

SWISSMETAL Media release

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Cooperation agreement between Swissmetal and aircraft manufacturer Dassault on the use of the innovative CN8 high performance alloy

Representatives of the French aircraft manufacturer Dassault Aviation and Swissmetal Industries Ltd signed a memorandum of understanding on 5 June 2008 on future close cooperation in submitting a tender for the new Swiss Army fighter aircraft. Dassault's Rafale fighter plane is on the shortlist for the replacement of older aircraft types in the Swiss Army. This joint venture is aimed at bringing together the technical core expertise of the two companies to improve the prospects of winning the Swiss army tender. The awarding of this contract urgently requires the input and support of Swiss industrial companies to bring their expertise and experience to the project and to enable joint ventures with Swiss companies.

Swissmetal's main involvement in this joint venture is in the supply of rods and small coils made from bronze alloys specially developed for the aircraft industry and Dassault. This includes aluminium bronzes as well as the innovative CN8 high performance alloy from Swissmetal.

Dassault is a leading French company with years of experience in the development and production of civil and military aircraft. Dassault and Swissmetal are seeking to continue their relationship beyond the current project.

Swissmetal manufactures and sells high-quality specialty products made from copper and copper alloys in markets around the world. Its products are mainly used in the electronics, telecommunications, aviation, petroleum, automotive, stationery and watch industries, and also for architectural purposes. In the financial year 2006, Swissmetal generated sales of CHF 357.6 million. At the end of October 2007, it employed a workforce of 756 FTEs. Based in Dornach, Switzerland, Swissmetal is listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange as UMS Swiss Metalworks Holding Ltd.

Contact:

Sam V. Furrer, Chief Development Officer, Head of Corporate Communications

Lucie Lusa, Manager Corporate Communications, Telephone: +41 61 705 36 36