

Abu Dhabi, 18 February 2007

Finmeccanica at IDEX 2007: high-tech collaboration with United Arab Emirates' aerospace and defence industry

Finmeccanica, Italy's leading high-tech group, will be exhibiting at IDEX 2007, held in Abu Dhabi from 18-22 February. The group will be displaying its system integrator capabilities in aerospace and defence applications including homeland security, border and EEZ control, air traffic management, helicopters, naval guns and turrets, tactical airlifters, communications and training of military pilots.

In recent years Italy and the UAE have formed many rewarding partnerships, for example via initiatives such as the Abu Dhabi Systems Integration (ADSI) joint venture between SELEX Sistemi Integrati and Abu Dhabi Ship Building. Finmeccanica is keen to develop its relations with the country's industry to a much greater extent than at present, with the aim of exchanging state-of-the-art technology and creating joint programmes.

There are many attractive opportunities for cooperation between Italy and the United Arab Emirates, most notably with respect to AleniaAermacchi's M346 and M311 trainers, which are already in demand by the UAE. There is also solid potential for Alenia Aeronautica's C-27J tactical transport aircraft, which is generating a lot of interest throughout the Gulf region, given its great operational flexibility, interoperability with other aircraft and excellent all-weather performance.

Another important area is the field of ground, coastal and port surveillance, in which SELEX Sistemi Integrati can design and build complete systems. Also of great interest is the automatic licence plate recognition system developed by Eltag Datamat, which can help track stolen or suspicious cars. Using innovative technology, the Auto-Detector can be mounted in a patrol car and can read the number plates of vehicles parked at both sides of the street or in transit, even from the side.

One further potential field of co-operation between Finmeccanica subsidiaries and the UAE (and more generally the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, i.e. Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE) is the area of space and satellite systems and services, in which Finmeccanica boasts a strong track record via its subsidiary Alcatel Alenia Space.

Finmeccanica will be exhibiting at IDEX 2007 with its companies Alenia Aeronautica (aircraft, aerostructures); AleniaAermacchi (jet trainers); AgustaWestland (helicopters); Eltag Datamat (information technology for defence and security); Galileo Avionica and SELEX Sensors & Airborne Systems (avionics, UAV); Oto Melara (land and naval defence systems); SELEX Communications (military and governmental communications) and SELEX Sistemi Integrati (large systems integration).

All these companies have a long track record as key suppliers of high-tech products to the United Arab Emirates and other countries in the region, and are acknowledged as reliable industrial partners in the development of growth strategies on the international markets.

Alenia Aeronautica is the Italian industrial leader in aeronautical production and one of the world's most advanced companies in this field, with products that range from next-generation defence, transport and ASW/MP aircraft, to commercial aircraft, aerostructures and aircraft maintenance, overhaul and modification.

Products on display: **ATR72** and **ATR42** twin-engine aircraft in ASW (anti-submarine warfare) and Maritime Patrol versions to perform efficiently anti-submarine, anti-ship, SAR and EEZ patrol roles. The **C-27J**, the only purpose-designed military airlifter in its category, featuring extreme operating flexibility, all-weather day/night operations and high cost-effectiveness.

AleniaAermacchi is the leading European company in the design, development and production of integrated training systems. To date, AleniaAermacchi has sold more than 2,000 trainers to 40 different customer nations.

Products on display: **M-346**, which provides the most advanced response to current military training needs by combining top-class performance, high manoeuvrability and limited costs. A mock-up of the trainer is on display in the outdoor area.

M-311, the new solution for the basic/advanced fast jet phase of the pilot training syllabus.

AgustaWestland is a technology leader in the helicopter market with an unrivalled range of rotorcraft designed to satisfy the requirements of commercial and military customers. Many AgustaWestland helicopters operate in Gulf states. The company's products range from the innovative 2.5-ton light single-engine A119 Koala, to the 15-ton three-engine EH101/US101. Other helicopters include the A109 Power, the Grand, the A129 combat helicopter, the multi-role Super Lynx 300, the AB139 medium twin, the BA609 tilt-rotor and the 11 ton NH90, in which AgustaWestland has a 32% stake.

On display: **AW139**, the new standard in the medium-twin helicopter market, which redefines the concept of flexibility and versatility with unmatched performance and operational capabilities.

A109 LUH has established itself as the world's best selling light-twin helicopter, able to satisfy a wide range of military requirements. This makes the aircraft a true force multiplier by offering military commanders and air crew combat superiority and flexibility.

EH101 is the benchmark medium-lift helicopter, which is now in service with operators around the world. The three-engine EH101 is the most advanced aircraft in its category and incorporates advanced systems to provide outstanding performance.

Future Lynx is a purpose-designed fully marinised military helicopter that benefits from the development of the Super Lynx 300 and is optimised for land, maritime and littoral operating environments.

Elsag Datamat is the new industrial hub for the development and provision of IT-based products, solutions and systems across the security, automation, transport, defence and space markets. Created at the beginning of 2007 from the merger of the Finmeccanica subsidiaries Elsag and Datamat, Elsag Datamat combines the respective expertise and know-how consolidated by the two companies over the years into a single player.

Among the products on display: **Auto-Detector**, the licence plate-reading system for fixed or mobile installations. Designed and built by Elsag, this system can automatically read up to 20 licence plates a second with an accuracy of 98%. Some 3,000 Carabinieri patrol cars in Italy have been fitted with the system, and other projects are underway throughout the world. Biometrics systems for electronic document creation and physical/logical access control using personal identification based on biometric features (face and digital fingerprint) will also be on show.

Galileo Avionica and SELEX SAS, with a leading role in avionics, electro-optics and radar programmes for all major military airborne European platforms (Tornado, Eurofighter, EH101, NH90), provide cutting-edge technology, along with comprehensive management expertise and consolidated skills in industrial collaboration.

Among the products on display: **ATOS** lightweight mission system for maritime patrol aircraft.

MIRACH 100/5, a state-of-the-art aerial target system for anti-aircraft missile-firing practice and weapons system qualification. Toolset of equipment for seeing and aiming for the "**Soldato Futuro**" (Future Soldier) Programme. **PicoSAR** is a lightweight, compact Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar for small airborne platforms, such as UAVs and helicopters. **Seaspray 7000E** is a multi-role radar designed to meet customer requirements and fulfil their evolving roles. The **Pinzgauer** mobile surveillance unit for border protection will be on display in the outdoor area.

Oto Melara's land and naval systems, ranging from naval guns to next-generation ammunition, artillery guns, armoured vehicles and anti-aircraft systems, are currently in service in more than 50 countries around the world.

Among the products on display: **76/62 Super Rapido**, **Dart** and **Volcano** ammunition; **12.7 mm Hitrole**, **30 mm Hitfist**.

SELEX Communications offers a wide range of equipment, systems and services in the field of tactical, strategic, security, professional mobile and naval communications. The product portfolio includes Communications, Navigation, Identification (IFF), Support to Mission, Display and Control Panels.

Among the products on display: **LOAM** (Laser Obstacle Avoiding System). **Elettra Commander**, a super fast interceptor with excellent performance, designed for joint operations involving land, naval and airborne forces. **GUARDIAN**, a range of force protection equipment that delivers Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device inhibition performance.

SELEX Sistemi Integrati is a leading European C4ISR and air traffic control supplier, with core competencies in systems integration. SELEX Sistemi Integrati is a traditional industrial partner in the Middle East region, having participated in a number of major projects. In the UAE the company currently participates in the Baynunah naval programme, with the installation of its Combat Management System on the new corvettes built by a local contractor.

Products on display: the **G33 antenna** is a tried-and-tested antenna system extensively used in civil and military air traffic control systems all over the world. **EMPAR**, G-band multi-function phased array radar, provides simultaneous surveillance, tracking and weapons control. EMPAR is the primary sensor in the FSAF/SAAM-IT and PAAMS missile systems. **VTMS**: the company has developed an integrated network of Vessel Traffic Management Systems to cover and manage a wide geographical area, such as the Mediterranean basin, its first area of application. The system architecture is based on multiple control layers: Local, Area and Central, which interact with the traffic at different operational levels. Each level supports operational coordination and decisions according to its mission. The local stations in this architecture directly collect data from the sensor sites and interact with traffic. The sensors integrated in VTM systems are: X-band and S-band radars, AIS, CCTVs and VHF Direction Finders. SELEX Sistemi Integrati's VTMS is available in fixed, transportable and mobile versions. The Italian nationwide VTS is an example of network-centric integration of maritime, operational, safety and security services.