



ONERA supports the CEA in the establishment of a Midi-Pyrenees regional CEA Tech platform dedicated to technological development

Toulouse, 25th of January 2013 – ONERA (Office National d'Etudes et de Recherches Aérospatiales) supports the arrival of the CEA Tech platform to the Midi-Pyrenees region.

Opened today in Blagnac, at the Airbus site, in the presence of Arnaud Montebourg, the Minister for Productive Recovery and Genevieve Fioraso, the Minister for Higher Education and Research, the new "CEA Tech" center will also work with other Carnot institutes and laboratories that are not labeled Carnot but whose association with this movement will become an asset. Its purpose will be to offer the best technological skills to the entire industrial structure of the Midi-Pyrénées region.

ONERA is willing to support the CEA in this ambition that will enhance the economic development of the Midi-Pyrenees.

The CEA Tech Platform in the Midi-Pyrénées region is part of a national initiative, in which CEA Tech will be acting as the leading operator of a testing phase that will last two years and will be evaluated by the Government upon completion. The objective is to show that the successful Grenoble ecosystem example in which CEA Tech played an innovation driving role can be replicated elsewhere.

Besides the region Midi-Pyrénées (Toulouse), this experiment also concerns Aquitaine (Bordeaux) and Pays de la Loire (Nantes).

"This alliance is an emblem of the strong relationship that ONERA has had with CEA Tech for many years, particularly within the Carnot institutes," - explains Denis Maugars, ONERA's CEO. "Major joint activities have been developed with CEA Tech within the Carnot network: we have shared good practices, made organization comparisons, shared common prospective and common resourcing, conducted international exchanges, etc. By working together, we realized how complementary we were. CEA Tech offers core technologies, enabling technologies that can address a very broad range of applications. ONERA in turn is invested in the maturing and integration of science and technology, specifically in flying objects. We want to take full advantage of this complementarity, together with CEA-Tech" - he concluded.

Established since 1968, the ONERA in the Midi-Pyrénées region now has 500 people working for it located at two sites (Toulouse and Fauga-Mauzac). ONERA is the most important regional laboratory in the field of aeronautics and is involved in all industry structures (FRAE-RTRA-STAE Foundation, competitiveness cluster, etc.). It has signed many agreements with its academic and industrial partners.

About ONERA

ONERA is the leading French player in Aerospace and Defense (ASD) R&T. A public establishment (EPIC) created in 1946 under the Ministry of Defense, ONERA has 2100 employees and 273 PhD students and postdocs. It is the only actor in France with the scientific skills needed to address complex issues specific to the ASD sector. With a range of test facilities that is unique in Europe, it puts its skills at the service of government agencies, institutions, large industries and SMEs. Its unusual partnership research model, labeled Carnot, enabled it to achieve a business volume of €244 million in 2011, of which 59% were contracted activities. As a driver of innovation, expertise and foresight, ONERA has contributed to the greatest aerospace successes: Ariane5, Airbus and Eurocopter jetliners, the Rafale, the Falcon 7X, the Graves space watch radar, the Very Large Telescope, etc. www.onera.fr

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