



THALES CANADA OPENS NEW OFFICES IN OTTAWA

Ottawa - September 12, 2006: Thales Canada is inaugurating today its new offices in Ottawa and also celebrating the 25th anniversary in Canada. Thales Canada was first established in 1981 (then Thomson-CSF) as an operational multi-system unit for Thales in Canada, representing one of the first multi-domestic, multi-domain country organizations of Thales.

Alex Dorrian, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of Thales, attended the event during which the Honourable John Baird, Minister of the Treasury Board of the Canadian Government, formally cut the red ribbon. The Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Health Promotion of the Government of Ontario was also present. Alex Dorrian declared he was pleased of the latest developments at Thales in Canada. 'I am proud of the efforts that our people have invested in developing new Thales Canadian technology to answer Canadian and international needs', declared Alex Dorrian.

Marcel de Picciotto, President and Chief Executive Officer of Thales Canada, noted: 'Thales has been expanding in Canada on a project-by-project basis and Thales Canada is rooted very strongly both in the country and within the Thales Group as a whole. That's a great strength for us. Building on this success, Thales Canada is now poised for substantial growth, on both the defence and civil sides'.

Dave Spagnolo, Senior Vice President of Thales Canada, Systems Division, plans for the future with great enthusiasm. 'Since 2001, we have doubled in employees and tripled in revenues, here in Ottawa. We see the emphasis of the Canadian Forces on transformation, force projection and especially protection, and joint operations, and we feel that we are well placed to help in those areas and grow further'.

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.

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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

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