
NIMROD Group has been awarded a work-package of A350 sheet metal parts from Airbus and STELIA Aerospace and has consolidated its growth strategy by launching a new industrial unit in Poland: AZURA POLSKA.

- On July 21st, 2015, **ESM**, a business unit of **NIMROD Group**, has been awarded a 45 million USD multi-year contract by Airbus and STELIA Aerospace for the serial production of A350 sheet metal parts
- This award accelerates the implementation of **AZURA POLSKA**, the latest business unit of **NIMROD Group**, which will start its recruitment campaign within weeks
- **NIMROD Group** supports the industrial strategy of Airbus Group in Poland with the implementation of **AZURA POLSKA** in Łódź

Kielce, Poland, 31st August 2015 –**NIMROD Group** is proud to announce that one of its business units, **ESM**, located in the Limoges, France area, has been awarded a new contract by Airbus and STELIA Aerospace for the serial production and assembly of A350 metallic parts. Since the inception of the program in 2011 **ESM** has successfully industrialized about 3 400 references of A350 parts.

“**ESM** is reaping the benefits of its past performance and the high responsiveness it has always demonstrated during the initial development and prototyping phases of these A350 parts. It was therefore a logical decision for Airbus and STELIA Aerospace to continue to rely on **ESM** and on **NIMROD Group** to support the strong ramp-up phase of the A350 program,” said Charles Huguet, Vice President Procurement of STELIA Aerospace.

Eddy Ephrati, President of **NIMROD Group**, said a prerequisite for meeting the serial target price expected by Airbus and STELIA Aerospace was to offer highly competitive production solutions combining cost efficiency and high quality standards. While **ESM** has been producing the A350 parts during the development, prototyping, and low-rate initial production phases, its new sister company **AZURA POLSKA** will produce the bulk of the serial production. “Launching a new industrial base has been in the preparation phase for quite some time now, and this new contract for A350 parts is now putting **AZURA POLSKA** on the fast track, with the first deliveries from Poland scheduled in early 2016,” said Eddy Ephrati.

Aircraft OEMs keep looking for competitive solutions from their suppliers, a trend confirmed at the latest Paris Air Show. Beyond this first A350 package, **AZURA POLSKA** will secure other OEMs’ work-packages currently under final negotiation. Within the coming years, **AZURA POLSKA** will create between 200 and 300 new direct jobs in Łódź, distributed across industrialization, sheet metal detail parts production, component and structural assembly, surface treatment & painting, support and services, with a prime focus on innovative technologies and automation, the trademarks of the **NIMROD Group**.

The recruitment campaign for the first support and production jobs in the Łódź area will start in the upcoming weeks. New recruits will be sent to **ESM** for intensive training on the production and assembly of the A350 parts.

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The decision to establish **AZURA POLSKA** in Poland was largely attributable to the Airbus Group long term industrial strategy, initiated back in 2001, to grow its existing footprint in Poland to become its 5th industrial base in Europe.

Airbus Helicopters will create many direct and indirect jobs when its H225M Caracal program starts local production in Poland, so they solicited their supplier base to accompany them. “While our original plan was to establish our new factories in some neighboring countries, Airbus Group and Airbus Helicopters have convinced us that Poland was a better option, particularly with its young and skilled workforce in the aerospace industry, so here we are...” said Eddy Ephrati.

Airbus Helicopters has invited **AZURA POLSKA** to join its new industrial campus in Łódź, home of the Caracal Full Assembly Line (FAL). Łódź is already home of the Airbus Helicopters Engineering office (Created in February 2015). “We are very happy with the response of some of our key suppliers to answer our call to follow us to Poland, and **NIMROD Group** has been among the most supportive ones.” said Christian Cornille, Airbus Helicopters’ Executive Vice President for Industry. “We are looking forward to becoming good neighbors in our industrial campus and to grow our business together” added Cornille.

All additional information concerning **NIMROD Group** investment in Poland can be obtained during joint press conference with AIRBUS on Tuesday, September 1st, 2015 at 3pm at meeting room ALFA, MSPO conference center.

About NIMROD Group (www.nimrod-group.com)

NIMROD Group is a fairly recent player in the aerospace industry, mostly recognized through its legacy business units, **ESM** and **Detampel**, created in the 60s. The group has enjoyed a strong growth in the recent past, built upon a solid technological expertise and unmatched performance.

Both **ESM** and **Detampel** have received best supplier awards from, respectively, Dassault Aviation and Airbus Helicopters. **Detampel** specializes in complex sheet metal work with core competencies in exhaust nozzles and heat exchangers. **ESM** produces high-volume elementary and standard parts, mainly for Falcon, Rafale, and Airbus aircraft.

NIMROD Group has embarked into an aggressive growth strategy which will make it clear the mid-cap company thresholds (250 headcount – 50 M€ turnover) within the next 3 years:

- In 2013, a 3rd business unit joined the group, **Aeroset**, spun off from **ESM** and specializing in component and structural assembly, while **ESM** keeps focusing on high-volume production of elementary and detail parts.
- In 2014, the group added **Aerolyce**, a green-field project specializing in surface treatment and painting.
- In 2015, **NIMROD Group** acquired **DJP**, a company specializing in highly innovative composite technologies based on 3D-interlock braiding of composite fibers.
- In 2016, the first A350 parts will be shipped from Poland by **AZURA POLSKA** to its launch customer, STELIA Aerospace.

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