

Rome, 28 March 2011

Finmeccanica announces the merger of Elsig Datamat and SELEX Communications

Finmeccanica's Board of Directors, meeting in Rome today, has decided to initiate the merger of Elsig Datamat and SELEX Communications.

The transaction is in line with the company's plan, launched in 2010, to upgrade its industrial assets in the Defense and Security Electronics sector, and is aimed at creating a centre of expertise at Group level in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Security, Automation and Telecommunications sectors, enabling Finmeccanica to fulfill the increasing demand for complete and integrated ICT solutions and secure network management services, and bringing under one roof all the Finmeccanica companies working in this sector.

"The new structure of the Defense and Security Electronics segment organizes Finmeccanica's offer into three centres of expertise," said Pier Francesco Guarguaglini, Chairman and CEO of Finmeccanica. "The resulting organization, with outstanding capabilities in the fields of Information Technology, Telecommunication, Security and Automation, will work with the SELEX Sistemi Integrati systems centre, handling large defense and homeland security and Surface Radar systems, and with SELEX Galileo, a centre of expertise in avionics and electro-optical imaging. This new entity will enable the operating companies to better focus on their missions and successfully meet the demands of our clients for "turnkey" solutions, while ensuring cost optimization".

Finmeccanica plays a leading role in the global aerospace and defence industry, and participates in some of the sector's biggest international programmes through its group companies and thanks to well-established alliances with European and US partners. A leader in the design and manufacture of helicopters, defence and security electronics, civil and military aircraft, aerostructures, satellites, space infrastructure and defence systems, Finmeccanica is Italy's leading high-tech company. It also boasts significant manufacturing assets and expertise in the transport and energy sectors; it is listed on the Milan stock exchange and operates via a number of group companies and joint ventures. At the end of 2010, the Finmeccanica Group had around 75,200 employees, including over 42,500 in Italy, 11,900 in the US, 9,700 in the UK, 3,700 in France, 3,400 in Poland and over 1,000 in Germany. Over 85% of the Group's employees are based in our three "domestic" markets. As part of its drive to maintain and build on its technological excellence, the Finmeccanica Group spends 11% of its revenues on research and development.