

Châtillon, January 7, 2011  
Press release

## Onera names three new Directors to its Board

**Thierry Michal, General Technical Director**  
**Emmanuel Rosencher, General Scientific Director**  
**Patrick Wagner, Computing, Engineering and Testing Facilities Director**

### Thierry Michal, 52, General Technical Director



Thierry Michal joined Onera in 1984 as a research engineer in the Integrated Design unit; he was part of the Satellites team, which he would head three years later. In 1991 he was named head of the Space subdivision and, starting in 1993, he supervised all studies leading to the development and commissioning of the French space surveillance system Graves in 2005.

In 2000 Thierry Michal was named head of the Long-term Design and Systems Integration department, then General Technical Director in September 2010. In his current position, Thierry Michal participates in the development of corporate strategy, and proposes and coordinates the annual business program. He manages all scientific and technical departments, totaling about 1,500 persons.

Thierry Michal attended sessions at the CHEAr defense college in 2000 and a European studies program at ENA, the French civil service school, in 2009.

Since 1999 he has been a member of the French delegation to the Inter Agency Space Debris Committee (IADC) and, on behalf of the Graves team, he received the Grand Prize from the French Academy of Air and Space in 2007.

Thierry Michal holds degrees from the Ecole Polytechnique and Sup'Aéro (now the Institut Supérieure de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace) engineering schools.

### Emmanuel Rosencher, 58, General Scientific Director, winner of the 2010 Physics Award from the Academy of Sciences



Emmanuel Rosencher recently received the 2010 Physics Award from the French Academy of Sciences, a prize sponsored by France Telecom. He was recognized for his research on semiconductor quantum components, such as quantum-well infrared detectors and optical parametric oscillators, which are tunable laser sources operating in the infrared band. These components are especially useful for defense applications and scientific instruments.

After working as a researcher with the Ecole Normale Supérieure and CNET, he was named laboratory director at CNET. He then joined Thomson-CSF (now Thales) as head of the physics lab.

Emmanuel Rosencher joined Onera in 1998 as head of the Optics and Plasma Diagnostics unit in the Physical Measurements department. In 2003 he was named director of the Physics branch, where he supervised four scientific departments and over 350 persons. He was named General Scientific Director in October 2010, with responsibility for drawing up the scientific strategy plan in regards to annual and long-term programs. He is also in charge of allocating doctoral grants, promoting scientific staff and fostering Onera's national and international scientific reputation.

An assistant professor as early in 1978, then later a tenured professor in several universities, since 2004 he has also been a professor in the Physics department at Ecole Polytechnique.

Emmanuel Rosencher has over 300 publications, with 160 in international peer-reviewed journals such as Nature and Science, in areas including semiconductor heterostructures and materials, non-linear optics, laser physics, infrared detection and plasma.

He holds degrees from the Ecole Polytechnique and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications engineering schools.

### **Patrick Wagner, 54, named to the Board of Directors**



Patrick Wagner started his career as an engineer in an urban waste treatment center.

He joined Onera in 1981, working as a wind tunnel test engineer in Modane for major civil and military aircraft projects. In 1986 he went to Cologne, Germany as project manager, subsequently being named head of operations at the European Transonic Wind tunnel (ETW), a large cryogenic facility. Patrick Wagner returned to Modane in 2000 as head of the experimental techniques department.

In 2003 he was named director of Onera's engineering network in Paris. As the head of a 100-person team he coordinated the activities of the design department, production and coordination of major projects on behalf of the large wind tunnel unit.

In 2007 Patrick Wagner was named director of Onera's Computing, Engineering and Testing Facilities, a division with 350 employees. These facilities are used by aerospace manufacturers and researchers from around the world.

He attended the IHEDN armament and defense economics session at the CHEAr defense college, and has been education advisor since 2003. Patrick Wagner is also co-director of the European wind tunnel consortium Aero Testing Alliance (ATA), as well as a member of the supervisory board of the European Transonic Wind tunnel, ETW.

Patrick Wagner graduated from the Ecole Centrale de Lyon engineering school.

### **About Onera :**

Onera is the leading aerospace and defense research organization in France. A public establishment created in 1946, it reports to the French Ministry of Defense. Onera has over 2,000 employees at eight major facilities, including 1,500 scientists, engineers and technicians, of which 220 are doctoral candidates and post-docs. Building on its multidisciplinary expertise and a world-class fleet of test facilities, Onera works for both government and industry, spanning major corporations and small businesses. Onera deploys an innovative partnership-based approach to research, with five times more contract business per researcher than the



retour sur innovation

average in France. In 2009, Onera had revenues of 210 million euros. Onera is a recognized source of innovative solutions, technical expertise and long-term design vision, paving the way for tomorrow's programs. Onera has contributed to some of today's most successful aerospace and defense programs, including the Ariane 5 launcher, Airbus jetliners, Eurocopter helicopters, the Rafale fighter and the Falcon 7X business jet.

**Contacts presse :**

**Onera**

Julie Amoyel / Marion Verny  
Tél. : 33 (0) 1 46 73 40 66  
E-mail : [julie.amoyel@onera.fr](mailto:julie.amoyel@onera.fr)  
[www.onera.fr](http://www.onera.fr)

**Agence Burson-Marsteller**

Hélène Coulbault / Ingrid Belliard de Valbray  
Tél. : 33 (0) 1 41 86 76 76  
[helene.coulbault@bm.com](mailto:helene.coulbault@bm.com)  
[ingrid.de-valbray@bm.com](mailto:ingrid.de-valbray@bm.com)