

Rome, 30 November 2009

Finmeccanica signs Memorandum of Understanding with Belarus in Transport, Energy, Space and Security Civil Sectors

Finmeccanica has signed today in Minsk a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to conclude partnership agreements in the civil sector, particularly transport, energy, postal automation, space and security, and more generally in the high technology field. The signing took place in the presence of the Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi and the President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko.

On the transport side, the MOU paves the way for the development of joint projects to produce gas-powered buses for Belarus' urban transport requirement, and for the implementation of automatic control systems in the rail and urban transport sector.

In homeland security, Finmeccanica, via SELEX Sistemi Integrati, will exclusively supply its technologies to Belarus to ensure the security of the area of Minsk and the Ice Hockey World Championships to be held in the city in 2014. In the same field, Finmeccanica will also provide its expertise for the security monitoring of the Corridor 2 and Corridor 9.

In the space sector, joint agreements are planned to initiate co-operation between companies and scientific institutions for the development of space centres of excellence, particularly relating to environmental and communications issues.

As regards the postal sector, the agreement will see collaboration between Elsag Datamat and the national Belarussian company BelPostha to implement postal automation systems.

Through Ansaldo Energia, Finmeccanica will also provide consultancy to Belarus on conventional and nuclear energy and related security systems.

With regard to the partnership aspects covered by this MOU, there is potential for Finmeccanica to create joint ventures or build industrial infrastructure in the country, aimed at promoting joint projects and products development.

This Memorandum of Understanding follows the economic co-operation framework agreement between Italy and Belarus, signed today by the Italian Ambassador to Minsk, Giulio Prigioni.