

## Leonardo signs an agreement for the acquisition of controlling stake in Alea

- Preliminary agreement signed to acquire 70% of the share capital of Alea, a company specializing in mission critical communication software for multimedia solutions compliant with international standards on LTE / 5G broadband networks
- Leonardo – due to this transaction – strengthens its offering portfolio in professional communications, a sector characterized by strong evolution and integration with broadband solutions
- The integration of Alea’s solutions will make it possible to guarantee new features and advanced performances in support of emergency management, public safety, companies, critical infrastructures and transports

**Rome, 8 June 2021** – Leonardo signed an agreement for the acquisition of 70% of the share capital of Alea – a company specializing in mission and business critical communication software – with the option of a subsequent acquisition of the remaining 30%.

In doing so, Leonardo, a leader in professional communications and security with solutions sold in over 50 countries around the world, consolidates its offer with a mission critical multimedia application infrastructure compliant with 3GPP (*Third Generation Partnership Project*) standards. Alea’s skills will make it possible to strengthen the proposition in the broadband field, at the same time favoring the creation of integrated narrowband and broadband communication infrastructures and reducing the time-to-market, both a critical success factor in a rapidly evolving market.

Specifically, the acquisition of Alea will make it possible to integrate into Leonardo’s portfolio a new solution dedicated to operational communications in the railway sector according to FRMCS (*Future Rail Mobile Communication System*) standards and the “Talkway” suite for business critical communications. The new FRMCS technology, which will progressively replace the GSM-R standard currently in operation on thousands of kilometers of railways around the world, is a key element for the digitalization of rail transport, while “Talkway” enables, from smartphone, professional “Push-To-Talk” communications similar to radio ones, video and photo management, messaging and localization constantly monitored from the operations room via a dedicated web platform.

In line with the Be Tomorrow 2030 strategic plan, Leonardo continues to enhance its offering dedicated to the protection and monitoring of the territory. The operation will, in fact, add new functionalities and advanced performances to the command and control company solutions, capable of collecting, filtering and correlating in a single system, cyber secure by design, data and information from different sources, supporting government bodies, public safety, critical infrastructures and transports in decisions and interventions.

The closing of the transaction is contingent on fulfillment of conditions precedent, including the experiment of the so-called “Golden Powers” procedure, and is expected to take place during the third quarter of this year.

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**Leonardo**, a global high-technology company, is among the top world players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy’s main industrial company. Organized into five business divisions, Leonardo has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the United Kingdom, Poland and the USA, where it also operates through subsidiaries that include Leonardo DRS (defense electronics), and joint ventures and partnerships: ATR, MBDA, Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space and Avio. Leonardo competes in the most important international markets by leveraging its areas of technological and product leadership (Helicopters, Aircraft, Aerostructures, Electronics, Cyber Security and Space). Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), in 2020 Leonardo recorded consolidated revenues of €13.4 billion and invested €1.6 billion in Research and Development. The company has been part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) since 2010 and has been named as sustainability global leader in the Aerospace & Defence sector for the second year in a row of DJSI in 2020.

**Note to editors**

Alea, an Italian company based in Pordenone, is an SME mainly active in the design, development, maintenance and marketing of its “Push-To-Talk” application systems platforms. Alea, which recorded revenues of 900 thousand euros in 2020, targets both the commercial market – technical assistance and maintenance companies, transport companies, logistics and distribution companies, construction companies – and to the public security segment, from municipal police to law enforcement agencies, from relief agencies to special forces and surveillance institutes.