

PRESS RELEASE

The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region and Dassault Aviation sign an agreement for the industry of the future

(Argonay, July 6, 2017) – On this day, Mr. Laurent Wauquiez, president of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, and Mr. Eric Trappier, Chairman and CEO of Dassault Aviation, signed a partnership agreement for the industry of the future via an action plan devoted to the professions of precision mechanics, machining, mecatronics, and the development of advanced production processes.

This agreement provides for actions with professional training and learning centers, universities and engineering schools, Thésame, the CETIM-CTDEC Technocenter, the Mont-Blanc Industries and Viameca competitiveness clusters, the Aerospace Rhône-Alpes-Auvergne cluster, the UIMM (Union of Metallurgy Industries and Professions), and small- and medium-sized companies in the region. It is part of the Region's "industry of the future and industrial production" field of excellence and Dassault Aviation's transformation plan.

The objectives of the agreement are as follows.

In the domains of professional training and learning:

- For Dassault Aviation, support the Region in its drive to develop apprenticeships among its suppliers and subcontractors by aiming for 300 vocational contracts over five years, in the regional aeronautics sector, on different levels of training;
- Share industry needs with training organizations in the region, in order to train staff throughout their career, so that they can succeed from their first position and adapt to technological developments.

In the domains of innovation and competitiveness:

- Under the aegis of the region and with all partners in the sector, set up a metallic additive production chain for aeronautical use; this will provide vital technological breakthroughs for the industry of the future.
- Sponsor start-ups in the domains of precision mechanics, special processes and mecatronics parts, in order to support the development of aeronautical suppliers in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes.

Mr. Laurent Wauquiez stated: ***"This agreement aims to promote the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region as one of the five leading regions in aeronautics within five years."*** *The region would like to be the forerunner in this collective approach that allows different key players to work together rather than as separate entities. The significant presence of the aviation industry in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is the basis of the region's position as one of the most successful in Europe. The small- and medium-sized companies that create this environment do so with a remarkable level of innovation. The region would like to support these companies that are at the heart of our development, and therefore employment, more effectively."*

Mr. Eric Trappier stated: *“Our common goal is to future-proof and ensure that the aviation, mecatronics and micromechanics industries in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region remain competitive in the face of American and emerging market competition. We need to join forces to meet the challenges identified by this partnership. This is the only way to develop jobs for tomorrow and create wealth within our region.*

This agreement is concluded for a renewable period of five years.

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About the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region:

Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes is the second most populated region in France with a population of 7.8 million, and has a surface area that covers 13% of metropolitan France. France’s leading industrial region, employing 500,000 people in the sector, its GDP represents 11.4% of national wealth. The three mountain ranges within its borders (Massif Central, Alps and Jura) support its reputation as Europe’s leading mountain region and make it the biggest ski area in the world.

The Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region is striving to improve day-to-day quality of life for its inhabitants and is focusing on economic development, training, youth, research and innovation, digital technology, culture, agriculture and land management.

About Dassault Aviation

With over 10,000 military and civil aircraft delivered to more than 90 countries over the last century, Dassault Aviation has built up expertise recognized worldwide in the design, development, sale and support of all types of aircraft, ranging from the Rafale fighter to the high-end Falcon family of business jets and military drones. DASSAULT AVIATION is also a pioneer in the digital industry. In 2016, the group, which employs 12,000 people, reported revenue of €3.6 billion.

The Argonay site specializes in the production and support of flight controls for all Dassault Aviation military and civil aircraft: Rafale, drones and Falcon. The site is dedicated to precision mechanics and onboard electronics activities and employs 450 people who work in partnership with many other companies and in compliance with environmental standards. The site has just been selected to pilot the implementation of a metallic components “additive manufacturing” activity stream, the finishing of which will require complex machining techniques. Dassault Aviation is the only aircraft manufacturer in the world to design, produce and support its own flight controls.

www.dassault-aviation.com

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