



PRESS RELEASE

2nd July 2014

MBDA Inaugurates French Complex Munitions Demilitarisation Facility

On 2nd July 2014, Antoine Bouvier, MBDA's Chief Executive Officer, in the presence of civil and military authorities, inaugurated France's complex munitions demilitarisation facility at MBDA's Bourges Subdray site in the Centre region of France.

Having set up this facility in only two years, MBDA is in line with the schedule aimed at allowing France to fulfill the commitment it made in signing the Oslo Convention in July 2009. The Convention prohibits the use and stockpile of cluster bombs and calls for all signatories to have destroyed their stock of such military hardware by 2018.

Notified in November 2011 by the NATO Support Agency (NSPA, ex-NAMSA), NATO's Integrated Logistics and Services Provider Agency, on behalf of the French Ministry of Defence, the contract awarded to MBDA covers the destruction of 36,000 complex munitions and the establishment of a French industrial capability for munitions demilitarisation.

The new facility represents an investment of around 12 million euros and the creation of 20 new, direct jobs in the Centre region of France. It also represents MBDA's response to the French Government's desire to set up an end of life munitions dismantling capability on home territory in order to guarantee the confidentiality of its products, the safety standards associated with pyrotechnic operations and the protection of the environment.

It also represents an opportunity for MBDA to extend its portfolio of activities, allowing the company to be in a position to offer its client base the full life cycle management of its products from design through to destruction.

During the inauguration, Antoine Bouvier stated : "As the European leader in missile systems, MBDA is committed to establishing firm and long lasting partnerships with its domestic and export customers. These customers now expect not only a guarantee of security of supply and support for their products but more and more they are beginning to recognize the need to assure the safe treatment of their complex weapons at the end of their service life. Thanks to this new industrial installation in Bourges Subdray, we are displaying our willingness to further reinforce the partnering relationship we undertake with our military customers".

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Notes to editor

With a significant presence in five European countries and within the USA, in 2013 MBDA achieved a turnover of 2.8 billion euros with an order book of 10.8 billion euros. With more than 90 armed forces customers in the world, MBDA is a world leader in missiles and missile systems.

MBDA is the only group capable of designing and producing missiles and missile systems that correspond to the full range of current and future operational needs of the three armed forces (land, sea and air). In total, the group offers a range of 45 missile systems and countermeasures products already in operational service and more than 15 others currently in development.

MBDA is jointly held by AIRBUS Group (37.5%), BAE SYSTEMS (37.5%), and FINMECCANICA (25%).

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