

Abu Dhabi, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Finmeccanica - Selex ES together with Piaggio Aerospace for the maiden flight of the P.1HH HammerHead prototype

*Finmeccanica - Selex ES is a key partner in the P.1HH programme providing its vehicle management and control system, sensors, data link and the ground control station as well as the integration of all systems.*

- Finmeccanica – Selex ES is Piaggio Aerospace’s partner of choice and will cooperate in the further development and production of the P.1HH Hammerhead programme
- Finmeccanica – Selex ES has provided the P.1HH HammerHead platform with its new Vehicle management and control system
- SkyISTAR is new agnostic mission system for surveillance and patrolling missions which has been integrated into the programme

At IDEX exhibition which takes place in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February, Finmeccanica – Selex ES announced to have successfully contributed to the maiden flight of the prototype 001 of the Piaggio Aerospace P.1HH HammerHead, after an extensive flight campaign carried out with the P.1HH demo technology demonstrator, at the Italian Air Force base of Trapani Birgi.

The prototype flew with the Finmeccanica – Selex ES’ new vehicle control and management system for the first time and was remotely operated from the Finmeccanica – Selex ES ground control station (GCS), via the company’ datalink and communications systems to ensure safe operations during all flight activities. Finmeccanica – Selex ES also cooperates with Piaggio Aerospace to ensure highly effective integration.

The P.1HH HammerHead mission management system is based on the Finmeccanica - Selex ES’ SkyISTAR platform-agnostic innovative solution, which is ideally suited for patrol and ISR missions. The system is capable of responding to diverse threats that range from terrorist attacks to illegal immigration, protection of Exclusive Economic Zones, infrastructures and critical sites. SkyISTAR built-in sensor fusion, data management and exploitation features of skyISTAR enable highly effective border control, wide area surveillance, targeted surveillance, environmental and disaster control missions.

Finmeccanica - Selex ES’s contribution to the P1.HH programme benefits from the company’s experience in developing and manufacturing UAS surveillance systems and sensors. In addition to providing the avionics mission system, the company also provides the aircraft’s sensor suite, communications and customised data-link solutions.

The first flight of the P.1HH prototype marks the beginning of the next phase of the development of the P.1HH HammerHead UAS programme in preparation for operational readiness of the first Series Production UAS soon. Finmeccanica- Selex ES is Piaggio Aerospace’s partner of choice for the next steps of the P.1HH HammerHead programme and will be cooperating with Piaggio in the further production and development of capabilities to face different operational missions types.