

Paris, 15 June 2009

Alenia Aeronautica protagonist at Le Bourget Air Show 2009

The 48th Le Bourget Air Show is also marked “Alenia Aeronautica” thanks to the “première” of the Sukhoi Superjet 100 (SSJ 100) regional jet, made by SCAC, Russian-Italian partnership and to its first presentation ever to the public. The Superjet 100 is the first real collaboration programme between Russian and European companies in the field of high technologies. Alenia Aeronautica has 25% plus one share of SCAC (Sukhoi Civil Aircraft Company).

The SSJ 100, the twin-engine ATR and the Boeing 787 – all programmes where Alenia Aeronautica is deeply involved – testify at best the company's commitment in promoting a more efficient air transport system, with a reduced environment impact, both from the point of view of emissions and production processes, to fully meet market's and current and future rules' requirements. All three above-mentioned aircraft, in each respective category, are the most “ecological” among the planes available in the market, assuring a reduced environment impact of 15 to 20 percent.

The Paris Air Show – from the 15th to the 21st of June 2009 – which celebrates this year its 100th anniversary, is the most important world showcase of the industry of aeronautics, space, defence electronics and security, and an ideal opportunity to show the technological excellence of the most ambitious products and programmes to public and operators. And in this centenary's edition Alenia Aeronautica, together with its subsidiaries and joint ventures, confirms itself as one of the main players of the Show, displaying on the Finmeccanica stand and in the static area the best European technology in the aeronautical platforms for commercial and military use, in the unmanned aerial vehicles, in the aerostructures and command and control systems.

Within the Finmeccanica display area, Alenia Aeronautica's products, with those of the other Finmeccanica companies, will offer a concrete demonstration of operational capabilities applying an innovative and original formula: in a room in the middle of the stand big screens and monitors will reproduce a series of simulated scenarios where companies' systems/products will be integrated to fulfil several missions which envisage also real-time connections with the operational headquarters of Rome, London and Washington D.C..

At Le Bourget Air Show, in the Finmeccanica static area, Alenia Aeronautica presents some platforms and systems designed and developed to assure control and protection for people, territories and infrastructures in the most different and complex operational scenarios, as well as trainer aircraft covering all operational phases of an airplane, from basic functions to high performances:

C-27J: twin-engine tactical transport aircraft, it is a commercial success worldwide, offering great flexibility, interoperability and loading capacity, as well as capability of taking-off and landing from short and semi-prepared runways.

ATR 42MP: in service with the Guardia di Finanza (Customs Police), it is a highly innovative aircraft capable of accomplishing many maritime patrol roles (vessels search and identification), SAR (search and rescue), drug fighting, smuggling and piracy control, intervention in case of ecological disasters (oil or chemical pollution), economic exclusive zone patrol and environmental control.

Eurofighter Typhoon: it is currently the most advanced multi-role fighter available on the market, designed, developed and produced by Alenia Aeronautica together with BAE Systems and EADS.

Alenia Aeronautica, a Finmeccanica Company, is the largest Italian aeronautic player which operates world-wide in the commercial and military aviation, unmanned aerial vehicles and aerostructures. Alenia Aeronautica also coordinates the activities of Alenia Aermacchi and Alenia Aeronavali - wholly owned companies – respectively active in the design and manufacturing of military trainer aircraft and in the overhaul, maintenance and modification of military and civil aircraft. With its joint ventures ATR, SCAC and Superjet International, Alenia Aeronautica is the world leader in the regional turboprop market and a top player in the regional jet sector. Over 2008 Alenia Aeronautica reported revenues of 2,530 millions Euro, backlog for 8,281 millions Euro and orders for 2,720. The total workforce is 13,907.

Sky-Y: it is a UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) platform specifically developed as a demonstrator of innovative techniques and technologies for a MALE-type aircraft (Medium Altitude Long Endurance), specifically designed for carrying out ground surveillance missions.

Ground Control Station (GCS): it is a new-standard prototype of a Ground Control Station for advanced unmanned aerial systems made by Alenia Aeronautica. The new control station, already tested in Sweden and in Italy through Alenia's Sky-Y UAS demonstrator, has been developed to be certified in compliance with civil and military rules and to guarantee full interoperability between different airplanes and relative payloads, complying with the STANAG 4586 standard.

M-346 "Master": the most modern trainer today available in Europe and the only one conceived to train pilots to be on military aircraft having high performances and advanced characteristics. It is the flagship product of Alenia Aermacchi (100% Alenia Aeronautica), company leader in the design, production and support of trainer aircraft for military pilots. The M-346 arrives at Le Bourget after its first international success, the winning in February 2009 of the bid for the United Arab Emirates' new trainer aircraft. At present it is in the short list for the Singapore's tender, within the Fighter Wings Course (FWC) programme, for the fleet replacement, and has been positively evaluated by the air forces of many countries, including France. Also the Italian Air Force will sign shortly the contract to acquire a first batch of M-346s.

Background

The main activities of Alenia Aeronautica, a Finmeccanica company, concern design and production of military and commercial aircraft, aerostructures new-generation unmanned aerial vehicles, in the field of simulation and tests for integration, and in the field of logistic support to its own partners/customers. Through its subsidiaries Alenia Aeronautica is also active in the fields of transformation, maintenance and modernisation of commercial and military airplanes and in the trainers field.

The company has started a wide network of joint ventures and product partnerships such as SCAC and SuperJet International with the Russian Sukhoi; Eurofighter with BAE Systems and EADS; ATR with EADS; GMAS with L-3 and Global Aeronautica with Boeing. Thanks to these activities Alenia Aeronautica manages important programmes like the Sukhoi Superjet 100 regional jet, the Eurofighter Typhoon multi-role fighter, the ATR 42 and 72 turboprop regional aircraft, the JCA programme for the new tactical transport aircraft C-27J for the United States, and the Boeing 787, the most advanced and most environment-friendly commercial aircraft available in the market and nearing its first flight. Other important collaborations are those with Lockheed Martin, Airbus, Dassault and Bombardier.

Alenia Aeronautica, with its subsidiaries Alenia Aermacchi, Alenia Composite, Alenia SIA, Alenia Aeronavali, Alenia North America and Global Aeronautica, employs about 13,900 resources active in the several production facilities in Italy, Europe and United States. Each plant is a real excellence centre where skilled personnel operates in well-defined areas, using specific technologies featuring the production process they generate.