



THALES AVIONICS CANADA OFFICIALLY RATED CMMI LEVEL 2

Paris, June 17, 2003- Thales Avionics is proud to announce that Thales Avionics Canada has successfully achieved the CMMI (Capability Maturity Model Integrated) Level 2 rating at its Montreal facility. Thales Avionics is especially pleased since this high distinction was awarded after 18 months of careful and meticulous implementation of excellence quality standards for its flight control engineering development and program management processes, including customer support activities. As a result, the whole Thales Avionics worldwide is now rated CMMI Level 2.

CMMI is one of the top avionics quality improvement initiatives that is granted by the Software Engineering Institute of the Carnegie Mellon University of the United States of America. The Institute issues up to a maximum of five levels of distinction, and Thales Avionics strategically plans to achieve the next three levels over a period of five years.

The CMMI evaluation team spent two weeks with Thales Avionics Canada representatives evaluating processes that are in place in Montreal. The evaluation scope included processes related to the development and maintenance of flight control secondary systems developed for Thales Avionics regional and business aircraft customers.

“On examining this given scope and based on the findings, the evaluation team concluded that this organization demonstrates a CMMI staged level 2 (“Managed”) maturity level”, stated Richard Basque, Lead Appraiser for the Software Engineering Institute.

Thales Avionics Canada is the Centre of excellence for flight controls for Regional and Business aircraft for Thales Avionics around the World. Thales Avionics demonstrated its excellence at developing flight controls from the initial concept going through the development, installation, flight test, certification, and follow-up customer support stages. Thales Avionics Canada was certified ISO 9000, 2000 Version, in 2002.

“With the participation and efforts of a great team of highly-skilled engineers and quality improvement officers, Thales Avionics Canada has demonstrated process quality standards that lead to the development of top-quality avionics equipment, ensuring security and efficiency in the regional and business aircraft markets”, declared Jean-Pierre Mortreux, President of Thales Avionics North America.

Thales Avionics, the European leader and world-renowned partner in avionics, utilities and inflight entertainment, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Thales, a world leader in professional electronics for civil and defense markets.

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