



PRESS RELEASE

AEROPOLIS, EUROPEAN SPACE BUSINESS EPICENTER

- **More than 200 professionals from companies and organizations of the space sector participated at the meeting 'Space: An Asset to Humanity' held at the Andalusian Aerospace Technology Park, Aerópolis.**
- **This event was focused on the role of the international and Andalusian industry and on the space sector as well as on scientific and research progresses that Andalusian institutions and universities have developed in the field of space.**

Seville, 12 November 2013.- More than 200 professionals from companies and organizations of the space sector participated in Aerópolis at the meeting 'Space: An Asset to Humanity', taken place during two days and focused on the role of the international and Andalusian industry and on the space sector as well as on scientific and research progresses that Andalusian institutions and universities have developed in the field of space.

The forum organized by the Andalusian Ministry of Economy, Innovation, Science and Employment, through the Trade Promotion Agency of Andalusia (Extenda) and the Agency for Innovation and Development of Andalusia (IDEA), in collaboration with EADS, showed the international business opportunities to the Andalusian aeronautical companies in the area. Andalusia has a highly developed aviation industry which is also committed to space, area in which it already has great research tradition. The Andalusian community excels at producing space technologies associated with earth observation and satellite navigation.

Andalusia is currently the second Spanish aeronautical community in turnover (1,858 million euros) and employment (11,300 direct and 25,000 induced jobs).

The region has 45 research groups that deal with projects related to this sector, located primarily in Andalusian public agencies and universities, and 6 research centres working in this area that have developed an incipient industry of design, manufacture and maintenance of metal, hydraulic and electronic parts, including the Astrophysical Institute of Andalusia and the National Accelerator Centre.

In addition to this research activity, there are 35 companies operating in this field with a turnover of 18.5 million euros in 2012; a growing business network involving over 120 companies within the auxiliary industry.

According to Joaquín Rodríguez, Aerópolis' manager, this event "has been a forum generating business opportunities among the Andalusian space companies but also



among the Spanish and European companies developing their activity in the EU". This way, the meeting had the participation of prime international, national and Andalusian aerospace firms as well as a selection of top scientists. The meeting, which reinforced the international image of the Andalusian aerospace cluster and its research and industrial capabilities, was organized through 'Invest in Andalucía' (Extenda and IDEA Agency), with financial backing from the European Regional Development Fund through the FEDER Operational Programme for Andalusia 2007-2013.

Some facts about Aerópolis

- The Andalusian Aerospace Technology Park, Aerópolis, encompasses 37% of the turnover and 35% of the jobs within the sector (updated in 2012).
 - o Turnover in 2012: amounted to 689 M € 5.88% more than the previous year, continuing a steady growth since its opening in 2003.
 - o Employment in 2012: the number of jobs increased by 16.25% in the last year and reached 3,992 jobs.

- One in three employees within the Andalusian aerospace sector works in Aerópolis and nearly one hundred percent of the researchers.

- 39% of the employees have highly skilled profiles (university graduates, PhDs and workers committed to R&D). In 2012 the profile of employees committed to R&D grew by 63%.

- Productivity in Aerópolis is 4.99% higher compared to the Andalusian aerospace sector (173,000 euros / employee vs. 165,000 euros / employee).

- In the last year a total of 14 new companies set up in Aerópolis, with an increase of 26% compared to 2011.

- Park's companies and organizations received in 2012 a total of 165 million euros in public financial aids to support 55 R&D projects currently in progress.

- In 2012, investments in R&D in Aerópolis by the side of its companies and organizations amounted to 72 million euros.

- The OEM Airbus Military and two tier one suppliers (Alestis and Aernnova) operate in Aerópolis as well as over 65 service companies and much more from competitive subsectors within the aeronautical industry.

- Companies located on the site of Aerópolis work for the world's prime aerospace programmes, not only from Airbus and Airbus Military (A400M, A380, A350, A330MRTT, A320), but also from other top global manufacturers such as Embraer, Eurofighter, Boeing, Bombardier, Sikorsky and Agusta Westland, among others.



- There is no precedent for scientific and technological parks in Europe exclusively devoted to aerospace business and research.
- It has a strategic and well connected location. A few minutes from San Pablo, Seville's International Airport and from the Final Assembly Line (FAL) for the A400M.
- Public investment in Aerópolis exceeds 111.7 M €
 - o 111.7 M € for infrastructures coming from Innplanta, agreements between National Ministries and the regional Government aimed to these projects: CATEC, Business Centre, Aeronautic Suppliers Village, Engineering and Aerospace Innovation Centre and Flight Simulator and Training Centre.
 - o 1.7 M € incentives supported by the Agency Idea.
- The Park hosts advanced infrastructure, some of them unique in Spain:
 - o The Centre for Advanced Aerospace Technologies CATEC. Inaugurated in 2011. It has 3,000 m² for laboratories and workshops and about 1,500 m² for office space. It offers a broad portfolio of projects, services and material and human resources. About 40 R&D projects presented by both public research organizations and private enterprises.
 - o Flight Simulator and Pilot Training Centre for strategic military applications. In its facilities more than 1,000 students per year from around the world are formed. The management of the centre is of Airbus Military, while IDEA Agency and CATEC participate in the development of programs.
 - o Aeronautic Suppliers Village, which offers a wide range of possibilities to set up (offices, shopfloors and warehouses) aimed at innovative suppliers and national and international companies involved in the A400M assembly process or willing to be beside their potential customers and partners in the aerospace sector. Inaugurated in 2012.
 - o SEILAF, European Flight Simulation and Training Centre related to Forest Fire Fighting, which will be a pioneering initiative (the only one known) to provide important apps for forest fighting and the simulation of fire behaviour.

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