



"We have just touched down after another Paris Air Show which saw the start of Airbus50 celebrations, a successful order book of aircraft, industry commitments to reduce CO₂, and the announcement of continued Industrial Strategy support for the UK. Looking fondly back on 50 years of Airbus history, we now look to the next 50 years of innovative spirit and pioneering progress."

Katherine Bennett CBE, Senior Vice President Airbus in the UK



Airbus flying high at Paris Air Show 2019 in Le Bourget

Le Bourget 2019 #PAS19 proved to be an action-packed five days for Airbus, with new orders for 363 commercial aircraft. The biggest success story was that of the popular A320 single-aisle aircraft and the A321neo. Airbus announced the launch of the revolutionary A321XLR, a new aircraft with unbeatable fuel efficiency, able to fly up to 4,700nm with outstanding performance. Airbus' modern and highly efficient range of commercial aircraft took to the skies in flying displays throughout the Air Show, while Airbus Helicopters highlighted its modular and versatile military platforms and Airbus Defence & Space demonstrated its broad product portfolio of military aircraft, space systems, secure communications and drones. Other highlights at the Air Show included a Suppliers' day where Airbus thanked over 27,000 suppliers who have served the business for over 50 years, and emphasised Airbus' commitment to sustainable aviation.

[Read more](#)

Guillaume Faury: "a year of extraordinary change"

April 2019 marked the end of an era as former Airbus CEO Tom Enders handed over the company reins to Guillaume Faury, who kicked off his tenure as CEO with some changes to the Airbus Executive Committee. Alongside General Counsel and UK Chairman John Harrison, Julie Kitcher has become the UK's second representative on the committee in her new role as Executive Vice President of Communications and Corporate Affairs. In May, Guillaume made his first visit to the UK in his new position. His schedule included a number of political meetings and the day was rounded-off with an address at this year's Royal Aeronautical Society's annual banquet, attracting over 500 guests from all sectors of the aerospace community, where he was elected a fellow of the Society.

[Read more](#)



Airbus celebrates 50 years of pioneering spirit

Wednesday 29 May marked Airbus' 50th anniversary; 50 years since the 1969 Paris Air Show, where the agreement that launched the A300 was signed. "This is a story of ambition and progress," Guillaume Faury explains. "For 50 years, passion, talent and a pioneering spirit have combined to enable us to achieve some major world firsts, transforming our industry and improving the lives of many. Airbus continues to shape the industry with pioneering innovations that address some of society's most critical issues, whether that be pioneering electric flight to reduce emissions, digitalising aerospace design, or developing new urban air mobility options."

[Read more](#)

Airbus opens its Cyber Innovation Hub in Newport, Wales

Airbus opened its new Cyber Innovation Hub in Newport, South Wales. The Hub conducts leading cyber security research in areas such as artificial intelligence, industrial control systems, human factors and safety critical systems. It is home to research incubators and accelerators, as well as CyberLab, a cyber-research initiative jointly funded by Airbus and the Welsh Government.

To mark the opening of the facility, Ken Skates AM, the Minister for Economy and Transport, was guest of honour at an event at the Newport site. Dr Pascal Andrei, Airbus Senior Vice President and global Chief Security Officer; Katherine Bennett CBE, Airbus Senior Vice President for the UK; and Prof Kevin Jones, who leads the Hub, also spoke at the event.

[Read more](#)



Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP meets Airbus apprentices and graduates on a visit to Airbus site in Filton

Airbus welcomed Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Secretary of State for Transport to its site in Filton where he had the opportunity to meet some of our talented apprentices and graduates during a recent visit to the region.

The Minister was given an insight into the site's operations which was followed by a tour of the Wing Integration Centre and the A400M Wing Manufacturing facility where he met employees and learnt more about the highly skilled work they perform.

[Read more](#)

Learning by flying: E-Fan X

The Airbus E-Fan X hybrid-electric flight demonstrator marked another milestone in its development following the purchase of an aircraft in November 2018. The Avro RJ100 is currently based at a dedicated hub at Cranfield University, where the plane will be modified by a collaborative team of industry partners. A first phase of flight testing of the un-modified aircraft is to be held in the UK later this year, and in the last few months, the project has accelerated its systems design and started wind tunnel testing at Airbus' site in Filton, near Bristol, as of May 2019.

[Read more](#)



Airbus takes Parliament to the stars

Parliamentarians were taken on a journey to space and witnessed first-hand Airbus' advanced space manufacturing capabilities from the comfort of Portcullis House. Using virtual reality headsets, MPs were transported to a simulation of Airbus' satellite cleanroom at Portsmouth, where they were given a guided tour of the satellite being developed and tested before showing it in a geostationary orbit. Talented Airbus apprentices based at Airbus' site in Stevenage were also on hand to discuss their work on building the next generation satellite technology.

[Read more](#)

Airbus Foundation provides A330-900 relief flight following flooding in Afghanistan

In response to long-term drought and flash flooding, the Airbus Foundation used its products and services to support the humanitarian response in Afghanistan, in partnership with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the Finnish Red Cross. Twenty-nine tonnes of family tents were transported to be used by the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) in response to the local population suffering 12 months of droughts and flash flooding. These tents will provide shelter to 650,000 people who have been impacted by these severe conditions.

[Read more](#)



Airbus announces new Charity Partners

Ten new charity partners have been announced after Airbus employees across both Filton and Broughton sites voted for the new charities from more than 100 nominations. The charities have been selected by staff this year for a 12-month partnership – with five charities representing the Broughton site in North Wales, and five more for the company's Filton site near Bristol. Employees were introduced to the new charity partners at a successful 'Meet the Partners' event.

[Read more](#)

Airbus Welsh Reception at the Senedd

Airbus welcomed guests to the National Assembly for Wales in Cardiff on 3 April, including Welsh government ministers, senior civil servants, trade union representatives, and industrial and academic partners. This was the first reception Airbus has held at the Assembly since the formation of the new Cabinet following the election of the new First Minister, Mark Drakeford AM. Alyn and Deeside AM, Jack Sargeant, and Minister for Economy and Transport, Ken Skates AM, made speeches at the event acknowledging Airbus' achievements and presence in Wales. This was followed by an address from Head of Airbus Broughton Plant and Senior Vice President, Paul McKinlay, who highlighted Airbus' main activities in Wales and recognised the Welsh Government's continued support for the company.

[Read more](#)



Airbus publishes Gender Pay Gap report and Modern Slavery statement

Airbus recently published its second gender pay gap report, illustrating the measures taken to address the gender imbalance within the industry, and its third Modern Slavery statement, outlining the steps taken in the business to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking. Airbus sees gender equality as a strategic priority, which is reinforced by its gender targets. This year's report highlights the significant effort that has been focused on engaging young people in STEM and inspiring more females to consider the aerospace sector as a career choice. Airbus' modern slavery statement highlights the actions it has taken to support its zero tolerance approach to all forms of human rights abuse.

[Read Airbus' Gender Pay Gap report and Modern Slavery statement](#)

Bite-size Airbus news...

→ BelugaXL continues with its test programme ahead of entering full operation later this year.

⇒ ExoMars Rover renamed *Rosalind Franklin* after British DNA pioneer.

⇒⇒ Airbus Foundation [provides relief](#) to humanitarian community following Cyclone Idai.

⇒⇒⇒ To celebrate fifty years of Airbus, the [Airbus Foundation](#) has launched its first global 'humanitarian challenge' which challenges employees to raise funds for two of its first responder humanitarian partners: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and Action Against Hunger.

⇒⇒⇒ The Women in Aviation and Aerospace [Charter](#) currently has over 140 signatories, as it approaches one year anniversary.

⇒ Airbus celebrates two-year partnership with the [British Heart Foundation](#).

→ Airbus site in Broughton, North Wales, hosts [F1 in Schools](#) UK National Final in wing factory.

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