Snecma (Safran) and Max Aerospace create joint venture in India for military aircraft engine maintenance

Delhi, October 28, 2014

Snecma (Safran) and Max Aerospace signed an agreement on October 21, 2014 in Delhi, India to create a joint venture called Max Aero Engines Private Limited (MAEPL), which will offer military aircraft engine maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services in India.

MAEPL will provide complete engine support solutions, in particular shop-level maintenance and flight line services. More specifically, its main role will be providing maintenance services for the Snecma M53 engines powering the Mirage 2000H "Vajra" fighters, on behalf of the Indian Air Force (IAF), starting in 2015.

"For both Snecma and Safran, this joint venture is an excellent opportunity to further cement bonds with India and provide even better service to our Indian customers. By calling on both Max Aerospace's long experience in aircraft maintenance, and Snecma's expertise as manufacturer of the M53 engine, MAEPL will deliver world-class local support services to the Indian Air Force." said Didier Desnoyer, Executive Vice President, Military Engines at Snecma.

"The creation of this JV between Max Aerospace and Snecma, one of the world's leading engine OEM is a momentous occasion for Indian Aviation. We are confident that the formation of this JV company will go a long way in supporting the Indian Forces by ensuring a high level of availability of aero engines in India, starting with the M53 engine on the
Mirage 2000. This partnership is in line with the vision of our Honorable Prime Minister “Come to India, Make in India” said Bharat Malkani, Chairman and Managing Director Max Aerospace and Aviation Private Limited.

The creation of MAEPL reflects Safran’s long-standing presence in India, including support for Indian Air Force operations for over 60 years, starting with engines for the Indian version of the Ouragan, the Toofani, and the Dassault Aviation Mystère IVa, along with the Sepecat/HAL Jaguar I Shamsher.

Safran has been operating in India for over 60 years. With more than 2,600 highly skilled employees in the country and business growth of 30% in the last decade, India is home to Safran’s largest presence in Asia. 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 (including the Shakti engine for the Dhruv Helicopter) and rocket engines, landing gear, navigation systems, as well as the associated support services.

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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 Safran
Safran is a leading international high-technology group with three core businesses: Aerospace (propulsion and equipment), Defence and Security. Operating worldwide, the Group has 66,300 employees and generated sales of 14.7 billion euros in 2013*. Working alone or in partnership, Safran holds world or European leadership positions in its core markets. The Group invests heavily in Research & Development to meet the requirements of changing markets, including expenditures of 1.8 billion Euros in 2013. Safran is listed on Euronext Paris and is part of the CAC40 index.

* Sales in 2013 restated for the impacts of IFRS11 amounted to 14.4 billion euros.

About Snecma
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*CFM56 and LEAP engines are products of CFM International (CFM), a 50/50 joint company between Snecma (Safran) and GE.

About Max Aerospace

Max AeroSpace & Aviation Pvt. Ltd. is an aviation and aerospace engineering organization focused on providing services in the defense and civil customers. The company is headquartered in Mumbai, India and is approved by military and civil regulatory/statutory authorities as well as a number of international OEMs. The company has embarked on an expansion plan with a view to increase its production capacities by the development of Hanger and Aerospace Engineering facilities at MIHAN - SEZ, Nagpur International Airport. The two companies will combine their expertise to improve the support of aero engines in India.