

Leonardo-Finmeccanica and NTU Singapore join forces to develop helicopter manufacturing and technology of the future

- **Research collaboration agreement signed in integrated and innovative composites helicopter structure and helicopter aerodynamics**
- **Leonardo-Finmeccanica expands the scope of its activities in Singapore, a strategic country, and confirms its commitment to advanced R&D**
- **Cooperation will allow successful translational of university research into actual technology used in commercial products**

Rome, 23 May 2016 – Leonardo-Finmeccanica and Nanyang Technological University (NTU Singapore), signed an agreement today in Rome. Under the agreement, NTU and Leonardo-Finmeccanica will start a research collaboration in integrated and innovative composites helicopter structure and helicopter aerodynamics.

The agreement follows the Memorandum of Understanding signed in February in Singapore and establishes a partnership to contribute to the aerospace technological advancement by sharing talents and know-how, promoting scientific research and developing engineering and industrial capabilities.

This collaboration will enhance Leonardo-Finmeccanica's lead in advanced helicopter technologies and research capabilities and will provide NTU faculties and students unique access to helicopter industry expertise and know-how. The collaboration will seek to further technology opportunities in the rapidly evolving rotary wing sector - whose changes are characterised by the progress in composite materials, reduction in hydraulics and dynamic components and growing efficiency in industrial processes. Joint projects may include research in innovative methods to advance the manufacturing of Leonardo-Finmeccanica's state-of-the-art products, through the use of new composite materials which are lighter and stronger. The collaboration will also expand aerodynamics research modelling, which can potentially improve overall flight performance.

Mauro Moretti, Leonardo-Finmeccanica CEO and General Manager, said "This agreement is an exciting opportunity for Leonardo-Finmeccanica to expand the scope of its activities in Singapore, a strategic country where we are fully committed to strengthen a long-term partnership, not just for Helicopters but also in other sectors. Each year Leonardo-Finmeccanica invests 11% of its revenues in Research & Development and we are very happy to have the opportunity to sign with NTU an agreement that will contribute to Leonardo-Finmeccanica's commitment to advanced R&D and to NTU's reputation as Singapore's leading centre for aerospace".

Note

Following the process of the reorganisation of the **Leonardo-Finmeccanica** Group's companies, it should be noted that from January 1st 2016: the "Helicopters" division has absorbed the activities of AgustaWestland; the "Aircraft" division has absorbed part of the activities of Alenia Aermacchi; the "Aero-structures" division has absorbed part of the activities of Alenia Aermacchi; the "Airborne & Space Systems" division has absorbed part of the activities of Selex ES; the "Land & Naval Defence Electronics" division has absorbed part of the activities of Selex ES; the "Security & Information Systems" division has absorbed part of the activities of Selex ES; the "Defence Systems" division has absorbed the activities of OTO Melara and WASS.

Leonardo-Finmeccanica is among the top ten global players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy's main industrial company. As a single entity from January 2016, organised into business divisions (Helicopters; Aircraft; Aero-structures; Airborne & Space Systems; Land & Naval Defence Electronics; Defence Systems; Security & Information Systems), Leonardo-Finmeccanica operates in the most competitive international markets by leveraging its areas of technology and product leadership. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), at 31 December 2015 Finmeccanica recorded consolidated revenues of 13 billion Euros and has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the UK and the U.S.

NTU Chief of Staff and Vice-President of Research Professor Lam Khin Yong said: “NTU’s collaborations with leading industry players like Leonardo-Finmeccanica are crucial for successful translation of university research into commercial applications. NTU’s mechanical and aerospace engineering faculty will work with engineers from Leonardo-Finmeccanica to research and develop new aerodynamics and manufacturing technologies that can be used in next-generation helicopters and aircrafts.”

Note to editors on the Nanyang Technological University of Singapore

A research-intensive public university, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) has 33,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students in the colleges of Engineering, Business, Science, Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, and its Interdisciplinary Graduate School. It has a new medical school, the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, set up jointly with Imperial College London. NTU is also home to world-class autonomous institutes – the National Institute of Education, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Earth Observatory of Singapore, and Singapore Centre on Environmental Life Sciences Engineering – and various leading research centres such as the Nanyang Environment & Water Research Institute (NEWRI), Energy Research Institute @ NTU (ERI@N) and the Institute on Asian Consumer Insight (ACI). Ranked 13th in the world, NTU has also been ranked the world’s top young university for the last two years running. The University’s main campus has been named one of the Top 15 Most Beautiful in the World. NTU also has a campus in Novena, medical district.