

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

Belgium chooses the F-35 and the United States

Dassault Aviation takes note of the Belgian government decision regarding the replacement of the F-16 of the Air Component

Saint-Cloud, 26 Octobre 2018 – Dassault Aviation takes note of the sovereign decision by the Belgian authorities to select the American option to replace the Air Component's F-16.

Dassault Aviation is not surprised by the Belgian government decision, some actors' preference for the F-35 had long been clear enough.

Dassault Aviation participated in France's global strategic partnership offer to the Belgian Government with the Rafale fighter and an economic and societal package in high-tech sectors worth €20 billion over 20 years. This unique partnership by France to Belgium, outside the call for tenders, has not been examined.

The choice of the F-35 is a bad signal for the construction of a European defence. Once again, we can see an American preference prevailing in Europe.

Dassault Aviation and its industrial partners are continuing to develop the operational capabilities of the Rafale, in service in France and in countries that want to have a first-rate air force at their disposal in full sovereignty.

Dassault Aviation is also mobilized with its partner Airbus to support the political will of France and Germany to prepare for the future with the Future Combat Air System project.

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About Dassault Aviation:

With over 10,000 military and civil aircraft delivered in 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. In 2017, Dassault Aviation reported revenues of €4.8 billion. The company has 11,400 employees.

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