

Leonardo AeroTech Campus established to boost aeronautical development in Southern Italy: a new HUB for technological innovation

- **CEO Profumo: “The challenge for Italy’s future is linked to its technological skills and the growth of the Southern regions”**
- **AeroTech Campus will host researchers, developers and new entrepreneurial teams involved in the development and implementation of technologies**

Rome, 18 February 2019 – The establishment of the AeroTech Campus, the new HUB for the technological innovation of the Leonardo Aerostructures Division, was announced today at the Pomigliano d’Arco plant (Naples). The Italian Prime Minister **Giuseppe Conte**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development, Labour and Social Policies **Luigi Di Maio**, representatives of local institutions and Leonardo’s top management attended the ceremony.

In addition to the inauguration of the AeroTech Campus, the ceremony also marked the start of a transformation programme at Leonardo’s Pomigliano d’Arco facility which is focused on improving production engineering processes. The initiative is representative of the move towards growth in Southern Italy’s aeronautics sector.

The AeroTech Campus will host researchers, developers and new entrepreneurial teams involved in the development of cutting-edge technologies to be implemented in aerostructures, ensuring and consolidating Leonardo’s market leadership in the field. AeroTech Campus will also collaborate with the University Federico II of Naples.

Leonardo CEO **Alessandro Profumo** commented: “The challenge for Italy’s future is linked to its technological skills and the growth of the Southern regions. Leonardo is ready to play a key role in the relaunch of the ‘Country System’ through an investment plan that necessarily collaborates with the institutions. Our goal is to turn the tide and make our production plants centres of excellence in the manufacturing sector. Leonardo is ready to do its part and we ask the local authorities and central administrations to invest in the aerostructures sector with us.”

Leonardo is the world’s sixth largest producer of aerostructures for civil aircraft, a market that will require about 43,000 new airplanes over the next 20 years. Therefore, it will be necessary to arrange new technological production processes in order to sustain the high demand.

Campania is a region of great importance to Leonardo due to its historical industrial presence. Leonardo is the main actor in the Campania aerospace district, with five divisions and the joint venture Telespazio with over 4,500 employees. Leonardo’s activities in Campania guarantee high technology jobs in its Pomigliano d’Arco, Nola, Fusaro, Giugliano, Pozzuoli, Benevento and Naples production plants, and support a supply chain involving an extensive network of small and medium-sized enterprises. Leonardo’s collaborations with universities are part of its open innovation strategy, aimed at developing new technologies, skills, products, services and the general promotion of research, which will additionally benefit other industrial fields.

Leonardo, a global high-technology company, is among the top ten world players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy’s main industrial company. Organized into five business divisions, Leonardo has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the United Kingdom, Poland and the USA, where it also operates through subsidiaries such as Leonardo DRS (defense electronics), and joint ventures and partnerships: ATR, MBDA, Telespazio, Thales Alenia Space and Avio. Leonardo competes in the most important international markets by leveraging its areas of technological and product leadership (Helicopters, Aircraft, Aerostructures, Electronics, Cyber Security and Space). Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), in 2017 Leonardo recorded consolidated restated revenues of €11.7 billion and invested €1.5 billion in Research and Development. The Group has been part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index since 2010.