



Press release – Global Aerospace Cluster Partnership

Paris, 23rd June - The European Aerospace Cluster Partnership (EACP) has proudly announced the official formation of the Global Aerospace Cluster Partnership (GACP) to foster collaboration, knowledge exchange and innovation within the global aerospace community. Bringing together 12 clusters and cluster facilitators from around the world, the first official GACP meeting took place in the frame of the 2023 Paris Airshow, marking a significant milestone in promoting international aerospace cluster collaboration.

“By establishing the Global Aerospace Cluster Partnership, we create the foundation for a continuous global knowledge exchange, strategic collaboration, and joint initiatives. Together, we enhance the competitiveness of our members and strengthen their position as global leaders in innovation”

– Niklas Schilling, EACP Coordinator

Six years in the making

Since their inception in 2017, the Global Aerospace Cluster summits have been a significant catalyst for collaboration among aerospace clusters worldwide. The annual summits have provided a platform for clusters to connect, exchange ideas, and explore opportunities for growth and partnerships. During the 2022 summit at the Farnborough International Airshow, the desire for a more frequent exchange opportunity amongst the clusters was a key point of discussion and interest. Building upon the success of these summits, the GACP was born out of a shared vision and the desire for more frequent and extensive exchange opportunities among aerospace clusters.

The partnership will serve as a hub for fostering meaningful exchanges, facilitating concrete joint initiatives, and creating synergies among partners for the benefit of their companies. Through international collaboration, the partnership aims to address common challenges and explore innovative solutions to drive growth, sustainability, and competitiveness across the aerospace sector. Drawing closely from the momentum already present in the EACP and spreading it on a global scale.

“Aéro Montréal has been involved with the EACP for years now, and reaffirms its commitment to playing a leading role in the animation of aerospace clusters, with the aim of fostering collaboration, knowledge-sharing and innovation within the global aerospace industry. By focusing on international cooperation, we are better equipped to meet the strategic challenges facing our members, such as decarbonization, cybersecurity and advanced air mobility.”

– Mélanie Lussier, President of Aéro Montréal

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With support from industry leaders

At the initiation event held in the city centre of Paris at the Castille Hotel, industry leaders and sponsors showcased their support for the GACP. The event began with a warm welcome and opening remarks from EACP Coordinator Niklas Schilling (Hamburg Aviation) and EACP Working Group Internationalisation Lead Thilo Schönfeld (Aerospace Valley). After speeches from sponsors EDB Singapore, Aéro Montréal, Government of Québec, and the International Aviation Supply Chain (IASC), European Commission DG GROW's Jitka Vocasova delivered a keynote speech, emphasizing the importance of clusters from a policy maker's perspective. Following the signing ceremony of the GACP MoU, a dedicated workshop on services for cluster members marked the starting point for the collaborative efforts, which will highlight the work of the GACP. The day culminated with a delicious lunch, generously provided by Aéro Montréal and the IASC, fostering networking opportunities for all participants.

"We are proud to kick off the GACP as a founding member together with cluster partners from all over the world. In 2022, the first GACP China Hub was established in the Shanghai area as an engagement center for our global aviation clusters and SMEs, facilitating information sharing, B2B matchmaking, investments, and project cooperation. We are excited to offer the China Hub space and services to all GACP partners and your SMEs members."

– Van Gao, Managing Director, International Aviation Supply Chain

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