

Rome, 6 September 2013

## **Polish Defense Holding and Finmeccanica strengthen cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding**

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Polish Defense Holding and Finmeccanica signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the intention to strengthen their collaboration in Aerospace, Defense and Security sectors both on Polish and International markets during MSPO (International Defense Industry Exhibition) that just ended in Kielce, Poland.

The two industrial Groups, respectively through Bumar Labedy and PCO and Oto Melara and Selex ES, have already established a cooperation on the program Rosomak for armored vehicles.

This Memorandum of Understanding paves the way to long term industrial cooperation with important opportunities in sectors as:

- Helicopters, with the state-of-the-art multipurpose military helicopter AW149, offered by AgustaWestland's subsidiary PZL Swidnik SA within the tender for the supply for the Polish Armed Forces;
- Defense Systems sector with Oto Melara latest solutions for military land vehicle applications;
- Space, satellite services of Telespazio for Earth observation telecommunication.

Krzysztof Krystowski, President of Polish Defense Holding, said: "Signing the MoU with Finmeccanica, a leading group in Aerospace, Defense and Security sector, starts a new period of even more fruitful collaboration between the Groups, enabling the two Parties to share knowledge, technologies and expertise on all the markets of their relevant interest".

Giovanni De Gennaro, Chairman of Finmeccanica, declared: "The MoU is a key milestone for Finmeccanica commitment to further strengthening the Group's position in Poland, which we consider – alike Italy and the UK - one of the Group's domestic countries".

During 20 years of operation in Poland, Finmeccanica has been constantly increasing its contribution to the modernization of the Polish Armed Forces and other Governmental customers: today this consistent commitment has resulted in the Finmeccanica Group employing nearly 3,500 people, including highly skilled technicians and engineers, in PZL Swidnik S.A, the only Polish OEM in the helicopter sector, acquired by AgustaWestland in 2010.

Polish Defense Holding is the largest manufacturer and supplier of arms in Poland and one of the largest in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. Under the brand Polish Defense Holding operate more than 40 companies of the defense sector in Poland and abroad, employing nearly 10,000 workers.