

AEROSPACE SECTOR PLOTS GREENER COURSE

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By **CanadianManufacturing.com Staff** | May 06, 2009

OTTAWA: The Canadian aerospace industry plans to lead research into lessening the industries ecological footprint by launching the Green Aviation Research & Development Network (GARDN), a network of centres of excellence to connect industry, university and government partners to lower noise and emissions produced by the aerospace industry.

With a \$23-million, four years mandate funded equally by the federal government and participating aerospace companies, GARDN will conduct research on noise, emissions, materials and manufacturing processes, performance, icing, aircraft operations, alternative fuels and product lifecycle management.

During the program's first phase, five research projects on these themes will be conducted by Longueuil, Que.-based engine developer Pratt & Whitney Canada; three will be undertaken by Bombardier Aerospace in Montreal; and CMC Electronics, a Montreal-based designer of high-technology aviation and GPS electronics, will handle one project.

"GARDN's work will increase the research-development capacity of players from our industry and strengthen Canadian know-how in green technologies for the aerospace industry," said Claude Lajeunesse, president and CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada (AIAC) and Chairman of GARDN's board of directors.

"The establishment of this partnership confirms the global leadership of Canada's aerospace sector and also firmly demonstrates the industry's determination to develop engines and aircraft that are more environmentally friendly, to the benefit of future generations," he added.

The AIAC is Canada's aerospace manufacturing and services trade association. As aerospace industry, Canada's aerospace sector—the world's fourth largest—generates \$23 billion annually and employs more than 80,000 workers. Eighty-two per cent of Canadian aerospace products are exported.

GARDN partners:

- Pratt & Whitney Canada
- Bombardier Aerospace
- Esterline CMC Electronics
- Messier-Dowty
- Aercoustics
- Integran
- Standard Aero
- Ecole de technologie supérieure (ETS)
- McGill University
- Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal
- Sherbrooke University
- Concordia University
- University of Waterloo
- Ryerson University
- University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies - UTIAS