris, traveling

4,947 nm/9,162 km in 9 hours and 26 minutes at an average speed of Mach 0.91.

"Recognition from our partners at the NAA and these latest record-breaking flights further demonstrate Gulfstream's industry-leading commitment to sustainability," said Mark Burns, president, Gulfstream.

"We are excited for the G700 and our award-winning Gulfstream G600 to return to the International Paris Air Show this year and look forward to showcasing the compelling combination of advanced technology, performance and comfort as increased demand for our next-generation aircraft continues in Europe."

The G700 features the most spacious cabin in the industry and the Gulfstream Cabin Experience with 100% fresh air, natural light from 20 Gulfstream Panoramic Oval Windows and the industry's lowest cabin altitude. With a maximum operating speed of Mach 0.935 and a high-speed cruise of Mach 0.90, the ultralong-range G700 has more than 80 city-pair speed records to date. The performance capabilities of the G700 can be attributed to the combination of Rolls-Royce Pearl 700 engines, Gulfstream-designed advanced aerodynamic wing and high-speed winglet introduced on the aircraft. The G700 is also outfitted with the award-winning Predictive Landing Performance System and dual head-up display featuring Gulfstream's new Combined Vision System (CVS) that unites Enhanced Flight Vision System (EFVS) and Synthetic Vision System (SVS) in a single image, increasing pilot situational awareness and access to more airports. ■

"GA-ASI Adds Saab Airborne Early Warning Capability to MQ-9B"



General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) is partnering with Saab to develop Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) capability for its line of MQ-9B Remotely Piloted Aircraft, which includes the SkyGuardian® and SeaGuardian® models, the United Kingdom's Protector, and the new MQ-9B STOL (Short Takeoff and Landing) model currently in development. GA-ASI plans to fly AEW on MQ-9B in 2026.

"High and low-tech air threats both pose major challenges to global air forces," said GA-ASI President David R. Alexander. "We're developing an affordable AEW solution in cooperation with Saab, the leading provider of AEW&C systems, that will transform our customers' operations

against both sophisticated cruise missiles and simple but dangerous drone swarms. We're also making AEW capability possible in areas it doesn't exist today, such as from some navy warships at sea."

GA-ASI will pair Saab's AEW sensors with the world's longest-range, highest-endurance unmanned aircraft system (UAS), the MQ-9B. At sea or over land, the AEW mission package on MQ-9B will put air dominance within reach at a lower cost than legacy platforms.

The MQ-9B AEW solution will offer critical aloft sensing to defend against tactical air, guided missiles, drones, and other threats at a fraction of the cost of manned platforms. Operational availability for medium-altitude long-endurance UAS is the highest of any military aircraft, and

as an unmanned platform, its aircrew are not put into harm's way. AEW for MQ-9B will augment existing AEW fleets by extending their effective ranges. It also gives air forces that need AEW, but lack legacy platforms, a powerful and affordable means to counter threats.

GA-ASI and Saab's AEW offering will span a wide range of applications, including early detection and warning; long-range detection and tracking; simultaneous target tracking and flexible combat system integration, all over line-of-sight and SATCOM connectivity.

MQ-9B is the world's most advanced medium-altitude, long-endurance UAS. GA-ASI has MQ-9B orders from the United Kingdom, Belgium, Canada, Poland, Japan, Taiwan, India, and the U.S. Air Force in support of the Special Operations Command. MQ-9B has also supported various U.S. Navy exercises, including Northern Edge, Integrated Battle Problem, RIMPAC, and Group Sail. ■

Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI) Announces Participation in Paris Air Show 2025



Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI), the national defense and security champion, a PIF Company, has announced its participation in Paris Air Show 2025, taking place from June 16 to 22. As a key player in the industry SAMI's presence at the event underscores its role as a global leader in the defense and aerospace sector.

Paris Air Show is the aerospace sector's largest and most influential exhibition. The 2025 edition is expected to host over 2,500 exhibitors from 48 countries, providing a strategic platform to discover the latest innovations, witness in-flight demonstrations, and forge meaningful industry connections.

The show serves as a premier global platform that brings together leading players from the aviation and aerospace

sectors worldwide. Through its participation, SAMI aims to strengthen its network of international partnerships in the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) sector, where SAMI, through its subsidiaries and business units, acts as a strategic partner in the maintenance and repair of both private and military aircraft, as well as landing gear systems.

During the event, SAMI will engage with major global aircraft manufacturers to explore future collaboration opportunities and identify the best technical solutions and services to serve its clients across the Kingdom's civil and defense sectors. SAMI also seeks to facilitate knowledge transfer and localization in aviation and aerospace technologies in alignment with the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030.

Eng. Thamer AlMuhid, CEO of Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI), emphasized the significance of the event, stating: "Our presence at this global event, alongside top aviation and aerospace leaders, underscores the strategic

importance SAMI places on this sector. Through our participation we seek both global collaboration and mutual growth, essentials to advancing innovation, driving knowledge exchange, and strengthening the Kingdom's defense sector in line with Vision 2030. This exhibition also presents a unique opportunity to explore the latest advancements in air defense systems and next-generation technologies, while directly engaging with key industry stakeholders, as SAMI continues to serve as their strategic partner in the Kingdom."

As Saudi Arabia's leading national defense champion, its presence at Paris Air Show 2025 underscores its commitment to supporting Vision 2030's goal of localizing 50% of the Kingdom's defense spending. Through its participation, SAMI highlights the remarkable growth and transformation within the Kingdom's defense sector, fostering innovation, empowering national talent, and strengthening Saudi Arabia's position on the global stage. ■

Deutsche Aircraft Unveils New Garmin G5000® PRIME Flight Deck for the D328eco® at Paris Air Show



operations, the G5000 PRIME will be a key enabler of the D328eco's mission to redefine regional air travel with efficiency, operational flexibility, and environmental responsibility.

"The D328eco is designed to lead the next era of regional aviation," stated Nico Neumann, Co-CEO of Deutsche Aircraft. "By integrating Garmin's enhanced G5000 PRIME, we are equipping our aircraft with a future-ready flight deck that enhances performance, offers unmatched reliability, and ensures operational flexibility to meet the diverse needs of regional air travel."

"The G5000 PRIME offers a scalable, intuitive, and connected cockpit solution that provides Part 25 transport pilots increased functionality designed to simplify operations and maximize situational awareness," said Carl Wolf, Vice President, Aviation Sales, Marketing, Programs and Support at Garmin. "We are excited to continue our relationship with Deutsche Aircraft and launch G5000 PRIME into the regional aircraft market on the advanced D328eco." ■

At the Paris Air Show 2025, Deutsche Aircraft unveiled the New Garmin G5000® PRIME Flight Deck for the D328eco at Paris Air Show: the integration of Garmin's G5000 PRIME integrated flight deck into the next-generation 40-seater D328eco regional turboprop. This announcement marks a significant advancement in regional aviation, combining proven avionics

expertise with a sustainable aircraft platform.

Building on Garmin's legacy of delivering over 30,000 flight decks worldwide, the G5000 PRIME brings a modern, touchscreen-based cockpit environment to the D328eco, delivering unmatched pilot-centric design, advanced automation, and global airspace compliance. Tailored for Part 25 transport aircraft and Part 121

Rafael to Showcase Full High-Energy Laser Family at the Paris Air Show



cost, and wide-area defense against rapid and complex aerial threats.

Rafael's unique adaptive optics technology, developed over more than a decade of laser research, enables the system to maintain beam focus on a coin-sized target from 10 kilometers away. This capability dramatically reduces interception costs and ensures effective integration into Israel's multilayered air defense array.

Dr. Yuval Steinitz, Chairman of Rafael:

"Just last week, we announced that Israel is the first country in the world to operationalize powerful high-energy laser technology. Rafael's IRON BEAM and its broader laser system family are a testament to Israel's technological edge—and they are, without a doubt, game-changing systems that will transform the modern battlefield. During the current war, Rafael's air defense systems faced an unprecedented number of threats—tens of thousands of projectiles launched from seven different fronts. IRON BEAM and the entire HELWS family will be integrated into the national air defense array, significantly enhancing its effectiveness."

Yoav Tourgeman, President and CEO of Rafael:

"Rafael has long been the home of Israel's most advanced air defense systems and is now a global leader in high-energy laser technology. Our HELWS systems are based on a scientific breakthrough

Following the announcement of successful intercepts using Rafael's laser systems during the current conflict, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd. will present its newly developed IRON BEAM laser director alongside its full family of High-Energy Laser Weapon Systems (HELWS) at the Paris Air Show.

Rafael will officially unveil its breakthrough HELWS family—developed in collaboration with the Directorate of Defense R&D (MAFAT) at the Israeli Ministry of Defense. This announcement comes just days after it was revealed that during the "Iron Swords" war, MAFAT, the Israeli Air Force, and Rafael led an accelerated development program to operationalize laser-based interception systems, which successfully neutralized dozens of enemy aerial threats in combat conditions.

Rafael's export-configured HELWS family, composed of three distinct systems, is built on decades of technological innovation within Rafael and MAFAT. These systems add a critical layer to Israel's air defense architecture, alongside the IRON BEAM system currently under development and slated for delivery to the IDF this year.

At the center of Rafael's exhibit in Paris will be the IRON BEAM 450—the upgraded laser director for IRON BEAM, widely considered the most advanced

high-energy laser air defense system in the world. After demonstrating live intercepts in 2022, IRON BEAM is now on track for operational delivery to the Israeli defense establishment by the end of 2025. The system is led by Rafael and developed in cooperation with MAFAT and additional Israeli defense industries including Shafir, SCD, and Elbit Systems.

The new laser director enhances IRON BEAM's operational range, accuracy, and efficiency, significantly advancing the system's performance. These upgrades enable longer-range interceptions, faster engagement cycles, and even more precise targeting—while maintaining its unique advantages: speed-of-light threat neutralization, negligible per-intercept





in adaptive optics and represent the result of years of intense development by Rafael's scientists and engineers, in close partnership with the Ministry of Defense's R&D Directorate. These systems combine high precision and rapid response with exceptionally low interception costs. Rafael remains committed to innovation in the service of Israel's security."

RAFAEL'S HIGH-ENERGY LASER WEAPON SYSTEM FAMILY

Rafael's HELWS family offers an additional layer to air and force protection, providing scalable, effective laser-based solutions for a wide array of airborne threats.

The systems include:

IRON BEAM – 450 Laser Director
With the upgraded director, IRON BEAM now delivers longer range, higher accuracy, and faster engagement—all while maintaining its operational edge: instant neutralization of aerial threats at minimal operational cost. This enhanced performance enables wide-area coverage, improved interception of high-velocity threats, and robust performance in complex scenarios. IRON BEAM is setting a new global benchmark in laser air defense capabilities.

IRON BEAM M – 250 Laser Director (Mobile Tactical Configuration)
A compact, mobile HELWS solution

designed for maneuvering ground forces and strategic site protection. IRON BEAM M is easily deployable and offers precise, cost-effective laser interception for forward-deployed units.

LITE BEAM – Tactical 10kW Laser System

A lightweight, mobile HELWS platform delivering tactical laser-based protection for mobile units. LITE BEAM provides fast-reacting, cost-efficient defense in a compact form.

All systems in Rafael's HELWS family have been thoroughly tested under complex threat scenarios and have demonstrated advanced capabilities across various ranges and threat profiles.

Rafael's HELWS platforms incorporate:

Advanced detection, classification, and tracking algorithms

Proprietary adaptive optics for ultra-precise long-range beam focusing
Unlimited magazine depth (no ammunition constraint)

Near-zero cost per interception compared to kinetic or missile-based systems

Open architecture for flexible integration with land, naval, and other air defense systems

Rafael's high-energy laser portfolio delivers a sustainable, highly effective, and scalable response to modern aerial threats—paving the way for a new era in defensive capabilities.

Major Milestone in the Arrow 3 Missile Defense System Deal with Germany



A high-level coordination meeting was recently held in Germany, led by Moshe Patel, Head of the Israel Missile Defense Organization (IMDO) within the Directorate of Defense Research and Development (DDR&D) at the Israeli Ministry of Defense; Colonel Carsten Koepper, Head of the Arrow 3 Program for Germany; and Yaakov Galifat, General Manager of the MLM Division at Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI).

The session was attended by senior representatives from key Israeli and German defense industries involved in the program, including IAI's MLM Division, ELTA, Elbit Systems, and the German companies IABG and MBDA.

Developed jointly by Israel and the United States, the Arrow weapon system—comprising the Arrow 2 and Arrow 3 interceptors—is designed to intercept long-range ballistic missiles outside Earth's atmosphere. The system has proven its operational effectiveness during missile attacks on April 14 and October 1, 2024, and continues to protect Israel, intercepting numerous threats launched from Yemen by Iranian-backed Houthi militants.

The IMDO continues to spearhead the development and production of Israel's multi-layered missile defense architecture, while actively promoting international cooperation in advanced defense technologies and supporting the global reach of Israeli defense industries.

Embraer to Offer Gogo Galileo HDX Connectivity on Phenom 300



Embraer will offer the Gogo Galileo HDX connectivity solution for its Phenom 300 aftermarket customers through a Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) generated in partnership with Gogo. The installation of the compact half-duplex antenna and one Line Replaceable Unit will allow Embraer business jet owners to enjoy in-flight connectivity with performance that mirrors the best ground-based solutions.

Passengers using Gogo's in-flight connectivity can expect performance at the same level they have at home or in

the office, with 4K streaming, high-quality video conferencing, online gaming, and large file transfers. Leveraging the Eutelsat OneWeb Low-Earth-Orbit (LEO) satellite network, the Gogo Galileo HDX system offers a unique, reliable, and speedy connectivity solution.

"We are happy to partner with Gogo to offer the latest high-speed internet connectivity to our customers. Our goal is to continuously enhance the flight experience with best-in-class resources from the industry," says Marsha Woelber, Vice President of Customer Support &

Aftermarket Sales for Executive Jets, Embraer Services & Support.

"We admire Embraer for their technology-forward perspective and are pleased to support it with our advanced connectivity Gogo Galileo solutions. Purpose-built for business aviation use, the HDX antenna is ushering in a new area of connectivity and we're pleased that Embraer is working with us to deliver high-speed connectivity to one of the world's most successful aircraft platforms," says Michael Skou-Christensen, CCO, Gogo.

Embraer will provide the solution for the Phenom 300 model aircraft, followed by other configurations. Availability of the new connectivity solution will vary depending on region. FAA certification through Embraer is expected in Q3, 2025; ANAC in Q4, 2025; and EASA in Q1, 2026. The Phenom 300E model will follow suit, and dates will be announced in the future. The Embraer Owned Service Center Network, and the Embraer Authorized Service Network will be available and prepared to support customers who wish to install the STC.

BEL and Tata Join Hands for Indigenous Semiconductors



Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Electronics towards the development of indigenous electronics and semiconductor solutions in line with the Government of

India's vision for self-reliance. This MoU marks a significant step forward for BEL and Tata Electronics in jointly exploring end-to-end solutions to meet domestic requirements.

The MoU was signed on June 5, 2025, by Manoj Jain, Chairman & Managing

Director, BEL, and Dr Randhir Thakur, CEO & Managing Director, Tata Electronics, at Bombay House, Tata Group's headquarters in Mumbai.

As part of the agreement, BEL and Tata Electronics will explore the opportunities to collaborate in the areas of Semiconductor Fabrication (Fab), Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT), and design services solutions offered by Tata Electronics to meet the current and future requirements of BEL that include Microcontrollers (MCUs), Systems-on-Chip (SoCs), Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (MMICs), and other Processors. Both companies will also endeavour to develop optimum manufacturing solutions for BEL's products through knowledge sharing, best practices and other resources.

Trelleborg Presents Innovative Aerospace Solutions at Paris 2025



Trelleborg will showcase its growing range of cutting-edge polymer solutions and expanded capabilities for aerospace applications at the Paris International Air Show 2025, in Hall 2B at stand E79, from June 16 to 22.

As a leader in hydraulic systems for aircraft since the 1950s, Trelleborg has cemented its position as a key player in the aerospace industry for innovative lightweight polymer solutions.

Gordon Roper, Global Aerospace BU President says: "Paris provides an exceptional platform for us to showcase our expanded range of innovative polymer solutions and demonstrate our commitment to the growing sector with investments that increase our capabilities and capacities for a wide range of original equipment manufacturers & aftermarket customers.

During the week-long event, visitors are invited to visit the stand to learn about Trelleborg's specialist technologies for actuation, flight controls, airframes and structures, energy management systems, propulsion, cabins and interiors with technical experts on hand to discuss individual application requirements."

Demonstrating its ambition in the rapidly growing aerospace sector, Trelleborg recently announced two major acquisitions. Aero-Plastics Inc., a US-based specialist supplier of aircraft interior components made from high-performance polymers, extends Trelleborg's product portfolio and capacity. Aero-Plastics, based in Renton, Washington, US, offers expertise in precision injection molding,

thermoforming and machining of high-performance polymer materials. The company delivers complete solutions such as window reveal and blind assemblies that simplify customer supply chains through value-added services such as assembly and specialized painted coatings.

Trelleborg has also acquired Magee Plastics, located 30 miles outside Pittsburgh in Warrendale, Pennsylvania, US. It applies industry-leading design skills and quality and performance standards to develop aircraft interior solutions to meet complex specifications, providing Trelleborg with cutting-edge expertise in thermoforming and vacuum forming. Among Magee's products are window shades and assemblies, sidewall panels, passenger consumer units and air grills, ceiling panels, cargo area panels, seat parts, lavatory and galley components, flight deck equipment and entire cabin retrofit interior systems.

In recent years Trelleborg aerospace has also invested in building significant new facilities, including a 53,820 square feet/5,000 square meters production facility in Morocco. It creates a local presence for international customers in the region while increasing global capacity to meet the industry's strong growth and is scheduled to open in late 2025.

Trelleborg has also invested in a significant new warehouse at Burntwood in Staffordshire, UK, to optimize its aerospace logistics capabilities. It more than doubles the footprint of the current warehouse complex with 21,528 square feet/2,000 square meters of state-of-the-

art logistics capabilities including enhanced quality control facilities and expanded storage capacity, as well as new assembly, kitting and special handling capabilities. Trelleborg will also be relocating its European Aerospace Warehouse from Conde, France to a new larger warehouse facility in Pacy Sur Eure in the second half of this year.

As the aviation industry works towards a goal of being Net Zero, Trelleborg has made significant investments into its world-leading R&D capability, and has been active in areas such as hydrogen propulsion. Hydrogen, which is the smallest and lightest of all molecules presents a unique challenge from a sealing perspective. Trelleborg has applied its vast sealing experience to develop a proprietary sealing solution and testing regime to provide customer assurance about the functionality and durability of its seals for use with hydrogen in the toughest of environments.

The continued investments in product design and material technologies specific to Aerospace ensures that Trelleborg is able to supply a solution for virtually all aerospace sealing challenges, leveraging the use of polymer components for lightweight & durable designs that benefit the environment while ensuring improved safety and cost of ownership for its customers.

"As an organization focused on sustainability and compliance, Trelleborg is seeking to address the challenge of minimizing the use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)," says Torben Andersen, Aerospace Segment Director. "Over 10,000 PFAS chemicals are widely used in virtually all industrial segments including aerospace because of their unique properties but they can be harmful to the environment and detrimental to human health," adds Andersen. "Trelleborg has already eradicated PFAS surfactants in its widely used Turcon® range within the polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) materials, representing up to 90% of the portfolio, while work continues to eliminate these across the fluorocarbons (FKM) and perfluoroelastomer (FFKM) families."



ROSOBORONEXPORT: Re-equipping Indonesian Armed Forces

JSC ROSOBORONEXPORT (part of Rostec State Corporation) is showcasing the latest Russian military equipment at Indo Defense Expo 2025. The Russian special exporter is presenting more than 250 Russian products for the armed forces at the expo.

"The Russian delegation is taking part in Indo Defense 2025 at the personal invitation of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto, which he made when meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin in 2024. ROSOBORONEXPORT is organizing a single Russian exhibit of weapons and military equipment at the exhibition. As part of it, the Company presents the latest Russian-made items that meet the requirements of the 2025-2029 armament program of the Indonesian Armed Forces to the maximum extent possible," - said Alexander Mikheev, Director General of ROSOBORONEXPORT. - "Our offers to Jakarta include the Su-57E fifth-generation and Su-35 4++ generation fighter jets and weapons for them: the Kh-31PD, Kh-35UE guided missiles, IL-78MK-90A refueling tankers, Ka-52E and Mi-17-type





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helicopters, UAVs. We are ready to supply armored vehicles designed to operate in areas with numerous water obstacles like the Sprut light amphibious tank and BMP-3F IFV, submarines and coastal ships, the latest air defense equipment: S-400 Triumf and S-350E Vityaz SAM systems, Pantsir-S1M SPAAGM system, Verba MANPADS and, of course, counter-drone systems".

At its booth, ROSOBORONEXPORT presents 250+ Russian military items for all services of the armed forces. Most of

them have been tested in real combat conditions and undergone upgrades based on the results of their employment.

Indonesia has long maritime borders and over 17,000 islands. Taking this into account, ROSOBORONEXPORT offers a wide range of equipment for its Navy. Among those to be presented at Indo Defense 2025 are the Project 636 submarine, Bastion mobile coastal defense missile systems with Yakhont and Rubezh-ME anti-ship cruise missiles.

For littoral operations ROSOBORONEXPORT is offering the Project 22160 patrol ship and Project 20382 Tigr-class corvette as well as the BK-16 and BK-10 high-speed assault boats capable of operating both on the high seas and in the littoral zone, in numerous straits and rivers crossing Indonesia.

For most of the exhibited items of Russian military equipment ROSOBORONEXPORT offers Jakarta to foster technology cooperation with launching their manufacturing at national factories and shipyards. This is a trend in today's world arms market, and joint projects with ROSOBORONEXPORT in this area allow Russia's friendly countries to stimulate the growth of their own high-tech production.

During the business program of the exhibition the Company will hold meetings and negotiations with representatives of law enforcement agencies and all services of the Indonesian Armed Forces. In addition, ROSOBORONEXPORT will offer Russia's assistance to Indonesia in building a modern army capable of responding to all current and future threats and challenges to state security.

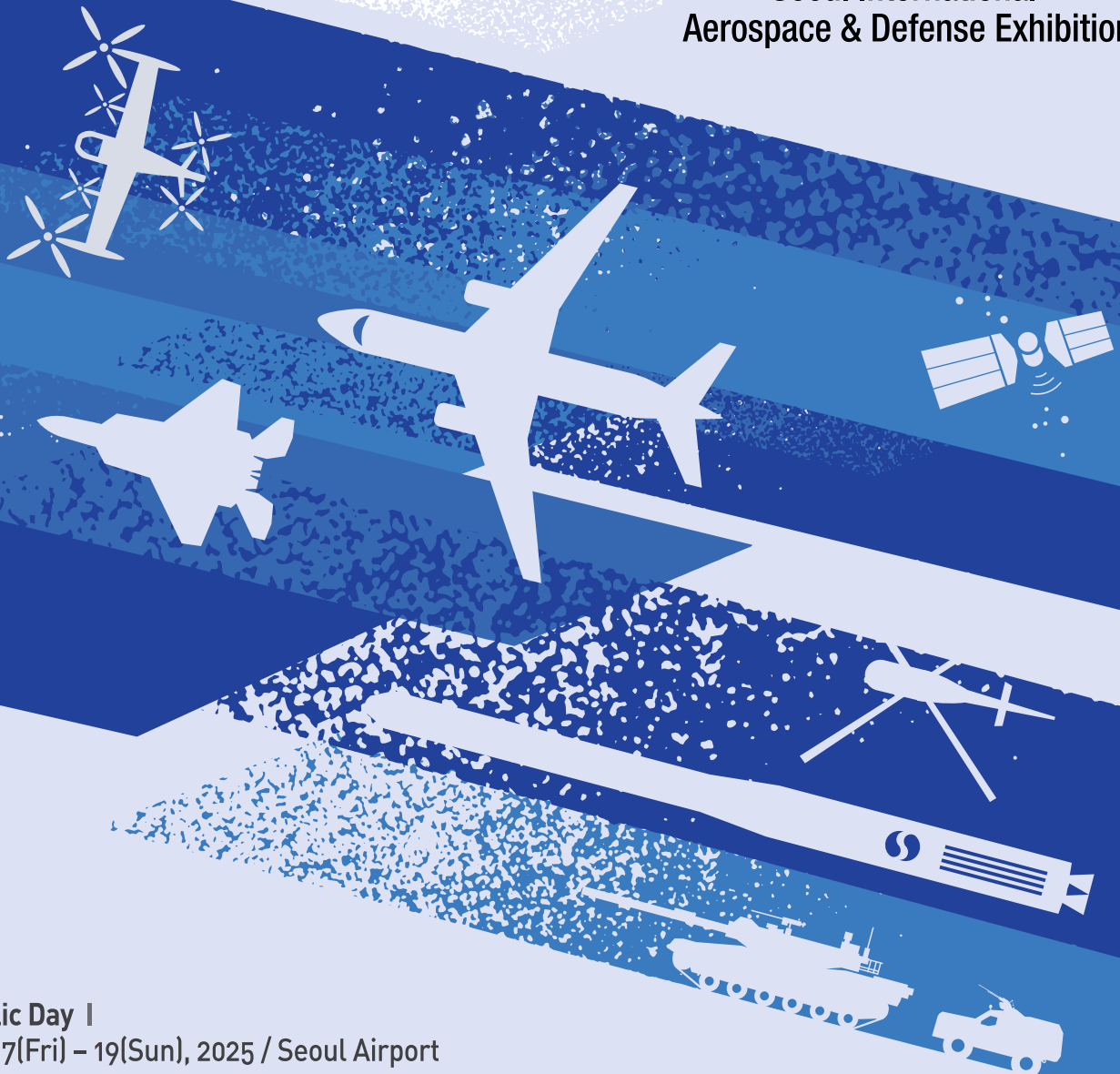




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Seoul ADEX 2025

Seoul International
Aerospace & Defense Exhibition



Public Day
Oct.17(Fri) – 19(Sun), 2025 / Seoul Airport

Business Day
Oct.20(Mon) – 24(Fri), 2025 / KINTEX
*Oct. 24th : Integrated with the Future's Day

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