Snecma and HAL to create a joint venture and build a new production facility in India

Aero India, Bangalore (India) – February 18, 2015.

Snecma (Safran), a leading manufacturer of aircraft engines, and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), a leading aerospace manufacturer, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on January 28, 2015 in Bangalore to explore establishing a joint venture in India for the production of aero-engine parts. The MoU was signed by Mr. Bruno Durand, Vice President for Industrial Operations & Supply Chain of Snecma and Mr. Arunachalam Muthukumaraswami, General Manager of the Engine Division of HAL.

The proposed joint venture will initially focus on the manufacture of high-tech parts for the Dassault Rafale’s Snecma M88 engine, then subsequently contribute to other major aerospace projects of HAL & Snecma, in India and worldwide. Spanning over 30,000 square meters, the proposed joint venture’s new plant is expected to benefit from substantial investment by the two partners, providing it with state-of-the-art machinery and equipment.

This agreement marks a major step forward in the long-standing collaboration between Snecma and HAL. The proposed joint venture will further broaden the scope of the excellent relations established over the past 60 years between Safran affiliates and the Indian aerospace industry*. For example, Snecma manufactures the M53 engines powering the Mirage 2000H "Vajra" fighters operated by the Indian Air Force.

"This new partnership clearly reflects the close relationship established over many years between Snecma, our parent Safran and the Indian aerospace industry,"
said Pierre Fabre, Chairman and CEO of Snecma. “We are strongly committed to contributing to the ‘Make in India’ policy, based on ambitious partnerships and extensive direct investments. This new venture is further proof that we are actively strengthening our existing ties with HAL.”

* Safran has been operating in India for over 60 years. The Group employs more than 2,600 highly skilled employees in the country with an average annual workforce growth of 30 per cent in the last decade. Safran operates in India across its 3 core businesses: delivering effective expertise to the country’s growing aerospace industry, along with leading edge navigation and optronics equipment for the defense sector, and biometrics solution for the security market. Over the decades of association, Safran’s activities have evolved to include strong local partnerships with Indian military aviation industry based on joint developments, production and support licenses for airplane, helicopter and rocket engines, landing gear, navigation systems, as well as the associated support services.

Snecma is part of Safran, an international high-technology group with three core businesses: aerospace, defence and security. Snecma designs, builds and sells propulsion systems for air and space, including a wide range of commercial engines that are powerful, reliable, economical and environmentally-friendly, led by the global best-seller CFM56 and the new-generation LEAP*. The company also makes world-class military aircraft engines, as well as rocket propulsion systems and equipment for satellites and launch vehicles. Snecma is a leading provider of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services for civil and military aircraft engines, under the new EngineLife® brand, offering comprehensive support for customers around the world.

For more information, see : www.snecma.com and follow @Snecma on Twitter.

About HAL

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is a premier aeronautical complex of South East Asia. HAL’s expertise encompasses design, production, repair, overhaul and upgrade of Aircraft, Helicopters, Aero-engines, Accessories, Avionics and Systems. HAL today provides one stop solution for all the design needs of aircraft & helicopters in airframes, airframe systems, avionics, mission & combat systems using advanced design tools. HAL has also diversified into manufacture and repair/overhaul of Industrial & Marine Gas Turbine engines and manufacture of structures for aerospace vehicles.