

18th March 2009**SOLID OUTLOOK FOR MBDA THANKS TO EXPORTS**

MBDA, a subsidiary of BAE Systems, EADS and Finmeccanica, has registered a sales turnover of 2.7 billion euros for 2008 (compared to 3 billion euros achieved in 2007). Order intake for the year stood at 2.35 billion euros (compared to 2.5 billion for the previous year). The order book stands at a high level with a back log of 11.9 billion euros as at 31st December 2008, a figure that represents approximately four years of operations for the Company.

Domestic order intake reached 1.35 billion euros, a level comparable to that achieved in 2007, while export orders reached 1 billion euros with further major contracts expected in 2009. Sales and order intake figures reflect the comparative strength of the euro against the pound sterling, the currency in which the British customer is invoiced.

Commenting on these results, Antoine Bouvier, Chief Executive Officer of MBDA, said: "In global terms 2008 was a positive year for MBDA with orders stable, our position consolidated and our international strategy confirmed.

In France the Livre Blanc for defence and national security confirmed that the country, via Franco-British co-operation, will continue to contribute to the continuity of Europe's capabilities in the missile industry sector. In the UK, MBDA has become a key player in the country's defence industrial strategy (DIS) following its selection as head of the industrial grouping known as Team Complex Weapons which aims to preserve the UK's operational sovereignty in the area of missiles".

Notes to editors

With industrial facilities in four European countries and within the USA, MBDA has an annual turnover of €2.7 billion and an order book of €11.9 billion. 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 BAE SYSTEMS (37,5%), EADS (37,5%) and FINMECCANICA (25%).

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