INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIPS
AIRBUS GROUP AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST
Airbus Group is a global leader in defense, space, aeronautics and related services comprising of three divisions: Airbus, Airbus Defence and Space, and Airbus Helicopters. Each offers a wide portfolio of cutting edge products and associated services specifically designed to deliver solutions that help drive and expand our customers’ operations.

With a workforce of close to 140,000 employees and revenues of €60.7 billion, Airbus Group has become a global aerospace and defence company – with roughly 180 locations worldwide.

On the civil aviation side, Airbus helps shape the future of air transportation and drives sustainable growth around the world so airlines can expand, people can connect and economies can grow.

Airbus Defence and Space manufactures world-class products such as the Ariane launcher family, the A330 Multi Role Tanker Transport and satellites for missions ranging from telecommunications to Earth observation.

Airbus Helicopters provides the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to its customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments.

We make it fly

As our operations extend beyond the countries where we operate, we also bring our talent, expertise and resources to help solve some of the world’s most pressing challenges. Airbus Group’s products and services have helped to support the delivery of humanitarian aid in many missions. The company provides quick and effective solutions for emergency response units and non-governmental organisations.

It is precisely this mix of active citizenship and open innovation that has made Airbus Group a leader in the aerospace industry. And by virtue of our longstanding ability to foster technical excellence – and adapt to change – we are uniquely positioned to tackle any challenge brought our way, and drive thoughtful solutions around the globe.
In the skies over the ancient lands and civilisations of Africa and Middle East, for more than four decades our commercial airliners, helicopters, military aircraft and satellites have dominated the skies from Dubai to Cape Town, Cairo and beyond.

As an integral partner in the communities we serve across Africa and Middle East, Airbus Group sees a region united in its quest to embrace innovation and build future prosperity for generations ahead.

Airbus Group has invested in the regional industrial footprint through numerous commercial agreements and partnerships in several countries such as UAE, Tunisia and Morocco directly by Airbus or Airbus suppliers. Airbus partners in these countries include local organisations from both public and private sectors and international institutions. Not only does this contribute to the Airbus global supply chain efficiency but it brings numerous and high-end skilled jobs which makes significant contributions to the local economies.

In the UAE, Strata produces composite components for the A330, A330neo, A350 XWB and A380 aircraft while TPI produces metallic parts for the A320, A320neo and A330 programmes.

In both Morocco and Tunisia, Airbus suppliers and Airbus Group subsidiary Stelia, utilize a highly skilled workforce and take advantage of the close proximity to Europe to source a mix of machined, composite, electrical and assembled components across all Airbus programmes.

South Africa’s aerospace industry is a major supplier of parts, components and sub-assemblies which are incorporated across the Airbus product range. Similarly, Airbus has established an innovation network with South African universities and research institutes with ongoing studies into such diverse topics as additive layer manufacturing (3D printing) of large dimension aircraft parts using titanium powder, future generation flight control systems and hydrogen fuel cells as an effective substitute for aircraft auxiliary power units.

Airbus Group in Africa and Middle East

Airbus Little Engineer Initiative

Building tomorrow’s leaders, engineers and aerospace personnel is an Airbus Group commitment that knows no borders or limitations. In order to sustain the future growth of the region’s aerospace industry, we needed to invest in programmes that inspire the youth of the region, both boys and girls, to focus on science and technology studies.

With that goal in mind, “Airbus Little Engineer” initiative has reached more than 2,000 students in the region. It is dedicated to nurturing an interest for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics among the grass roots talent of the region through hands-on workshops for robotic-based aviation and space.
For 40 years Airbus has been synonymous with aviation in this vast region. Every major air carrier in Africa and the Middle East has made Airbus aircraft integral to their operations such as Ethiopian Airlines, Egypt Air, Tunisian Airlines, South African Airways, Rwandair, Saudia, Air Arabia, Air Mauritius and Air Namibia.

With some of the youngest aircraft fleets in the air, the rapidly expanding airlines of the Arabian Gulf – Emirates, Etihad Airways and Qatar Airways – have built their superior customer offering using the latest Airbus aircraft. From their bases in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha, respectively, the trilogy of airlines has taken civil aviation into the 21st century and beyond.

Our flagship A380 superjumbo has become the most recognizable sight on the tarmacs of the region and beyond, favoured by thousands a day for its superior onboard comfort, space and customer experience.

The next generation A330-800neo and A330-900neo variants are designed to take the marque into the future, with entry into service planned for the year 2018 and beyond.

Heralding the future of single-aisle passenger aircrafts, the A320neo (new engine option) cements the Airbus reputation for pioneering technical solutions and endless innovation.

With Middle Eastern air traffic forecast to more than double in the next decade, Airbus is at the forefront of new aviation trends throughout the region.

To date, Airbus has signed more than 900 orders with Middle East airlines, spanning the entire Airbus product range, the company has already delivered almost 500 new aircraft to the key regional carriers, while as many as 600 aircraft operating in ME region proudly wear the Airbus brand name.

The airlines in Africa also want to take advantage of the reliability, safety and lower operating, training, maintenance and technical support costs associated with the modern technology aircrafts within the Airbus fleet. They account for more than 250 orders. Today, there are 210 Airbus aircrafts in service with 39 carriers in Africa.

With Middle Eastern air traffic forecast to more than double in the next decade, Airbus ProSky works closely with air navigation service providers, airlines and airports throughout the region to ensure their ATM capabilities will prepare their skies for tomorrow’s demand. From airspace studies with capabilities recommendations to Air Traffic Flow management (ATFM) systems and PBN solutions, Airbus ProSky offers the region solutions to its most vexing airspace challenges.
Airbus Defence and Space is recognised as a world leader in geo-information owing to its geo-intelligence portfolio. It offers a sophisticated product and services portfolio that is as versatile as the requirements of customers - governments and institutions across Africa and the Middle East.

Our extensive partner network includes Saudi Arabia’s KACST or SANSA, the South African National Space Agency, and comprises over 35 local partnerships and two direct receiving station partners. We ensure a comprehensive local presence and provide decision makers with sustainable solutions to increase security, optimise operations, and boost performance.

Airbus Defence and Space has built numerous telecom satellites for customers in the Middle East, including operators such as Arabsat (KSA), NileSat (Egypt) and Yahsat (UAE). ArabSat 6B/Bahri-7 is based on the Eurostar E3000 platform, which is recognised worldwide as the most reliable in its class.

We have extended our usual scope of on-ground delivery to an in-orbit delivery for Abu Dhabi-based satellite operator Yahsat. It takes responsibility for launcher procurement, in-orbit testing, insurance, support for financing, and validation for the UAE Ministry of Defence with training and a progressive system handover. Providing in addition two anchor stations, and a range of government naval and land mobile satellite ground terminals.

Airbus Defence and Space is the only military aircraft manufacturer to develop, produce, sell and support such a comprehensive family of multi-mission aircraft. Our aircraft are used for civil and humanitarian missions from maritime surveillance to disaster recovery.

Airbus Defence and Space has won 72 orders for light and medium transport aircraft (C212, CN235 and C295) from Middle East and Northern African customers, of which 56 aircraft have been delivered, and 43 are currently in operation in the region.

The UAE Air Force and the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) have taken delivery of three and six A330 Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) respectively, bringing the total of MRTTs in service in the region to nine aircraft.

With 174 aircraft ordered by eight customers worldwide, the A400M is the only aircraft combining three key capabilities for air forces in the Middle East and Northern Africa: transporting heavy cargo over long distances, landing on unpaved airstrips and refuelling other aircraft in the area of operation.

Airbus Defence and Space proudly supports the local industry and talent by developing trusted, proven and long term relationships with our customers, partners and suppliers based in Africa and the Middle East.

Europe’s No.1 Defence and Space Company

Airbus Defence and Space is Europe’s largest and most innovative defence and space company. We develop and engineer cutting-edge products - with the constant ambition to connect and protect lives.

For more than 40 years we have strived to develop the industrial footprint, as well as manufacturing and engineering capacity to create sustainable success in the Middle East and Africa region.

To date, Airbus Defence and Space has taken orders for 165 aircraft, and has delivered 114. As of the end of August 2015, there are currently 101 military aircraft from Airbus DS in operation in the Middle East and Northern Africa.

Customers around the world count on Airbus Defence and Space to supply their satellite systems, both for telecommunications and Earth observation.

Airbus Defence and Space has 30 years of experience in the construction of cutting-edge Earth observation satellites, with over 180 prime-contracted Earth observation and science satellites delivered. Today, we are also the global leader in the provision of Earth observation satellite systems for international customers.

Earth Observation

Algeria’s ALSAT 3A launched - recently completed fifth year in orbit and still operating flawlessly; now beyond its original design lifetime. ALSAT 2B is currently under preparation.

Contracted by the Armed Forces of the UAE to build the “Falcon Eye” system: two high-resolution optical satellites, ground system for monitoring, receiving and processing images and comprehensive training programme for UAE engineers to control and operate the satellite in orbit.

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What we create at Airbus Group influences the lives of millions of people around the world. We manufacture products that improve the quality of life and change the way the future will be lived. We are proud of what we do. But nowhere are we more proud than in how we reinvest in our world. Nothing defines the spirit of Airbus Group better than the endeavours of the Airbus Foundation.

The Airbus Foundation is at the very heart of the Airbus Group, committed to bringing together the products and people of our global aerospace company to help address the challenges of today’s society.

The Airbus Foundation supports humanitarian groups by working together with more than 30 prominent NGOs and inspires the next generation as they prepare to embrace their future.

In August 2013, Airbus Foundation coordinated yet another mission for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) by transporting 25 tonnes (143 cubic metres) of medical equipment and supplies as well as medical and logistics personnel to Jordan. These supplies enabled the delivery of a hospital to a new Syrian refugee camp set up in Azraq, 100 kilometres east of Amman, which accommodates up to 130,000 people.

In February 2015, Airbus Foundation used an A330 test aircraft to transport 33 tonnes of equipment (3,000 kitchen sets, 9,000 mosquito nets and 4,000 tarpaulins) from Las Palmas, Spain to Lilongwe, Malawi, to provide emergency shelter after Cyclone Bansi hit the African country. The relief mission was organised jointly by the Foundation and its partner, the IFRC.