

## **Newsletter - Speaker Series**

**Date:** Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Time:** 15:15 - 16:00 hrs

**Location:** Canada Chalet (B12)

**Subject:** Aeronautics Research and Development in the EU's 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme (FP7) – An Opportunity for Canada

**Key Note Speaker:** Mr. Liam Breslin, Head of Unit, Aeronautics Research, Directorate General for Research and Technological Development, European Commission

**Industry Representative:** Mr. Richard Forster, Manager, European Partnerships Research and Technology, Airbus

### **Background**

Established in 1984, the Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP) is the predominant funding mechanism for research and development at the European Union (EU) level. The latest and seventh iteration of the program, FP7, runs between 2007 and 2013 with a total budget of around €54 billion.

In FP7, a number of key sectors have received increased attention with respect to the potential for international cooperation, including the aeronautics and air transport sector. Recent analysis by the Advisory Council for Aeronautics Research in Europe (ACARE) – responsible for articulating a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) for European aeronautics research – assessed the technical capability of a number of countries outside Europe. It identified Canada as a priority country for the EU to explore further the potential for increased international cooperation in aerospace research and technological development.

For this first event of the Farnborough Speaker Series at the Canada Chalet, our keynote speaker will be Mr. Liam Breslin, Head of Unit responsible for the Aeronautics Research Programme, at the Directorate General for Research at the European Commission in Brussels. In this session, Mr. Breslin will provide an overview of FP7, the aeronautics research at the European Union, and the Coordinated Support Action (CSA) aimed at Canada. In addition, we are pleased to welcome Mr. Richard Forster, Manager, European Partnerships Research and Technology, Airbus, who will discuss opportunities between Airbus and Canadian firms and institutions under the Coordinated Support Action (CSA). Of key importance to the Canadian aerospace industry, this session is an excellent opportunity to hear directly from the European Commission about its upcoming 2011 Call for Proposals in FP7 aeronautics research. The call is expected to identify Canada as a priority country and include a Coordinated Support Action (CSA) aimed at exploring opportunities and stimulating aeronautics research cooperation with Canada.

This initiative represents a key opportunity for the Canadian aerospace sector to explore further areas of synergy and mutual interest with European counterparts. Canadian researchers, institutions and industry are highly encouraged to participate in this action as it seeks to increase opportunities for greater international collaboration in aerospace R&D activities between various Member States of the European Union and Canada. Mr. Breslin's presentation will provide more

details on the proposal, identify the expected closing date for project proposals (expected to be January 2011) and stress the importance of international partnerships, as the need for both Canadian and European organisations to take part in project consortia forming around this Call.

Initial discussions in Canada and in Europe have begun to generate government, research and industry interest in participating in this opportunity for the Canadian aeronautics sectors, including between Industry Canada, National Research Council, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the EU (Directorate General for Research); as well as in several European countries (for example, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy) where potential project leads and consortia are beginning to take shape, and are seeking Canadian partners for this initiative, including the identification of technology areas of mutual priority in aerospace for R&D collaboration.

Mr. Breslin's appearance as part of the Canada Speaker Series at Farnborough comes just a few days in advance of the official launch of the 2011 European Union FP7 Calls for Proposals in Aeronautics Research, which will take place in Brussels towards the end of the week, July 22 and 23. For additional details on how you can participate in the official launch in Brussels, please contact:

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