



THE CANADIAN CP140 AURORA COMPLETES FIRST FLIGHT WITH NEW THALES CMS

Ottawa - September 21, 2006: Thales has reached a major milestone with the Department of National Defence of Canada (DND) following successful test flight of the CP140 Aurora Long Range Patrol Aircraft equipped with the new Thales Communications Management System (CMS). The CMS project is one of the key components of the Aurora Incremental Modernization Project.

Thales plays a key role in providing the CP140 with a significantly improved capability to conduct intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance operations. Keith Tucker, CMS Project Manager for Thales Canada, said: "This is the most complex modification Canada has ever undertaken on this aircraft. To obtain authorisation and to accomplish this first flight is a compliment to DND, our subcontractors and to my team at Thales."

The five-hour-long first flight consisted of numerous engine and flight control tests as well as the extensive use of CMS intercommunication and radio sub-systems essential for safe aircraft operation. The test crew reported: "The new internal communication system (ICS) audio quality of the new system is a significant improvement over the legacy ICS system".

The flight is the first in a series leading to the completion of the prototype aircraft and its acceptance by DND. Next is the delivery of the proof-of-fit aircraft, which will allow production approval and delivery of the remaining 16 aircraft.

Thales Canada is the Prime Contractor and has overall, turnkey responsibility for the project. Thales is in charge of the whole system integration, from design to certification, and delivery of the new CMS to the Aurora fleet and the ground support facilities at CFB Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

The major partners under the prime contractorship include: The IMP Group (Halifax, Nova Scotia) carrying 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 system integration effort will result in a state-of-the-art communications capability for the CP140.

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About Thales Canada

Part of the worldwide Thales group, Thales Canada serves the defence and aerospace market and offers innovative products that improve Canadians' safety and security:

- command, control, and communications;
- electro optic products;
- homeland security systems;
- avionics and flight control systems.

Thales Canada, with more than 300 employees in Ottawa, Kingston, Montreal, Quebec and Halifax generated revenues of \$170 M in 2005.

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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