



**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

## **C-27J: Possible Replacement for Canada's Fixed Wing Search and Rescue Program Visits Ottawa Area**

**OTTAWA, Nov. 17, 2016** – Team Spartan, offering the C-27J for the Fixed-Wing Search and Rescue (FWSAR) program, have showcased yesterday a similar model C-27J at the Gatineau-Ottawa Executive Airport on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 for the media.

The aircraft is on a demonstration flight en-route to South America, and have updates to the airframe that will mirror the same upgrades for the FWSAR platform, including winglets that improve the aerodynamics of the aircraft. Members of Team Spartan will be on-hand to discuss the capabilities of this aircraft and the many Canadian industrial partners that make up the team.

“Team Spartan’s C-27J not only meets all of Canada’s search and rescue requirements, but in many cases also exceeds our country’s needs with its rapid response time, excellent endurance and superb maneuverability that make it ideal for Canada’s remote, austere and mountainous regions. We have a Canadian team that will bring economic opportunities to all regions in Canada, while also fitting within the existing budget,” said Steve Lucas, former RCAF Chief of Staff and spokesperson of Team Spartan

In the vast reaches of Canada’s SAR (Search and Rescue) Area of Responsibility, speed is critical when it comes to saving lives. The ability to quickly locate and accurately deliver well equipped first responders to those in need is often the difference between life and death.

“That is why Team Spartan’s fully missionized C-27J, being the fastest aircraft in its category (325 Kts vs. 260 Kts of its direct competitor), is the preferred solution for the FWSAR requirement. Over longer missions the significant speed difference assists the C-27J to arrive and respond up to hours before its competitor. For those in the most critical of situations that time difference is vital,” said Lucas.

The C-27J Spartan has the capability to replace two very different FWSAR platforms, the CC-115 Buffalo and the CC-130H Hercules, which are currently in service today and reaching the end of their service life. The C-27J offers the lower speed/high maneuverability and the rugged characteristics of the Buffalo and the speed and long range/endurance of the CC-130H.

For example, if a rescue mission is called out at the 51°N 30°W, in the middle of the Atlantic and at the extreme of the Canada's SAR zone, the C-27J can perform the same mission as the CC-130H with comparable radius of action and Total Mission Time (more than 10 hrs).

Acquisition and operational costs are also significantly reduced when compared to the purchase of a four-engine platform. "With a fully missionized C-27J as Canada's new FWSAR aircraft there will be no gaps in Canada's SAR capability and no reduction in capacity at the extreme of the SAR area, mid-Atlantic and Far-North. A mission impossible for other twin engine prop aircraft," said Lucas.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **About the C-27J Aircraft**

The C-27J is a solution that meets the demands of Canada's incredibly large area of Search and Rescue (SAR) responsibility with a single aircraft fleet. Along with a capable aircraft, Team Spartan's FWSAR solution comes with a commitment to deliver 100% of contract value industrial offsets and benefits in the form of hundreds of long-term jobs and far-reaching investments in Canadian firms and technology.

The Leonardo C-27J airplane is a well-known and highly capable platform with a number of international customers. Among its international users, the US Coast Guard, US Army, Australian Air Force and Peruvian Air Force have acquired a number of C-27Js for use in domestic and international missions, such as search and rescue and humanitarian relief operations.

### **About Team Spartan and the FWSAR Program**

Team Spartan is comprised of Leonardo, General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada, DRS Technologies Canada Ltd and several more Canadian industry partners like IMP Aerospace & Defence; KF Aerospace; Esterline CMC Electronics; Rolls Royce Canada; Standard Aero; Bluedrop Training & Simulation; L3 WESCAM; TRU Simulation + Training; ATCO Structures and Logistics and CAE, among many others, and is in pursuit of the Royal Canadian Air Force's (RCAF) Fixed-Wing Search and Rescue Aircraft Replacement (FWSAR) Program.

Selection of Team Spartan's bid will provide Canada with both an incredibly capable aircraft that meets the demands of the country's vast expanse of SAR responsibility and an industrial benefits package that includes hundreds of long-term, high value jobs and far-reaching investments in Canadian firms and technology.

## **About Leonardo**

Leonardo is among the top ten global players in Aerospace, Defence and Security and Italy's main industrial company. As a single entity from January 2016, organized into business divisions (Helicopters; Aircraft; Aero-structures; Airborne & Space Systems; Land & Naval Defence Electronics; Defence Systems; Security & Information Systems), Leonardo operates in the most competitive international markets by leveraging its areas of technology and product leadership. Listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (LDO), at 31 December 2015 Finmeccanica recorded consolidated revenues of 13 billion Euros and has a significant industrial presence in Italy, the UK and the U.S. Leonardo Aeronautics Sector has a role of primary importance in the world's civil and defence aeronautical industry and operates in the design, development, production and integrated support of commercial and military aircraft, trainers, unmanned aerial vehicles and aero-structures.

Leonardo will serve as the prime contractor for Team Spartan and will provide the green aircraft platform, including engineering support and avionics. The aircraft will be modified, missionized, and supported in Atlantic Canada.

## **About General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada**

With an established Canadian presence for more than 60 years with employees in Ottawa, Calgary and Halifax, General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada is one of Canada's largest defence electronics companies with a worldwide reputation for excellence in the production of leading-edge, technology-based, integrated solutions for land, airborne and maritime applications. The company's success is based on strong systems engineering experience, ongoing investment in research and development, collaboration with commercial and military systems industry leaders, and a singular focus on customer service. The company's portfolio of next-generation Command, Control, Communication, Computing, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) solutions and integrated mission systems is backed by complete systems integration and in-service support. More information about the company is available at [www.gd-ms.ca](http://www.gd-ms.ca).

General Dynamics Mission Systems–Canada will act as the team's mission system integrator. It will be responsible for modifying the aircraft to accept high tech sensors and the computers that manage them, increasing the search and rescue crew's ability to detect rescue targets. In addition, it will serve as the in-service support (ISS) integrator for the C-27J.

## **About DRS Technologies Canada Ltd.**

DRS Technologies Canada Ltd., based in Kanata, ON, designs, manufactures and supports a broad range of military communications, electro-optics, surveillance, and sensor signal processing systems for naval and ground applications as well as electronic warfare threat simulation and training systems ranging from computer-based training to high-power threat simulators. DRS Technologies Canada Ltd. is also an experienced provider of turnkey state-of-the-art electronics manufacturing, integration and test services for various aerospace, defence and space applications. DRS Technologies Canada, Ltd. is a subsidiary of DRS Technologies, Inc. (DRS), a leading supplier of integrated products, services and support to military forces, intelligence agencies and prime contractors worldwide, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Finmeccanica-Leonardo SpA (FNC.MI).

The DRS training development team will design, oversee and manage the creation and maintenance of all courseware and training aids for the duration of the contract. The training will support the operational

mandate of the FWSAR fleet by making maximum use of electronic learning and simulation to optimize availability of the FWSAR aircraft for operational employment

### **About KF Aerospace**

For over 45 years KF Aerospace, with 1000 employees across Canada, has provided a wide range of aviation services to corporate, commercial and military customers worldwide. KFA's full service Aircraft Maintenance Operations focuses on heavy aircraft maintenance, overhaul, and modifications with major facilities in Kelowna, BC and Hamilton, ON.

This includes mechanical, structural, avionics, interiors, engine, landing gear, parts supply, and fleet management with a focus on B727, B737, B757, B767; DH-8, Q400, CC-115 Buffalo, CC-138 Twin Otter, and Convair 580 / 5800 stretch. KFA is a Transport Canada Design Approval Organization and a DND Recognized Design Approval Organization (Engineering); owns the type certificate for the Convair aircraft; is a Transport Canada Approved Training Organization delivering training to a wide range of aviation operations including Canada's CFTS program; operates long term domestic and international cargo charters; and provides aircraft leasing solutions to operators around the world.

KF Aerospace will provide Team Spartan with maintenance, supply chain and repair engineering in-service support as well as pilot and maintenance training management support for Canada's C-27J.

*For more information about Team Spartan and the C-27J, visit [www.C-27J.ca](http://www.C-27J.ca)*