



THALES REACHES MAJOR MILESTONE IN FIRST FLIGHT READINESS FOR CP140 AURORA

Farnborough International Air Show – July 17, 2006 : Thales has reached a major milestone with the First Flight Readiness Review for the delivery of a new Communications Management System (CMS) for the Canadian Forces' CP140 Aurora Long Range Patrol Aircraft.

The \$110M CMS contract awarded to Thales Canada, involves the design, manufacturing, integration, test, qualification, installation, certification, and delivery of the new CMS for the Aurora fleet and the ground support facilities at CFB Greenwood, Nova Scotia. The work includes modification and/or replacement of various types of radios and antennas, a new intercom system, interfaces to the navigation and flight instruments, software control of the radios, a new direction finder, and a new directional command-activated sonobuoy system transmitter.

Completion of the First Flight Readiness Review provides clearance for the flight-testing of the prototype aircraft for acceptance by DND, and then delivery of the proof-of-fit aircraft, followed by delivery of the remaining 16 aircraft.

Thales Canada's systems business is the Prime Contractor and has overall turnkey responsibility for the project. These responsibilities have included the overall design, subsystems acquisition and subcontractor management, building a "hot-bench" to proof the design in Ottawa, and leadership throughout the test program. Major partners include: the IMP Group (Halifax, Nova Scotia) which carries out the installations; Palomar Products of California which has provided the intercom system, Rockwell Collins and Raytheon for radios and their associated expertise, and, CMC Electronics of Kanata for developing the software to control the radios.

This complex systems integration effort will result in a state-of-the-art communications capability for the CP140. For Thales Canada, Systems Division, delivery of this program builds upon numerous previously completed communications system integration programs, and builds the foundation for future.

About Thales

Thales is a leading international electronics and systems group, serving defence, aerospace and security markets worldwide, supported by a comprehensive services offering. The company's civil and military businesses develop in parallel to serve a single objective: the security of people, property and nations. With more than 20,000 high-level researchers, Thales offers a capability unmatched in Europe to develop and deploy critical information systems. Thales employs 60,000 people in 50 countries and generated revenues of €10.3 billion in 2005. At the end of 2005, its order book stood at a record level of over €20 billion. In Canada, Thales has four divisions located in the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario.

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