

PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg and Montreal expanding cooperation

Aviation cluster Hamburg Aviation signs cooperation agreement with aviation cluster in Montreal at Farnborough International Airshow

Hamburg, 13 July, 2016: The important aviation centers of Hamburg and Montréal are intensifying their cooperation. At the world's biggest airshow this year, the Farnborough International Airshow (11 – 17 July, 2016), leading representatives of the clusters Hamburg Aviation and Aéro Montréal have signed an official Letter of Intent. This is further strengthening Hamburg's internationalisation strategy, which is being funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) with up to four million euros. Hamburg Aviation is exhibiting at Farnborough for the first time this year. The cluster is jointly represented with the ZAL Center of Applied Aeronautical Research in the Hanse Pavillion in Hall 2B / 120.

The agreement is particularly aimed at bringing small and medium-sized enterprises, universities and research institutions in Hamburg and Montréal (in the province of Québec, Canada) closer together through joint transatlantic projects. It is focussed on the fields of research and development, supply chain structure, and training and education. The partnership with Montréal, which found its beginning as long ago as 2008, is part of Hamburg Aviation's internationalization strategy. Within the framework of the Hightech Strategy, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is providing up to 4 million euros of funding over the coming years to support the networking and cooperation between the two aviation centres. The cooperation agreement has a total project volume of 12 million euros, half of which is coming from the Canadian side.

Dr. Franz Josef Kirschfink, Managing Director, Hamburg Aviation: *“Both Hamburg and Montreal are regions of key importance for the global aerospace sector, and complement each other well. The new agreement is the logical next step forward in a growing and fruitful relationship between our regions and a win-win situation for companies and institutions on both sides of the Atlantic alike.”*

Suzanne M. Benoît, President of Aéro Montréal, welcomes the initiative, saying it will provide many benefits to Québec's aerospace industry. *“This agreement will strengthen relations between Aéro Montréal and the various European clusters. We already have close relationships with many European clusters (Belgium, Spain, Poland, Germany, France...). This agreement will provide a solid base for German and Québec aerospace SMEs to develop their collaborative process and growth opportunities, as part of the internationalization of clusters.”*



Hamburg Aviation exhibiting in Farnborough for the first time

The Letter of Intent between Hamburg and Montréal is being signed during the world's biggest airshow this year, the Farnborough International Airshow (11 to 17 July in Farnborough, near London). Hamburg Aviation and the ZAL Center of Applied Aeronautical Research are represented at the airshow for the first time this year. Together, the representatives of Hamburg as an aviation center are exhibiting in the Hanse Pavillion in Hall 2B / 120. The Hamburg Stand is also the point of contact for the European Aerospace Cluster Partnership (EACP), which is coordinated from Hamburg, and the Crystal Cabin Award.

Visit Hamburg Aviation at the Farnborough Airshow 2016: Hall 2B, 120.

Follow Hamburg Aviation on Twitter during #FIA16: twitter.com/HAM_aviation

About Hamburg Aviation

With more than 40,000 highly qualified personnel, Hamburg is one of the leading locations in the world's civil aviation industry. The two giants of the industry, Airbus and Lufthansa Technik, are joined by Hamburg Airport and more than 300 suppliers, as well as a variety of scientific and technological institutions. Every one of them contributes know-how and expertise. Companies, universities, associations, the economic authority and other partners have come together to form Hamburg Aviation, a cluster dedicated to advancing the city as an aviation location. Together they pursue a common goal: to network research and development, thereby bringing to market high-quality products and services for the aviation of the future – products that are good for passengers and set the standards in terms of resource protection. Hamburg Aviation concentrates on five product areas: the development and construction of aircraft and aircraft systems, the development and construction of cabins and cabin systems, the optimisation of aviation services, improving the efficiency of the air transportation system, and aviation-related information and communications technology. In 2008, Hamburg's aviation cluster was honoured by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research as a Leading-Edge Cluster. In 2014, Hamburg Aviation was honoured with the GOLD Label by the European Commission's ECEI Initiative, recognising it as one of Europe's best managed clusters.



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