

12 December 2008

## **SELEX Communications opens new high-tech facility in Basildon**

SELEX Communications, a Finmeccanica company, was honoured today, 12 December, to welcome The Rt. Hon. James Arbuthnot MP, Chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Defence, as chief guest at the official opening of its new Basildon, Essex, facility, accompanying Angela Smith, MP for Basildon.

SELEX Communications relocated its operations from Chelmsford and Great Baddow earlier in 2008 to state-of-the-art accommodation at Finmeccanica's site in Basildon, alongside its sister company, SELEX Galileo.

Phil Robinson, Senior Vice President of SELEX Communications in the UK, said, "SELEX Communications now occupies modern design, manufacturing, management and support facilities, reflecting the business's world-class position serving the secure communications sector. A significant investment has been made to enhance our new Basildon home to best serve SELEX Communications',customers, stakeholders and 380 highly skilled people."

This move, bringing together SELEX's Communications and Sensors businesses in one location at Basildon has also enabled Finmeccanica to achieve further critical mass in its defence electronics operations in the UK.

Sir Kevin Tebbit, Chairman of Finmeccanica UK, said, "Finmeccanica has significantly strengthened its UK presence through investment in advanced technology serving the needs of the defence, aerospace and governmental sector. We now have over 10,000 employees in centres of excellence across the country. The UK is a key market for the Group and the creation of new facilities will ensure SELEX Communications has the top-class facilities it needs to meet customers' requirements."

About SELEX Communications UK:

<http://www.selex-comms.co.uk/selex/index1.htm>

About Finmeccanica in the UK:

<http://www.finmeccanica.co.uk/>