

Farnborough, 14 July 2008



Finmeccanica at Farnborough 2008: solutions at every level

Finmeccanica will take part in the 46th Farnborough Airshow (from 14 to 20 July 2008), the world's largest showcase of aerospace technology for the defence and security industry, and the event that most highlights international market trends.

Farnborough Airshow has a particular significance for Finmeccanica, in that the UK is now the Group's second domestic market. Through Finmeccanica UK Ltd, it has a stable presence in the country, where it is credited as the second supplier of the UK Ministry of Defence and the leading foreign investor in the key sectors of helicopters, avionics and communications for defence and security. Furthermore, Finmeccanica is the second largest employer on British soil in its areas of business, with 10,000 employees, and the third largest exporter from the UK.

With these credentials, Finmeccanica comes to Farnborough with a precise objective: to exhibit the technological excellence of a highly-integrated Group that can offer both advanced platforms and the systems capacities able to connect the entire range of solutions to cover all possible demands on the global market in the defence, security and environmental protection sectors. Integration, interoperability and technological excellence are the key words of 2008 that describe Finmeccanica's presence at the show, its "exhibition philosophy" and the grouping of its products in defined logical areas.

Exhibition layout

Finmeccanica comes to the Farnborough Airshow with all the platforms that, in recent years, have found favour on international markets, helping to export Italian technology around the world, including fixed wing, rotary wing, space technology and next-generation radar. A large exhibition space is dedicated to defence electronics and the capacity of Group companies to offer integrated monitoring, control and reaction systems, which ensure territorial management and the security of people and infrastructure in every operational situation.

Within the Finmeccanica stand, which covers an area of approximately 1,300 sqm of a total of indoor area of 4,000 sqm, the Group's exhibition space is divided into seven sections, which represent the business areas in which Finmeccanica operates and within which the companies showcase their capabilities:

- **Fixed wing:** the cutting edge of the Group in the tactical transport and combat aircraft sector, unmanned aircraft, trainer aircraft and aerostructures for commercial aircraft.
- **Rotary wing:** the expertise and technologies that make Finmeccanica one of the leaders in the world helicopter market.
- **Security and resilience:** a complete range of solutions able to integrate sensors, platforms and systems in complex architecture for the security of people and territory, the management of crises and emergency situations, both in the civil field and in military and peace-keeping operations.
- **Space:** the Group's long tradition of excellence that can be seen in its large satellite systems and the sophisticated attitude sensors used in space missions.
- **Training:** the solutions of Group companies based on virtual reality and dedicated to training, mission simulation, the assisted maintenance of large complex systems, and the reproduction of the cockpits of leading defence and air superiority aircraft.

- **Defence electronics:** the systems to manage network-centric command and control operations in a wide range of operational situations, from combat to search and rescue missions, ensuring interoperability between different platforms (naval, air and land units and command posts). Their purpose is to enable the exchange of data and the creation of common tactical scenarios. Sophisticated equipment for personnel and vehicles, including the multi-sensor Soldato Futuro system, radar and countermeasure systems, will also be exhibited.
- **Through life capability management:** the Group's capacities in the strategic sector of life cycle support, where the need to manage products and systems throughout their life cycle is increasingly becoming indispensable, particularly for defence platforms that remain in service for long periods.

This wide-ranging offer is summed up in the control room, the real technological heart of the Finmeccanica stand at Farnborough: a single and original connective structure in which the capabilities of the Group converge within an artificial environment in which their potential and degree of interaction can be demonstrated, using an innovative approach that has until now never been tested as a display installation at a show.

Companies present

The Finmeccanica Group companies present at the Farnborough Airshow this year will be AgustaWestland, Alenia Aermacchi, Alenia Aeronautica, Elsag Datamat, MBDA, Oto Melara, Seicos, SELEX Communications, SELEX Galileo, SELEX Service Management, SELEX Sistemi Integrati, Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space and Vega, which will exhibit within the Finmeccanica stand the most representative and sophisticated systems and equipment that they produce.

The static display area

The static display area will again this year showcase Finmeccanica's best technology in aviation platforms, radar, unmanned aircraft, command and control systems for defence and security and in satellite solutions. Over a total area of approximately 7,000 square metres, Government delegations, industrial visitors and the general public will be able to observe up close, among others: the C-27J Spartan, the tactical transport aircraft chosen by the US Army and Air Force; the AW109 LUH, the best-selling light twin-engined helicopter for military use in the world; the sophisticated Sky-Y, the technology demonstrator for a surveillance UAV; and the M-346, the next-generation trainer equipped with the most advanced level of technology ever available in the sector. Also on display will be the Falco, the new unmanned aircraft for territorial patrol, the air surveillance radar RAT31DL/M and the medium-range radar Kronos, the Skyplexnet system for receiving satellite pictures for civil protection uses and the mobile unit Xcalibur for emergency management.

Finmeccanica and Farnborough: 60 years of history

2008 is a symbolic year for both Finmeccanica and Farnborough: the Group is celebrating its sixtieth birthday at the same time as the sixtieth anniversary of the Airshow, which saw the aeronautics industry's first exhibition take place on the runways of the then military aerodrome in 1948. They have developed in parallel, sharing technological excellence and an international outlook. The sixty years of Finmeccanica will be remembered at the Airshow with an exhibition space that will mark the Group's milestones, from its beginnings as one of the main drivers of reconstruction in the post-war period and then of the country's industrial growth, to the prestigious presence it has achieved on the world stage today. The celebrations at Farnborough, and those being held throughout 2008 alongside the Group's activities, will not be a mere commemoration, but an opportunity to think about where it has come from and from there, put itself forward with renewed vigour as a key player in today's market and face the challenges of the future with optimism.