

Upgrade of a Dassault Falcon 900

(df) RUAG Aviation's Geneva maintenance facility under contract with Malaysia's Air Rod Sdn Bhd has recently carried out an extensive upgrade on a Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) Falcon 900 aircraft. Securing this major check followed a successful relationship in engine and component repair

and overhaul between the two organisations on other aircraft types.

In addition to performing a major 4C check, RUAG Aviation were contracted to update and overhaul the aircraft's avionic systems as well as fully renovate the cabin. This was a large scale project under challenging timescales. RUAG Aviation installed a new Honeywell Ovation cabin management system, their first undertaking of Ovation Select on a Falcon 900. In addition the upgrade also included fitment of electronic dimming window shades from Vision Systems. This was the first such installation on any aircraft



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worldwide. Further the aircraft upgrade included installation of Airshow 4000 and Satcom 7000 systems as well as a fully renovated cabin interior including new seating and LED lighting. RUAG Aviation partnered with renowned OEM's and solution providers including Honeywell, Vision Systems, AIP, ACH and EMTEQ in delivering this high technology solution.

www.ruag.com



(Photo: RUAG)

First Italian F-35A Lightning II

(df) The first Italian F-35A Lightning II rolled out of the Final Assembly and Check Out (FACO) facility in Cameri, Italy, last week. This production milestone marks the first F-35A assembled internationally and the first of eight aircraft currently being assembled at Cameri.

The aircraft, designated as AL-1, will now proceed to additional check-out activities before its anticipated first flight later this year.

The Italian FACO is owned by the Italian Ministry of Defence and is operated by Alenia Aermacchi in conjunction with Lockheed Martin Aeronautics with a current workforce of more than 750 personnel engaged in F-35 aircraft and wing production.

The FACO will build all Italian F-35A and F-35B aircraft, is programmed to build F-35As for the Royal Netherlands Air Force and retains the capacity to deliver to other European partners in the future. In December 2014, it was selected by the U.S. De-



(Photo: Lockheed Martin)

partment of Defense as the F-35 Lightning II Heavy Airframe Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul and Upgrade facility for the European region.

www.lockheedmartin.com

No replacement of MiG-29

(df) The Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) will not replace its aging MiG-29 fleet in short term future, the Malaysian Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hus-

sein said at the LIMA 2015 trade show in Malaysia. Instead the improvement of the serviceability levels of its Su-30MKM is planned and therefore the number of operational fighters. Retirement of the MiG-29

is expected in late 2015. Hishammuddin Hussein stated that he hopes the decommissioning of the Mig-29 helps to increase the serviceability of the Su-30MKM.

www.lima.com.my

A400M at LIMA 2015

(df) Delivery ceremony of the first A400M of the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) has taken place on the first day of the trade show LIMA 2015. At the ceremony the Chief of RMAF, General Dato' Sri Roslan Saad officially took over the aircraft from Bernhard Gerwert, CEO of Airbus Defence and Space. This handover also marks the first delivery of an A400M to an export

customer outside the original launch nations.

"As a new generation multi-role transport aircraft, the A400M will strengthen RMAF's tactical and strategic capabilities. It will enable us to undertake an extraordinary range of military and humanitarian operations within the country and regionally," said the Chief of RMAF. At the opening ceremony of LIMA 2015 the A400M had also performed

a special fly-past.

<http://airbusdefenceandspace.com>



(Photo: Airbus DS)