**PRESS RELEASE**

**Aero becomes a general partner of NATO Days in Ostrava for next three years**

**14. February 2017, Odolena Voda – NATO Days in Ostrava & Czech Air Force Days are the biggest aviation event in the Czech Republic and the biggest security show in Europe. Since 2017, this show will be related to the most significant Czech aviation manufacturer – Aero Vodochody company. After seven years of Swedish company SAAB being the general partner of the show, Aero Vodochody will now take this prestigious position. Aero also becomes a general partner of another main Czech aviation event of this year – the Open Day of the 21st Air Force Base in Čáslav.**

President of Aero Vodochody Giuseppe Giordo and management of Jagello 2000 which organises the NATO Days in Ostrava & Czech Air Force Days signed today an agreement for cooperation in the next three years. They also signed an agreement confirming general partnership of the Čáslav Open Day. Several representatives of the Czech Army and Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic attended the signing ceremony. „We perceive this new partnership as a significant milestone for Aero that is consistent to our growing emphasis on military programs and production of proprietary aircraft. I am convinced that mutual cooperation of the most important aviation event in the Czech Republic and the biggest aerospace manufacturer in the country can bring benefit for both sides,” said Giuseppe Giordo, president of Aero Vodochody.

Last NATO Days attracted 130,000 visitors and approximately 50,000 people usually arrive to Open Day in Čáslav. Aero has participated on both events also in the past. In NATO Days, Aero was one of the main partners, exhibitors and active participant of the flight display. „We are glad to build on our past cooperation and to extend it for the future. We believe our partnership will help to develop the whole event and both our company and our new general partner will grow from this experience,” said Zbyněk Pavlačík, CEO of Jagello 2000.

Several prominent people attended the signing ceremony, among them the commander of the 21st Air Force Base in Čáslav, Colonel Petr Tománek. „We are happy to announce that thanks to our cooperation with Aero Vodochody and Jagello 2000 companies, visitors of our Open Day will get an exclusive chance to see prototype of modernized double seated L-159T2 aircraft,“ said Colonel Petr Tománek, commander of the 21st Air Force Base in Čáslav.

**AERO Vodochody AEROSPACE a.s.**

AERO Vodochody AEROSPACE a.s. focuses on the design and manufacturing of military and civil aircraft and is the largest aviation manufacturer in the Czech Republic and one of the oldest aerospace companies in the world. In the field of military aircraft, Aero has been a reliable long-term partner to many of the world's air forces. Aero is a founding member of the Confederation of the Czech Aviation Industry. In the field of civil aviation, Aero partners with many of the world's largest manufacturers in a diverse range of projects.  More recently, Aero became a full partner in several risk-sharing programs, taking responsibility not only for the production of structures but also for development.

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