Press release

Agreement signed for set-up of research and teaching chair in metal products and processes for aerospace and nuclear engineering

This 5 year programme is a joint initiative between European equipment supplier DAHER, MINES ParisTech and MINES Nantes. It will help towards securing France's expertise in the development of special products and processes for aerospace and nuclear engineering

Paris and Nantes, 16 September, 2010 – a partnership has just been signed between DAHER, the European integrated equipment and services supplier, MINES ParisTech and MINES Nantes to study different ways of controlling environmental uncertainties and variability in the development of special products and processes for aerospace and nuclear engineering industries. This 5 year research and teaching programme represents a budget of several million Euros for the DAHER group.

The new chair is the first to incorporate work which relates to both aerospace and nuclear engineering. Both these industries are key areas with a promising future where France is at the leading edge, so they will continue to benefit from state funding devoted to industrial policy. With this multidisciplinary research programme, launched in September 2010, the nation's foremost research centres will be bringing their capacity for innovation to bear, contributing to major industrial projects of the future for the French economy.

"The future of our industrial sectors will be secured by ongoing innovation. DAHER is investing significantly in order to be at the cutting edge of this innovation, supported by the strength of our engineering, which is key both to the added value of our current service portfolio and to future know-how that we are building. We are setting ambitious objectives for this new chair, to speed up the development of knowledge in metal processes, which are applied to the Aerospace and Nuclear sectors", explains Didier KAYAT, DAHER group Executive VP in charge of Strategy and Business Development.

The chair will bring new input to help meet two common objectives of the aerospace and nuclear industries:

- How to better take into account the uncertainties linked to product dimensioning (material property variations, environment variations, aging)
- How to better control and ensure stability of special processes (welding, forming, forging)

It will draw on the resources of the research units of both schools, which count among the leading players in French research: Subatech in Nantes and CEMEF in Sophia-Antipolis.
Coordination will be provided by the Nantes team.

- The Subatech Laboratory is a mixed research unit associating *MINES de Nantes*, the CNRS's *IN2P3 Institute* [the National Institute of Nuclear Physics and Particle Physics] and the University of Nantes, and will mobilize the knowledge and know-how of 160 researchers who are conducting fundamental and applied research in nuclear sciences and high-energy physics;
- *MINES ParisTech's CEMEF* (Centre for Material Forming) will call upon the high level expertise of its 150 researchers and PhD students in the area of materials transformation processes and operations.

By 2015, the work will result in the publication of theses on major subjects, such as development of multi-scale and multi-physical modelling tools, the design phase, the process phase, aging of materials under Gamma rays, resistance to Gamma rays, structural bonding and design of aerospace parts, including choice of materials and processes. This work will promote knowledge sharing, transfer of expertise and development of skills among the younger generations, all key themes to which the DAHER group has longstanding commitment.

About DAHER - www.daher.com
DAHER is a European integrated equipment and services supplier.
DAHER specialises in the aerospace, nuclear, defence and industry sectors, concentrating on three core activities: manufacturing, services and transport, which it builds into a global offer.
Founded in 1863, DAHER is an independent, international group with sites in 12 countries. DAHER has tripled in size over six years to reach an annual turnover of 740 million Euros in 2009.

About MINES ParisTech - www.mines-paristech.fr
Since its creation in 1783, MINES ParisTech has been training high-level engineers to resolve complex problems in very diverse fields. MINES ParisTech is the leading school in France by its volume of contract research and carries out substantial industry-oriented research. Research sectors vary from energy to materials, and include applied mathematics, geosciences and economic and social sciences. The school is also developing the setup of teaching and research chairs on emerging topics. MINES ParisTech is a founding member of ParisTech which unites 12 of the major Paris engineering and management schools.

Created in 1974, the Centre de Mise en Forme des Matériaux [Centre for Material Forming] is one of MINES ParisTech's 15 research centres. It was set up at Sophia-Antipolis in 1976 with the project of participating in the development of a new high technology cluster on the Côte d'Azur. It became part of the CNRS (French National Centre for Scientific Research) in 1979 as Mixed Research Unit 7635.
Its vocation is threefold: research, training and active collaboration with industry. The CEMEF is one of Europe's leading research laboratories in material forming. It comprises nine research teams with a total of 160 people, half of them students actively working to resolve questions of importance for industry.

About MINES de Nantes - www.mines-nantes.fr/
The School was created in 1990. Within the framework of a broadly based engineering degree, *MINES de Nantes* offers students the chance to specialise in two main areas after the common foundation programme, one of these being information technology, information systems and production systems, the other nuclear engineering, energy and the environment. In total, 10 options are available.

The Subatech Laboratory is a mixed research unit associating *MINES de Nantes*, the CNRS's *IN2P3 Institute* [the National Institute of Nuclear Physics and Particle Physics] and the University of Nantes*. The laboratory's research activities are based around nuclear engineering – one of the two centres of excellence of MINES de Nantes – and break down into three areas:- the high energy universe (with fundamental, experimental and theoretical physics, quark-gluon plasma, particular and nuclear astrophysics) - nuclear engineering and the environment (energy and materials, radiochemistry of nuclear storage, research on reactors (with technology bringing into play anti-neutrinos) and on transmutation of nuclear waste, as well as development of innovative particle detectors) - nuclear science and health (with study and production of radioelements for medical sector, in particular for cancer, and the development of innovative imaging techniques, in close conjunction with the Arronax cyclotron in Nantes).*

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Press relations

Daher
H&B Communication
Muriel Martin - Claire Flin
+33 (0)1 58 18 32 44
m.martin@hbcommunication.fr

Mines ParisTech
H&B Communication
Jennifer Balouka – Nadège Chapelin
+33 (0)1 58 18 32 43
j.balouka@hbcommunication.fr

Mines de Nantes
Nathalie Le Calvez
Director of Communications
+33 (0)2 51 85 81 90
Nathalie.Le-Calvez@mines-nantes.fr