Towards a greener and more eco efficient aerospace industry

Denis Chapuis, VP Research and Technology of EADS GROUP, France

Like all industries, Aerospace needs to reduce its footprint on the environment and change its practices to become more eco efficient. Voluntary engagements have been taken, calling for a drastic reduction of greenhouse gasses emissions during the whole life cycle of the products, from design to recycling. Numerous initiatives have been taken to improve energy usage and management on board aircraft, as well as to reduce mass and drag. Biofuels and alternative sources of energy are seen as part of the answer. Furthermore, research and innovation covers entirely new areas, like all electric flight, exo atmospheric vehicles or user friendly airports offering seamless multi-modal transportation. A number of technologies are supporting all those evolutions, and the worldwide industry is in the middle of a significant transformation period. Demonstrators will pave the way ahead, reducing the risk and the costs of the introduction of the most promising technologies, best serving the interests of both the industry and its customers in a cleaner world.

November 4th, 2011