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The Italian Air Force's C-27J Spartans reach 10,000 flight hours

The Italian Air Force's C-27J Spartans, in service at Pisa's 46th Air Wing, reached the milestone of 10,000 flight hours in July.

The C-27J tactical transport aircraft is the Italian Air Force's most recently acquired transport aircraft, capable of carrying both troops and equipment, for national and international operations.

The 12 new aircraft, part of the Italian Air Force's fleet, were designed and manufactured by Alenia Aeronautica (a Finmeccanica company.) They were delivered to the 46th Air Wing between 2007 and 2009 and have shown a high operational efficiency, providing the Air Force the ability to carry out numerous missions.

The Italian Air Force's C-27Js have been used since 2008 in operations by the Italian military staff in Afghanistan, where they have shown high reliability and flexibility, successfully accomplishing their missions in a demanding environment.

Alenia Aeronautica guarantees the logistic support to the entire C-27J fleet in service with the Italian Air Force and has also installed a Full-Motion-type Flight Simulator at the Crews Training Centre of Pisa Air Force Base. The Full-Motion Simulator, made by Alenia Aeronautica, has already been tested by the AMI pilots who operate the C-27J with positive results. The Simulator will soon be officially delivered to the Armed Force; they will be the first in Europe to be able to use a system of this kind.

Alenia Aeronautica, a Finmeccanica Company, is the largest Italian aeronautic player which operates world-wide in the design, development, modification, maintenance, overhaul and production of commercial and military aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles and aerostructures. Alenia Aeronautica also coordinates the activities of Alenia Aermacchi - wholly owned company – leader in the military trainer aircraft; and, through its joint ventures ATR, Superjet International and SCAC, Alenia Aeronautica is the world leader in the regional turboprop market and a top player in the regional jet sector. Over 2009 Alenia Aeronautica reported revenues of € 2.6 billions, orders for € 3.7 billions and a backlog for € 8.85 billions. Alenia Aeronautica, with its owned companies and subsidiaries, counts a total workforce of 13,000 people.



The C-27J flies over Pisa, Italy.