



Brazil's Mirage 2000 maintenance contract now effective

Paris, 11 July 2008 – Dassault Aviation, Snecma and Thales announce that the contract with the Brazilian Ministry of Defence to maintain the Mirage 2000 aircraft operated by the Brazilian Air Force is now effective.

In close partnership with end users the three manufacturers provide repair and support services from the Annapolis airbase in Brazil where the Mirage 2000 fleet is located.

These added value "door-to-door" services encompass the platform and the whole aircraft equipment maintenance.

This type of contract significantly reduces turnaround times. The Brazilian Air Force thus benefits from higher levels of service performance, leading in turn to increased availability of its Mirage 2000 fleet.

This improvement is achieved by simplifying logistics management processes and by industry taking full responsibility for the equipment and system repairs on a door-to-door basis.

The partners have successfully operated multi-year fixed-price support contracts with the French Air Force for several years. They now plan to make this proven expertise and experience available to other Air Forces.

About Dassault Aviation, Snecma et Thales

Dassault Aviation

In the past sixty years, Dassault Aviation has delivered more than 7500 civil and military aircraft to 75 countries, logging some 20 million-flight hours to date. This unique worldwide experience has allowed Dassault Aviation to build up considerable expertise in the design, development, production, sale and support of all types of aircraft and a recognized and demonstrated know-how, innovative operational solutions, as well as a pragmatic and dynamic approach to co-operation. Within the frame of a step-by-step approach initiated several years ago, its know-how in the field of systems technologies and airborne vectors allow the company to propose the best cost-efficient solutions to the users. Thanks to a pragmatic approach in its partnerships, Dassault Aviation has been able to establish a wide cooperation network with other companies, which is not only optimised for the success of today's programmes, but also contributing to the synergy of tomorrow's defence industries.

Snecma

Snecma, SAFRAN group, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of aircraft and space engines, with a wide range of propulsion systems on offer. The company designs and builds commercial aircraft engines that are powerful, reliable, economical and environmentally friendly, along with military aircraft engines that have always delivered world-class performance. Snecma develops and produces propulsion systems and equipment for launch vehicles and satellites. CFM56 engines are produced and marketed by CFM International, a 50/50 joint company between General Electric and Snecma (SAFRAN Group).

Thales

Thales is a leading international electronics and systems group, addressing defence, aerospace and security markets worldwide. Thales' leading-edge technology is supported by 22,000 R&D engineers who offer a capability unmatched in Europe to develop and deploy field-proven mission-critical information systems. To this end, the group's civil and military businesses develop in parallel and share a common base of technologies to serve a single objective: the security of people, property and nations. The group builds its growth on its unique multi-domestic strategy based on trusted partnerships with national customers and market players, while leveraging its global expertise to support local technology and industrial development. Thales employs 68,000 people in 50 countries with 2007 revenues of €12.3 billion..

Press contacts:**Dassault Aviation:**

Nathalie Bakhos

Tel: +33 1 47 11 65 11

nathalie.bakhos@dassault-aviation.com

Safran:

Antoinette Ménard

Tel: +33 1 69 87 09 28

antoinette.menard@sncma.fr

Thales:

Natasha Harvey

Tel: +33 1 34 81 40 50

natasha.harvey@fr.thalesgroup.com