

Press Release

AIRBUS, AIRBUS Développement & Centrale Nantes step up their cooperation on innovation and entrepreneurship

AIRBUS, AIRBUS Développement & Centrale Nantes signed a partnership agreement on 30th April to forge closer links between AIRBUS Development, Centrale Nantes and the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Nantes Incubator*.

Centrale Nantes is privileged to be part of the global network of 22 universities identified across 11 countries by AIRBUS to form an academic network and train young talent in the future professions and technologies of Airbus Group.

As part of this close collaboration, this new agreement aims to create links between the objectives of the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Nantes Incubator and the entrepreneurship development work within the AIRBUS group and its subsidiary AIRBUS Développement, which contributes to business development actions to encourage and facilitate the creation of start-ups and jobs.

This future collaboration has three main thrusts:

- Airbus Développement to be represented on the selection panel for the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Nantes Incubator
- Airbus Développement to provide support and grant equity loans to incubator startups
- AIRBUS to support intrapreneurship by hosting innovative projects selected by AIRBUS and the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Nantes Incubator.

To go even further, Airbus Group has also chosen to create an **"Airbus Innovation Space"** at Centrale Nantes. This space, which is currently being set up, is intended to act as a catalyst, a forum for exchange giving rise to innovation projects.

The Airbus Innovation Space will offer a connected environment for all (students, graduates, start-ups and Airbus employees), with tools to encourage creativity, and will propose tailor-made development and innovative learning solutions for start-ups, students and Airbus employees.

In this context, the partnership with the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Nantes Incubator will support and feed into the "Airbus Innovation Space" project at Centrale Nantes.

* The incubator has brought together initiatives from the three schools of the Centrale-Audencia-ensa Alliance since January

2015. The three institutions decided to pool the entrepreneurial resources available to their researchers, students and graduates in order to promote the creation of innovative startups.

About Centrale Nantes

Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its undergraduate, Master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. At Centrale Nantes, research and training are organised into three key areas for growth and innovation: manufacturing, energy transition and healthcare. With research platforms ranging from digital simulation to prototyping using full scale models and an incubator with 20 years of experience in supporting start-up projects, the school has two major tools for innovation and creation, working hand in hand with industry. Centrale Nantes promotes its teaching and research capabilities at international level through around 100 partnerships with prestigious universities and schools worldwide.

Centrale Nantes welcomes 2,410 students, including 1,440 undergraduate students, 170 Executive Education and ITII degree apprenticeship students, 270 PhD students, 430 Masters students, and 100 Bachelor/Foundation Master students on its 40-acre campus.

For more information, visit: www.ec-nantes.fr

Media Library: <https://phototheque.ec-nantes.fr/> / [@CentraleNantes](https://twitter.com/CentraleNantes)

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.

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