
PRESS RELEASE

Leonardo UK and Mitsubishi Electric embark on next stage of UK-Japan fighter jet sensor programme

Information advantage: JAGUAR represents the very latest in combat air sensing technology and will provide enhanced radar functions as well as advanced new capabilities that can disrupt and deny adversary surveillance systems

Farnborough, 18/07/2022 – At Farnborough International Airshow, Leonardo UK and Mitsubishi Electric have announced that they have agreed the concept for a radar tech demonstrator called JAGUAR, first unveiled in February. The move by the UK and Japan's respective champions in combat air electronics follows the completion of joint concept work and feasibility studies earlier this year.

The partners have agreed Jaguar workshare and both Leonardo UK and Mitsubishi Electric have signed contracts with their respective national defence ministries in order to progress development work. The project is now proceeding at pace, in line with Leonardo's broader approach to Future Combat Air System (FCAS) partnerships, where close collaboration is supported by agile decision-making and a transformational ethos imported from Silicon Valley.

JAGUAR represents the first big building block of an international radar programme that meets the ambitions laid out by Japan and the UK as part of F-X/FCAS discussions. Technology and learnings generated by JAGUAR work will feed into the development of Tempest's ISANKE & ICS (Integrated Sensing and Non-Kinetic Effects & Integrated Communications System).

ISANKE is a 'spider's web' of capability that sits across an aircraft, unlocking the potential of sixth generation sensors by moving from distinct pieces of equipment to integrated systems, while ICS connects the ISANKE system into the wider FCAS system-of-systems.

The relationship between Leonardo UK and Mitsubishi Electric has been deepening for several years and the partners have been exploring the feasibility of further ISANKE-related sub-systems collaboration throughout 2022.

In December 2021 Japan and the UK signed a Memorandum of Cooperation around fighter technologies. The international partners are now progressing multiple sub-system technology developments and are exploring the scope for collaboration on the core platform, the fighter jet at the heart of the combat air system.

Leonardo, a global high-technology company, is among the top world players in Aerospace, Defense 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 that include 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 Solutions and Space). Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), in 2021 Leonardo recorded consolidated revenues of €14.1 billion and invested €1.8 billion in Research and Development. The company has been part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) since 2010 and has been confirmed among the global sustainability leaders in 2021. Leonardo is also included in the MIB ESG index.

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