

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Signing of an MoU for 40 Skylanders**

1<sup>st</sup> of December 2011



**A passion for excellence and innovation**

## **SKYLANDER: SIGNING OF AN MoU FOR 40 AIRCRAFT**

**GECI Aviation, the GECI International subsidiary,  
reaps another commercial success.**

### **Another success for the Skylander**

The Skylander SK-105 continues to arouse lively interest amongst the players in the sector: a Russian private company signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding)\* on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2011 for the purchase of 40 aircraft, for delivery from 2014 onwards.

The aircraft are intended for the development of Russian regional air transport and to end the isolation of areas in the Far East and Siberia.

"This new commercial success gives us all the more pleasure in that the first contacts with this company were made during the last Le Bourget Air show and that we were chosen from amongst other aircraft for the Skylander's performances in extreme environments", Serge Bitboul, the Chairman and CEO of GECI International, explained.

### **Commercial agreements for €700 M**

This announcement brings the total number of aircraft subject to signed agreements to 151 Skylanders (including 10 orders), representing a potential turnover of around €700 M.

The group can therefore affirm its production objectives of 1,500 aircraft between 2013 and 2030 and its aim to play a major role in the world market for light turboprop aircraft.

### **Programme progress report**

The aircraft's technical design has been completed, its performances validated and its weight objective achieved.

All of the equipment makers, systems manufacturers, suppliers and aerostructure industrial partners have been chosen and represent around fifty companies, with almost all of the aerostructure suppliers located in France.

The prototypes production phase has been launched and the fitting out of the assembly hall for the 4 test aircraft at Chambley in Lorraine has meant that we are able to schedule a roll out and first flight in the second half of 2012.

\*MoU: Memorandum of Understanding – formal agreement of willingness, prior to a sales contract. Preliminary pre-contract signed by the two parties, to express the main elements of the wishes of the parties and to set out the principles for the negotiation of the future contract.

The design approval and type certification process is proceeding normally, with an objective of design approval in 2012 and type certification in the second half of 2013.

The first deliveries of the production aircraft will start in 2013 with a planned increase in production rate up to 9 aircraft.

### **An aeronautics sector in Lorraine**

By the end of 2011, the company will have invested €94 M in the Skylander program, out of a total need of €165 M. In 2009, the Lorraine Region has contributed a refundable advance of €9 M to the funds invested and reaffirmed its support for the Skylander project by voting for a new refundable advance of €7M on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November last.

The Skylander programme is lending its support to the region's ambition for a real aeronautics sector in Lorraine as the driving force of new growth in region's industry. In partnership with the Lorraine aeronautics industry, research centres, universities and public institutions, the Skylander teams are taking part in the development of a powerful ecosystem, which is innovative, creates long-term employment and exports high technology to an international market.

GECI international would like to remind you that the publication of the accounts for the first half of the 2011-2012 financial year has been put back to the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

### **About GECI International**

For 30 years, GECI International has been established as a specialist in high technology engineering, with a preponderant presence in the world of aeronautics. Working in the four corners of the world, GECI International's 1,000 staff, engineers and researchers are constantly ready to meet today's and tomorrow's technological challenges.

GECI International combines excellence, passion to innovation to propose, on the one hand, via its GECI Engineering division an offer of expertise and global solutions in the fields of aeronautics, transport and infrastructures and, on the other, via its GECI Aviation a range of twin turboprop aircraft: the F406 and the Skylander SK-105.

The F406, produced by Reims Aviation Industries, is recognised by operators throughout the world as being an aircraft particularly suitable for surveillance missions. The Skylander SK-105, produced by Sky Aircraft, stands out due to its exceptional performances, its ability to operate in extreme environments and its very competitive purchase and maintenance costs.

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