SAFRAN
IN THE UNITED KINGDOM
SAFRAN IS AN INTERNATIONAL HIGH-TECHNOLOGY GROUP, operating in the aviation (propulsion, equipment and interiors), defense and space markets. Its core purpose is to contribute to a safer, more sustainable world, where air transport is more environmentally friendly, comfortable and accessible. Safran has a global presence, with 76,000 employees and sales of 16.5 billion euros in 2020 and holds, alone or in partnership, world or regional leadership positions in its core markets. Safran undertakes research and development programs to maintain the environmental priorities of its R&T and Innovation roadmap.

With a presence in the United Kingdom (UK) dating back 90 years, Safran is the partner of choice for customers in the aerospace and defence markets. Safran provides solutions for top-tier customers in the United Kingdom and worldwide, including government agencies and leading prime contractors.

OPERATING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR 90 YEARS

* The 50/50 company between Safran Transmission Systems and Rolls-Royce.
** The 50/50 company between Safran Ceramics and MBDA.
A LEADING AEROSPACE MANUFACTURER

A WORLD-LEADING SUPPLIER OF LANDING GEAR

Throughout its long history, Safran Landing Systems’ Gloucester facility has designed and produced a wide range of landing gears for commercial aircraft such as the Airbus A320/321, A330/340 and A350. The facility has also provided a broad range of landing gears fitted to most of the UK military aircraft, such as the Eurofighter Typhoon.

Gloucester is also home to Safran’s landing gear maintenance, repair and overhaul facility, which provides services to a customer base spanning Europe, Africa, Middle East and Russia, on civil and military aircraft.

10,000+
LANDING GEARS
MANUFACTURED IN GLOUCESTER FOR AIRBUS AIRCRAFT

500
LANDING GEARS
REPAIRED EACH YEAR IN GLOUCESTER

A 90-YEAR INDUSTRIAL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

1935
Opening of an aircraft and automotive hose manufacturing plant marking the beginning of Safran’s presence in the UK.

1935
Opening of a landing gear manufacturing plant in Gloucester.

1940s
Beginning of nacelle manufacturing activities in Burnley.

2000
Establishing a new factory in Cwmbran for the production of aircraft seats.

2003
Safran develops its engineering service activity in the UK.

2008
Safran establishes a European maintenance hub for helicopter engines in the UK.

2012
Safran opens a facility specialised in the design and production of electrical systems for aircraft.
Safran signed an agreement in 2014 with Rolls-Royce to create Aero Gearbox International, a 50/50 joint venture tasked with developing and producing accessory drive train transmissions for aircraft engines. Based on a 25-year, renewable partnership, Aero Gearbox International is the exclusive supplier of these systems for all future commercial aircraft engines produced by Rolls-Royce. The Derby-based engineering office, located close to Rolls-Royce teams, is involved in the design and development of power transmission systems.

A LONG-ESTABLISHED MANUFACTURER OF NACELLE SYSTEMS

Safran Nacelles in Burnley specialises in the manufacturing of nacelles and thrust reversers for a wide range of aircraft. The Burnley facility has three areas of expertise: assembly, world class composites and sheet metal. In recent years, there has been an increasing diversity to the programmes that the site is responsible for, with components for nacelle systems for the Airbus A320neo, A330neo, COMAC C919, Bombardier CL350, Gulfstream G280, Embraer Legacy 450, Cessna Longitude and Gulfstream G700 all being manufactured in Burnley.

TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS: A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH ROLLS-ROYCE

Safran Electrical & Power in Pitstone designs and produces electrical systems for commercial, regional and business jets, helicopters, and for the defence sector. In Slough, teams design and manufacture electrical interconnect components and fluid transfer assemblies. Both facilities are spearheading Safran’s strategic contribution to the development of a ‘more electric’ aircraft, with reduced carbon emissions.

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A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF AIRCRAFT SEATS

For over 80 years, Safran Seats in the UK has designed, produced, certified and integrated innovative and customisable aircraft seats for customers around the world.

Safran’s seat activities in the United Kingdom are located in Cwmbran (engineering, design office, test centre, production, assembly and support services) and Brackley (engineering, design office, test centre).

A LEADING MANUFACTURER OF AIRCRAFT SEATS

ENGINEERING SERVICES

Located in Gloucester, Safran Engineering Services provides recognised expertise in engineering areas to support not only Safran companies but also other companies within the aerospace, energy and ground transport industries.

We focus on mechanical and electrical design, production and systems engineering support, software development and are also developing future business models with integrated services.

A GROWING ROLE IN THE HELICOPTER MARKET

Safran Helicopter Engines in Fareham is the European maintenance hub for both civil and military gas turbine engines supporting over 1,000 engines for more than 150 customers.

Safran’s largest UK customer for its helicopter engines is the Ministry of Defence, although the number of customers in the civil sector is growing steady.

A MAJOR MRO CENTRE FOR AEROSYSTEMS

Located in Braintree, Safran Aerosystems’ facility has consolidated its place as a major MRO centre for an extended range of products: evacuation slides, water and waste management systems, oxygen systems...

The site has over 80 employees and its customer portfolio includes all major operators in the UK, as well as airlines across Europe and Middle-East.
Safran works closely with the UK Government, local trade associations, universities, institutions and industry partners across the UK. Safran is a key strategic member of the public-private Aerospace Growth Partnership (AGP) and an integral part of the UK Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI), as we develop next generation technologies to meet the challenges of tomorrow’s aviation industry.

Safran is also a corporate member of the UK Aerospace, Defence and Security trade organisation (ADS), the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Confederation of Business Industries the CBI.

The Group is a signatory to the Women in Aviation and Aerospace Charter (WiAA) and continues to be a key UK partner in our core businesses.

Building on shared strategic objectives, Paris and London formed an extensive and structural defence relationship, bolstered by the so-called Lancaster House treaty, signed in 2010 concerning collaboration on defence and security. Given the Brexit situation, the challenge now is to develop a structural bilateral collaboration between France and the United Kingdom.

Safran Helicopter Engines provides in-service support for RTM322 engines in the Merlin EH-101 helicopter fleet of the Royal Navy as well as the Apache MK1 fleet of the British Army. Safran Helicopter Engines also supports the UK Military Flying Training System’s H135 and H145 fleet powered by Arrius 2B2 and Arriel 2E engines.