

PRESS RELEASE

Toulouse, 17 January 2023

ONERA and SKYTED sign a patent licensing agreement to develop a silent mask allowing to make calls in complete discretion.



Mask Test in the ONERA anechoic chamber in Toulouse.

Based in Toulouse, Skyted is a start-up that designs a new mask, offering a "bubble of silence" that allows to make confidential and silent calls in airplanes, transports, open spaces and in the virtual world like metavers and online games.

ONERA signed a licensing agreement with Skyted on December 22, 2022 to integrate advanced technologies to absorb the sounds produced by the human voice. These patented technologies and know-how have been developed at ONERA for aeronautical applications, particularly in new-generation aircraft engines, and are finding a particularly original new application here.

"ONERA excels in scientific and technological research applied to the aeronautics, defense and space sectors. These advanced research fields lead to technological advances that are of interest to other application sectors. This transfer to Skyted is a perfect illustration of this," explains Nicolas Guérineau, Director of Valorization and Intellectual Property at ONERA.

"The constraints related to voice reduction are very close to aeronautical problems in aerology and acoustics. ONERA is therefore a natural partner for Skyted", says Stéphane HERSEN, CEO of Skyted.

Skyted and ONERA were present at the CES in Las Vegas from January 5 to 8 and presented the first prototypes of masks integrating these new co-developments with a very positive feedback from the market: More than 120 interviews, 600 prospects from all countries and contacts made with major airlines, smartphone manufacturers, and telecommunications operators.

Skyted is supported by Airbus dev, the European Space Agency's gas pedal and BPI Deep tech.

About ONERA, the French Aerospace Lab

ONERA is a central player in aeronautical and space research and employs over 2,000 people. Operating under the authority of the French Ministry of Armed Forces, its 2022 budget amounts to €266 million, over half of which comes from study, research and testing contracts. As the government expert in aerospace technologies, ONERA strives to prepare tomorrow's defenses, address the aerospace challenges of the future, and boost the competitiveness of the aerospace industry. It boasts skills in all disciplines and technologies used in aerospace applications. All the major civil and military aerospace programmes in France and Europe are rooted in ONERA's DNA, including Ariane, Airbus, Falcon, Rafale, missiles, helicopters, engines, radars, etc. Its world-renowned, prize-winning research scientists mentor many doctoral students.

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