Paris Air Show, June 2015

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH GREENER PRODUCTION

Dassault Aviation applies a policy aimed at the continuous reduction of our environmental footprint, with ongoing changes designed to reduce our environmental impact.

Clean, efficient production processes

We continuously improve our production processes to make sure we use only the materials needed, and no more. Additive manufacturing, or 3D printing in more popular terms, is perhaps the most striking example of this approach. A pioneer and promoter of this technology as early as 1990, since the turn of the 21st century we have applied this process not only on the Falcon family, but also on Rafale and nEUROn. In 2013 we entered a new era, as additive manufacturing was also applied to metal parts. Not only does this method offer unprecedented design freedom, it also reduces the raw materials needed. Furthermore, an increasing number of functions can be integrated in a given part or system, thus reducing overall cost and weight. On the Falcon 5X, for instance, the ball joints made by additive manufacturing are 25% lighter than the previous versions. We have now extended this process to a wider range of materials, and it can be used for production parts on both civil and military aircraft.

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“Greener” facilities, a constant focus

Over the last ten years we have considerably decreased our environmental footprint. For example Dassault Aviation has reduced water consumption by 70%. Energy consumption at our facilities has been cut by 30%, through measures such as new boilers, better insulation, enhanced facilities management and the acquisition of electric vehicles. We no long use heavy fuel oil, and our emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) have been cut in half.

Today, some 88% of our waste is reused. For instance, we have set up a recovery and cleaning station for metal shavings. After machining, 80% of the aluminum used is re-injected into the metal recycling circuit. Resource consumption and emissions are two decisive factors in our technological and industrial decisions. By modernizing our machinery and upgrading production methods we have achieved a steady decrease in consumption of solvents and other hazardous chemical products, chemical milling byproducts, cleaning products and cutting fluids. We have also set up distribution hubs for raw materials, limiting transportation and therefore greenhouse gases.

A mobilized workforce

These results are also possible because everybody steps up to the plate. Specialized staff at each of our facilities, sometimes backed by a network of correspondents, help implement our environmental policy. They promote best practices on how to save resources, sort waste and make efficient use of chemical products. Our commitment in this vital area extends to our partners as well. We evaluate their eco-performance and support their improvement initiatives.

30%

reduction in energy consumption since 2005

88%

of our waste is recycled

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