

PRESS RELEASE

14<sup>th</sup> July 2006

## **European Aerospace and Defence Industry takes the fight against corruption to the next level.**

In a move to unite their efforts to combat corruption and enhance business ethics a number of Europe's major players in the aerospace & defence industry have founded an "*Ethics & Anti-Corruption Working Group*".

Acknowledging the achievements to date at both individual company level and at the national level in developing programmes and processes to comply with applicable legal requirements, these companies have decided to establish a business sector network dedicated to spread, implement and use EU-wide best practices based on the 1997 *OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions*, applicable national laws, and on other European and international instruments dealing with the fight against corruption.

As a next step, it is intended to widen this European effort to include international partner companies, in order to achieve a global united front against corruption.

The *Ethics & Anti-Corruption Working Group* is co-ordinated through the Aerospace and Defence Industries Association of Europe ("ASD"). The Working Group will benefit from the support of experts of international repute in the field of anti-corruption and business ethics, including the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") which has significant expertise and experience in formulating self-regulatory rules in this field.

The "Declaration of Principles by the European Aerospace & Defence Industry" is attached.

For further information please contact:

Karoliina Rasi-Hedberg (Press & Public Relations Manager)

GSM: +32 476 349 263

Tel: +32 2 775 81 33, Fax: +32 2 775 81 11

E-mail: [karoliina.rasi-hedberg@asd-europe.org](mailto:karoliina.rasi-hedberg@asd-europe.org)

Gulledelle 94-b.5, B-1200 Brussels, Belgium

### **Note to Editors**

**ASD** is the **AeroSpace and Defence Industries Association of Europe**. It represents the aeronautics, space and defence industries in Europe in all matters of common interest with the objective of promoting and supporting the competitive development of the sector. It pursues joint industry actions which require to be dealt with on a European level or which concern issues of an agreed transnational nature, and generates common industry positions on economic and technical topics. ASD has 30 member associations in 20 European countries.

#### **Figures of the European Aeronautics, Space and Defence Industry (estimates)**

Companies: over 2000 with a further 80 000 suppliers, many of which are SMEs.

Employment: around 600 000 people, together with direct and indirect employees representing 0,5% of the jobs in Europe.

Turnover: around €100billion.



**ICC** is the world business organization, a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. The ICC Commission on Anti-Corruption brings together anti-corruption experts from a wide range of business sectors and national backgrounds.