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SuperJet International: waiting for CSF response.

Venice, 27 March, 2024

At SuperJet International there is great expectation for the approval by the CSF (Financial Security Committee, set up at the Ministry of Economy and Finance) to the transfer of the shares currently frozen and held by the Italian State to the new partner Mark AB Capital of the Arab Emirates, as announced one year ago.

This fundamental step would finally allow the Tessera-based aeronautics company and the new partner to proceed with the execution of the re-launch plan drawn up by SJI together with Mark AB Capital, which envisages investments both on the Venice site, to support the development of new aircraft configurations, and the construction of the new branch in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), as well as the continuous upgrading of the aircraft to adequately face market competition through research, innovation and sustainability.

The value of the transaction is around EUR 500 million, including capital investment and bank guarantees.

This will also result in a significant recruitment plan that will reach 450 people in Venice alone, rising to 1,000 with the Al Ain office in the Arab Emirates. Currently, about 110 people are still employed in Venice, which is less than half of what they were before the pandemic and the sanctions.

'We are very confident in the favorable opinion of the CSF,' says SuperJet International President Vincenzo Capobianco. 'We have worked hard on this relaunch plan, and we are aware of the challenges we face, but we are equally convinced of the extraordinary opportunities that await us. We are now ready to restart, reinvest, and give new impetus to the activities of SuperJet International. We are ready to create new jobs, promote innovation, and contribute to the well-being of the aviation sector in our country."



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This agreement is in fact a significant opportunity not only for the company's revival, but also for the national aeronautics industry, which will benefit from subcontracting agreements mainly for the production of engine parts and aerostructures.

With the positive response of the FSC to the unfreezing of the shares of SuperJet International S.p.A. (SJI), SJI will have a new shareholding structure. In addition to the 10% owned by Leonardo S.p.A., Mark AB Capital Investment LLC (Mark AB), as already announced, will acquire 49% of SJI, while the remaining 41% will be acquired by a company to be constituted by Mark AB (49%) and Italsistemi S.p.A. (51%), which will also provide an industrial contribution in the aeronautical sector. Italsistemi S.p.A., in fact, has holdings in two specialized companies in this segment: Aerostrutture S.p.A., supplier to Leonardo S.p.A., and SAM (Società Aeronautica Meridionale), but it is also in the process of acquiring DAR (Dema Apulia Region) S.r.I., a company specializing in the production of aeronautical structural components, and already a supplier to the ATR program.

"With this new company structure," explains SJI Chairman Vincenzo Capobianco, "it is clear that we want to support the aeronautical sector in Italy through important investments aimed at preserving its experience and skills, as well as supporting research and development in our Country."

Mark AB Capital Investments LLC, a private equity company based in the United Arab Emirates, is a major investment fund, which manages financial assets through shareholdings in several companies around the world.

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