

## **Leonardo and International Golden Group partner for cyber security in the Middle East**

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- **The two companies have signed a strategic collaboration agreement in the United Arab Emirates to meet new security requirements**
- **Leonardo and IGG will collaborate in the design and implementation of Security Operations Centres (SOCs) for the protection of infrastructure and organisations**

**Abu Dhabi, 20 February 2017** – Leonardo and Abu Dhabi-based IGG (International Golden Group PJSC) have signed a strategic collaboration agreement to supply cyber security capabilities in the UAE. The agreement was signed at the IDEX defence exhibition, which takes place in the United Arab Emirates from February 19th to 23<sup>rd</sup>. Leonardo and IGG will collaborate to identify and implement advanced solutions including Security Operations Centres (SOCs). The agreement's aim is to integrate the solutions and the market knowledge offered by IGG, which will be the local prime contractor and which already provides high-level security to national customers, with Leonardo's state-of-the-art know-how, in a long-term strategic and international partnership.

Recently, the United Arab Emirates underlined cyber security as a key factor in the country's development, with the aim of identifying prestigious partners with which to develop cutting-edge solutions and infrastructures. Leonardo can meet this requirement, through state-of-the-art solutions and thanks to its ability to set up complex real-time monitoring and reaction centres, advanced information technology infrastructure and key management services. This will permit customers to prevent, identify and oppose sophisticated and persistent cyber threats, safeguarding the most delicate assets of an organisation: data and information.

Leonardo's experience in supporting the ICT applications, systems and cyber security of Gulf countries dates back to the 90s, when the company collaborated with one of the main Saudi Arabian banks, the Al Rajhi Bank, to assist with the digitisation of the bank's operations, respecting Islamic finance rules. Today, the company also provides air security systems such as the civil and military air traffic management and control system at Doha's Hamad airport as well as telecommunication and security systems for the UAE's national railway network and Riyadh's underground.

IGG is one of the main Emirates companies operating in the defence and security sector. A partner of the UAE's Armed Forces, Ministry of the Interior and other national security authorities, IGG provides advanced solutions and technologies thanks to its capability in systems integration and proven experience in product development.

Leonardo has been providing information assurance and cyber security solutions to private and public organizations for over thirty years, including the defence ministries of Italy and the United Kingdom. The company is the prime contractor for the NATO NCIRC (Computer Incident response Capability), that guarantees Cyber Defence and ICT infrastructure protection for NATO, serving 70,000 NATO users in 29 countries.

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**Leonardo** is among the top ten global players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy's main industrial company. As a single entity from January 2016, organised into seven business divisions (Helicopters; Aircraft; Aero-structures; Airborne & Space Systems; Land & Naval Defence Electronics; Defence Systems; Security & Information Systems), Leonardo operates in the most competitive international markets by leveraging its areas of technology and product leadership. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), at 31 December 2015 Leonardo recorded consolidated revenues of 13 billion Euros and has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the UK and the U.S.