

Aéro Montréal unveils the first class of the MACH initiative

MONTREAL, June 8, 2011 – As part of an activity aimed at Québec SMEs invested in the aerospace sector, Ms. Suzanne M. Benoît, CEO of Aéro Montréal, Québec's aerospace cluster, unveiled today the names of the companies which make up the first class of the MACH initiative. The announcement came on the heels of the official operational launch of the MACH initiative, which took place Monday at the Bombardier Aerospace administrative centre in the presence of Mr. Clément Gignac, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade and Mr. Alain Paquet, Minister for Finance.

The privileged relationship between client and supplier is at the core of the MACH initiative. The initiative will work directly with firms within the industry so as to stimulate collaboration and innovation within the supply chain, as well as to improve its performance and competitiveness. "The MACH initiative operates with the understanding that communication and collaboration throughout the supply chain is vital. As such, all participating SMEs will be paired with an OEM client, the end result of which will be a certification label which will offer both increased market visibility and more business opportunities," Ms. Benoît explained. Bombardier Aerospace, which has been an active participant in bringing the initiative to fruition, is also mentoring the initiative.

The MACH initiative also aims to put forward strategies and projects to close the gap in Quebec's ability to further integration capabilities in its supply chain so as to favour the development of a world class supply chain. Within the framework of this initiative,

Bombardier Aerospace is the sponsor of:

- Delastek Aeroindustry;
- DCM Aerospace;
- RTI-Claro

Pratt & Whitney Canada is the sponsor of:

- Mesotec inc.;
- Meloche Group;



- Mitchell Aerospace inc.

CAE is the sponsor of:

- VCI Composites;
- Marquez Transtech;
- Société d'outillage M.R.

Bell Helicopter Textron Canada is the sponsor of:

- Trident Industries;
- Techniprodec;
- Avior

Héroux-Devtek inc. is the sponsor of:

- Precision SF Tech;
- Electro-Kut

L-3 Communications MAS is the sponsor of:

- NSE-Automatech;
- Aviation Lemex

Sonaca Montréal is the sponsor of:

- Apiba

and Mecachrome is the sponsor of:

- TechFab;
- Les Outils Arpex

The MACH framework for excellence

The framework for excellence developed by Aéro Montréal is at the heart of the MACH initiative as a tool that allows suppliers to evaluate and identify performance gaps. As a result, it provides suppliers with the necessary data to determine which course of action is most suited for improving their position within the supply chain. The framework prioritizes three areas of focus for improved competitiveness: excellence in leadership, excellence in operations, and excellence in planning and in developing the workforce. Moreover, the framework establishes a five level maturity scale, ranging from MACH 1 to MACH 5, as an evaluative basis for each of the framework's 15 business processes as well as for awarding the supplier a global performance label.

About Aéro Montréal

Aéro Montréal, Québec's aerospace cluster, is a think tank that brings together all the major decision makers in Québec's aerospace sector, including companies, educational and research institutions, associations and unions.

Aéro Montréal's mission is to mobilize industry players around common goals and focused actions to increase cohesion and optimize competitiveness. By fostering the growth and expansion of Greater Montréal's aerospace cluster, it intends to make this industry an increasingly important source of wealth creation for the Montréal region, Québec and Canada.

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