Airbus Safran Launchers: a highly promising first year

- Ariane 6 is on its way! The architecture of the future Ariane 6 has been finalised, for a maiden flight in 2020
- You can download the new video of Ariane 6 on http://bcr.airbusdefenceandspace.com/bcr/BroadcastPlayer.php?id=1_5l3jhp8 and www.safran-group.com/media/photos-and-videos/videos
- Airbus Safran Launchers, created in January 2015, is also the lead contractor for Ariane 5 and has already made 7 successful launches with the support of the parent companies seamlessly and without any difference felt by the customers

At the presentation of his New Year’s greetings to the press, Alain Charmeau, CEO, took a look back at the activities of the first year of Airbus Safran Launchers, created in January 2015, following the ESA Ministerial Conference of December 2014.

“In January 2015, Ariane 6 was still only a concept! One year later, the teams have succeeded in finalising both its design and its industrial set-up, to produce a launcher at half the cost. The heart of Ariane 6 is starting to beat! This launcher will be flexible, modular and far more competitive, thanks to the implementation of an industrial organization employing the latest technologies and a modernised and optimised industrial method built around clusters of excellence”, Alain Charmeau, CEO of Airbus Safran Launchers explained. “A way of functioning in an extended enterprise, enabling all the partners in the programme to work together has been put in place, and a dedicated building, where partners work on a shared digital mock-up, was inaugurated in Les Mureaux on 15 December 2015.”

Airbus Safran Launchers is the lead contractor for Ariane 6 and is developing the new launcher under a contract signed with the European Space Agency on August 12, 2015.

At the same time, the teams from Airbus Safran Launchers and its parent companies completed in 2015, 6 Ariane 5 launches in 7 months and have already succeeded in the first launch of 2016. At least 7 launches are planned for this year, including one with four Galileo satellites and an Ariane 5 ECA+ capable of lifting a gross mass of 10.7 tonnes into geostationary orbit.

Airbus Safran Launchers is a joint-venture between Airbus Group and Safran and will constitute a pooling of exceptional capabilities in Europe, for both civil and military launchers employing more than 8,000 staff.
About Airbus Safran Launchers

The creation of Airbus Safran Launchers opens a new chapter in the history of the launcher industry. Reflecting the joint ambition of Airbus Group and Safran to boost the European space industry to unscaled heights, our new company will develop innovative and competitive solutions by uniting the strengths of two leading contributors to modern launch vehicles. Airbus Safran Launchers is equally owned, combining Airbus Defence and Space's expertise in launchers (especially in France and Germany), and Safran's expertise in liquid and solid rocket propulsion.

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