

THE C 27J JOINT CARGO AIRCRAFT (JCA) TEAM SELECTS FLORIDA AND MISSISSIPPI SITES FOR PRODUCTION AND SUPPORT OF C27J IN THE UNITED STATES

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FARNBOROUGH, England--(BUSINESS WIRE)--July 18, 2006--The C-27J JCA Team has chosen Cecil Field in Jacksonville, Florida as the site for the production and final assembly of the C-27J aircraft for the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force Joint Cargo Aircraft program. In addition, the team will establish the Global Military Air Craft Systems (GMAS) in Mississippi. The GMAS Mississippi location will encompass a Center of Excellence for engineering, worldwide logistics and turn-key support for the C-27J JCA Program and future opportunities.

The C-27J JCA team includes L-3 Communications Integrated Systems (L-3 IS), a subsidiary of L-3 Communications (NYSE: LLL), Alenia North America, Inc. (a Finmeccanica company), Boeing Integrated Defense Systems (NYSE: BA), and GMAS.

Bob Drewes, President and Chief Operating Officer of L-3 Communications Integrated Systems, prime contractor for the Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA) program said, "Mississippi and Florida are ideal locations to establish the C-27J footprint in the United States. We will add employees in Mississippi through our company Vertex, in Madison, and we will establish a GMAS Center of Excellence in Mississippi. We have recently acquired Crestview Aerospace in FL and look forward to leveraging their experience in conjunction with the C-27J final assembly site at Cecil Field. Both Florida and Mississippi locations will encompass the excellent processes and performance excellence deployed by L-3 and our partners -- Alenia and Boeing -- in our C-27J offering and long-term program support."

"Cecil Field is an ideal location for final assembly of the C-27J," said Ron Marcotte, Vice President and General Manager for Boeing Global Mobility Systems. "The site has everything required in terms of infrastructure--excellent road, rail, port and airport networks and facilities. We also have access to a highly-trained workforce already in the Jacksonville area as we further strengthen Boeing's presence in the region."

"We are very pleased with the reception we have received from the state of Florida and for the assistance and support we have received from the local officials in Jacksonville and especially from Governor Bush. We look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with the state and city of Jacksonville" said Giuseppe Giordo, president and chief executive officer of Alenia North America, Inc. "We could not have chosen a better place to make this important investment. We also look forward to establishing a presence in Mississippi through GMAS and through subcontracts for systems and components for the manufacturing of the C-27J."

The C-27J Spartan is the latest in a successful tradition of military airlifters including the C-27A Spartan and the G-222, which have been deployed by the United States, NATO, Coalition Forces, the United Nations, and Italy in support of military and humanitarian operations in Albania, Armenia, Bosnia,

Cambodia, Congo, Operations Desert Shield and Storm, East Timor, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Honduras, Kosovo, Libya, Mali, Panama, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda, and Yemen. C-27A Spartans are currently carrying out vital counter-drug activities for the United States in Central and South America. The C-27J has proven capable of performing logistical re-supply, MEDEVAC, troop movement, airdrop operations, humanitarian assistance and missions in support of Homeland Security.

The JCA is a fixed wing airlift platform that will perform airlift missions in support of the Joint Forces Commander. The JCA program is essential to the U.S. Army's ability to provide on-demand transport of time-sensitive/mission critical cargo and key personnel to forward deployed Army units. The C-27J JCA Team has proposed the C-27J multi-mission cargo aircraft as the solution to fill current capability gap in joint aerial delivery based on its ability to transport critical cargo and personnel, self-deploy over strategic distances, land in austere locations, operate autonomously, and provide routine and combat aerial sustainment to the joint force.

About Alenia North America

Alenia North America's mission is to further expand the industrial and commercial presence of the Alenia Group in North America and it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alenia Aeronautica. Alenia North America Inc. is headquartered in Washington, D.C. with offices in Seattle, Washington; Long Beach, California; and Fort Worth, Texas. Alenia North America - Canada, a subsidiary wholly owned by Alenia North America, has offices in Ottawa, Canada. Alenia North America is also a shareholder in Global Aeronautica, a joint venture with Vought Aircraft Company, located in North Charleston, South Carolina, which performs significant integration and sub assembly work for the Boeing 787 program.

Alenia Aeronautica, headquartered in Rome, Italy is a company of the Finmeccanica Group. Alenia Aeronautica has revenues in excess of 2.046 billion Euros and a total work force of more 10,500 employees. Its main activities comprise design and production of commercial and military aircraft, design and production of aerostructures for military and civil aircraft and through Aeronavali, a wholly owned subsidiary, the overall maintenance and modification of military and civil aircraft. Alenia Aeronautica is a partner of and cooperates with the major global aerospace groups, including Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Airbus, EADS, Dassault, BAE Systems and Vought.

About L-3 Communications

L-3 IS is recognized internationally as a system integration organization specializing in the modernization and maintenance of aircraft of all sizes, and the study, design, development, and integration of special mission systems for military and commercial applications. The company has modified more than 15,000 different aircraft of more than 125 types. Headquartered in Greenville, Texas, L-3 IS operates from multiple sites in Texas, Mississippi, Kentucky, Oklahoma, Virginia, Maryland, Alabama and Australia.

Headquartered in New York City, L-3 Communications is a leading provider of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) systems, secure communications systems, aircraft modernization, training and government services. The company is a leading merchant supplier of a broad array of high technology products, including guidance and navigation, sensors, scanners, fuzes, data links, propulsion systems, simulators, avionics, electro optics, satellite communications, electrical power equipment, encryption, signal intelligence, antennas and microwave components. L-3 also supports a variety of Homeland Security initiatives with products and services. Its customers include the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, selected U.S. Government intelligence agencies and aerospace prime contractors.

To learn more about L-3 Communications, please visit the company's Web site at www.L-3Com.com.

About Boeing Integrated Defense Systems

A unit of The Boeing Company, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is one of the world's largest space and defense businesses. Headquartered in St. Louis, Boeing Integrated Defense Systems is a \$30.8 billion business. It provides network-centric system solutions to its global military, government and commercial customers. It is a leading provider of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems; the world's largest military aircraft manufacturer; the world's largest satellite manufacturer; a foremost developer of advanced concepts and technologies; a leading provider of space-based communications; the primary systems integrator for U.S. missile defense; NASA's largest contractor; and a global leader in sustainment solutions and launch services.

About Global Military Aircraft Systems

Global Military Aircrafts Systems (GMAS) is a joint venture between L-3 Communications Integrated Systems (L-3 IS), a division of L-3 Communications, and Alenia Aeronautica (a Finmeccanica company), through its Alenia North America Inc. subsidiary. GMAS aims to provide the U.S. Army and U.S Air Force with a solution for its Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA) operational and support requirements, and to pursue the opportunities with the Department of Defense (DoD) and internationally, through the production and the outfit of the C-27J tactical transport aircraft.