



ORGANIZATION

# SAFRAN ELECTRONICS CONSOLIDATES FORCES

A year after being created, Safran Electronics is moving to newly renovated premises, where it will deploy the human and material resources needed to meet emerging customer requirements.



**C**reated in early 2009, the Safran Electronics division allows the Group to consolidate all of its capabilities in onboard electronics and safety-critical software. The division is headed by Jean-Michel Hillion, and has operations in the United States, Canada and Singapore, in addition to its main plant in the Paris suburb of Massy, with three buildings housing over 600 employees: Massy Atlantis for the development and R&T teams, Massy Carnot for the assem-

bly and final testing of electronic control units (ECU), and Massy Ampère for maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) in the Europe zone.

**FOSTERING SYNERGIES**

Safran Electronics provides Group companies with the electronic control units, printed circuit boards and software needed for their systems and equipment. It is primarily organized around two operational departments (Customer programs, R&T programs), and four

**600** employees are now grouped at a single Safran Electronics site in Massy, near Paris.

centers of excellence: product development, software development, production and MRO. By consolidating areas that had previously been divided between different Group companies, this organization enables Safran Electronics to expand its knowledge base, while also facilitating sharing of expertise between teams. The Massy plant will complete most of the 104 development projects already under way at the division, along with all electronic control unit integration and testing.

“Bringing together these broad areas of expertise within a single plant will help develop technological emulation,” notes René Alliot, director of the Production center of excellence. “It will also enable Safran Electronics to meet two main objectives, namely to consolidate our strengths in electronics R&D, production and repair; and to become the center of excellence in electronic control units for the entire Safran group.”

**GEARING UP FOR THE FUTURE**

Safran Electronics’ definitive move to the Massy site marks a major milestone for the Group’s expanded capabilities in this field. As division head Jean-Michel Hillion said when it was created, “Aviation is undergoing a real transformation, as hydraulic systems gradually give way to electrical systems, controlled by power electronics and software.”

By grouping its forces, Safran Electronics will be able to give its customers comprehensive solutions, whether calling on Group companies or outside partners. Safran has all the cards in hand needed to address upcoming developments in both aerospace and defense. ■

→ **RENÉ ALLIOT**



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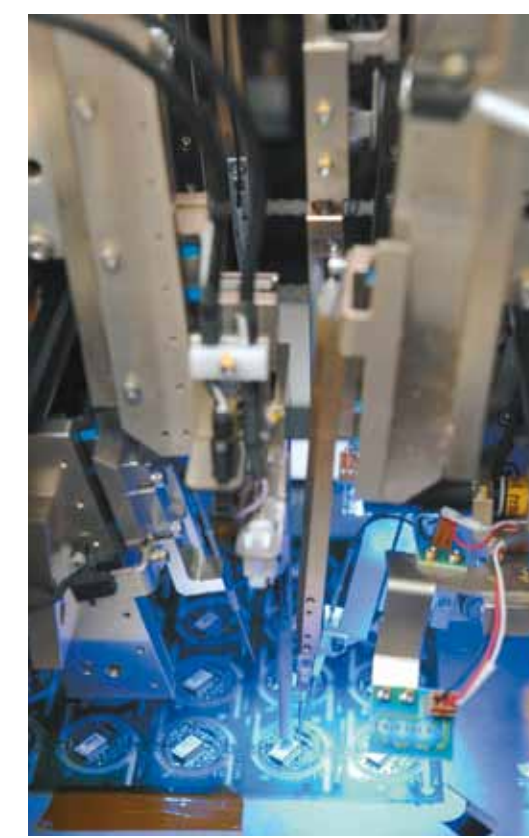
Safran Electronics, director of the Production center of excellence

distance between plants was a real handicap for communications, so this consolidation has greatly facilitated contacts between our teams and management. Our center of excellence covers the production of electronic control units for civil aircraft, as well as the fabrication of printed circuit boards for all Group companies. We have also achieved efficient management of the entire supply chain, from purchasing to fabrication to logistics.

**What was the major challenge for your center of excellence in 2009?**  
We had to consolidate teams from six different group facilities at Hispano-Suiza, Messier-Bugatti and Sagem, and bring together the different disciplines involved. We set up a matrix organization, which is more efficient than the traditional vertical model, enabling teams to work together concurrently. We now have a total of 600 people working here.

**What are the advantages of this consolidation?**  
Before, the physical

Right, a flying-probe tester (with moving test heads) that checks the operation of printed circuit boards at the Sagem Industries (Safran group) plant.



**Partnership with SIAEC**

At the 2009 Paris Air Show, Safran and SIA Engineering Company Ltd. (SIAEC), a subsidiary of Singapore Airlines, announced the merger of their electronics repair activities within the joint venture Safran Electronics Asia Pte Ltd., to provide repair and other support services for avionics. “By pooling our repair resources, we can reduce costs and improve efficiency and quality, while also accelerating our development,” says Franck Scherer, head of the MRO business and chief operating officer of the joint venture. “This enables us to provide support services for all electronic products made by the Group, as well as electronic control units by many other manufacturers, not just for Singapore Airlines, but also for other customers in the Asia-Pacific.”