



Nice, November 30, 2007

**Finmeccanica and Thales have signed a Memorandum of Understanding
in the European Maritime Safety & Security domain**

Finmeccanica and Thales have decided to join efforts in order to propose, develop and implement a multi-user and integrated Maritime Safety & Security (MSS) project for European maritime areas in the framework of a common initiative called SEASAME.

This joint initiative covers the environmental, safety and security domains bringing a global and multi-disciplinary response to the European Maritime Management. It offers perspectives and solutions for an optimized development of maritime activities, like sea transport, respectful of environmental matters.

In coherence with the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union adopted on October 10, 2007, by the European Commission, SEASAME aims at federating and coordinating the objectives of all stakeholders such as European Institutional Agencies (EMSA, Frontex, EDA ...), national actors (Naval Forces, Coast Guards...), as well as private companies.

To this end, Finmeccanica and Thales have signed today a Memorandum of Understanding in order to define the business scope and the principles which shall govern their co-operation.

Both Finmeccanica and Thales are presently active in common various Research and Development projects led by the European Commission in the field of Maritime Safety and Security.

Through this agreement, Finmeccanica and Thales will create a strong and innovative cooperation for the European Maritime Safety and Security market. In particular, such Franco-Italian initiative will allow swift responses to short-term critical issues through pilot projects in the Mediterranean and Black Sea theatres.

The joint SEASAME initiative could be open in due time to other European players in the domain.

About Finmeccanica

Finmeccanica is Italy's leading high-tech company, operating in the design and manufacture of helicopters, defence electronics, civil and military aircraft, aerostructures, satellites, space infrastructures, missiles. It plays a leading role in the European aerospace and defence industry, and participates in some of the biggest international programmes in the sector through well-established alliances with European and American partners. Finmeccanica also boasts significant manufacturing assets and skills in the Transports and Energy sectors. The Group is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange, and operates in Italy and abroad through subsidiaries and joint ventures. It employs over 59,000 staff in total of which approximately 9,000 in UK, 3,500 in France and 1,600 in US. As part of

its drive to maintain and build on its technological expertise, Finmeccanica spends 14% of its revenues on Research and Development.

About Thales

Thales is a leading international electronics and systems group, addressing defence, aerospace and security markets worldwide. Thales's leading-edge technology is supported by 22 000 R&D engineers who offer a capability unmatched in Europe to develop and deploy field-proven mission-critical information systems. To this end, the group's civil and military businesses develop in parallel and share a common base of technologies to serve a single objective: the security of people, property and nations. The group builds its growth on its unique multi-domestic strategy based on trusted partnerships with national customers and market players, while leveraging its global expertise to support local technology and industrial development. Thales employs 68 000 people in 50 countries with forecast 2007 revenues in excess of € 12 billion.

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