

ITALY AT THE 16TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

Sydney, 6 December 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE TRADE COMMISSIONER

The Italian Trade Agency, in collaboration with the Embassy of Italy in Canberra, ASI - Italian Space Agency and the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Sydney is pleased to support the Australian Space Forum as a Silver Sponsor and Exhibitor once again.

For this 16th edition, the first taking place in Sydney, we are proud to have facilitated the participation of esteemed Professor Erasmo Carrera, who will speak on Session 2 of the Forum and talk to us about the organisation of IAC 2024 in Milan, of which he is appointed Local Chairman.

The choice of Milan represents a victory for the Italian space sector, a result that rewards the excellence of Made in Italy for Space and the capacity of Milan to be an ideal location for world events. We look forward to welcoming you to Milan!



Simona Bernardini
*Italian Trade Commissioner
for Australia and
New Zealand*

THE ITALIAN AERONAUTICS AND SPACE SECTOR

The Italian aerospace industry holds a prominent position internationally – ranking fourth in Europe and seventh globally. It significantly contributes to the national economy, boasting an annual turnover of approximately AUD 21.6 billion. Apart from some major Prime Contractors, the national supply chain is predominantly comprised of SMEs, constituting 76.4% of the sector. These entities often specialise in specific market niches.

Geographically, companies are mainly situated in Northwestern Italy (33.5%), with Lombardy leading at 20.1%, followed by Campania (15.4%), Lazio (14.3%), and Piedmont (10.8%). The aerospace sector hosts a production base of over 340 companies, with the majority (94.2%) focusing on the manufacture of aircraft, spacecraft and related devices. A smaller percentage specialises in areas such as aircraft seats and ballistic missiles.

Employment within the industry is on the rise, reaching approximately 44,000 employees in December 2022, indicating an upward trend compared to previous years. On average, Italian aerospace companies have around 129 units.

Marked by the second-highest level of R&D expenditure among Italian companies, innovation plays a pivotal role in driving competitive advantage in the Italian aerospace sector. The sector also demonstrates a notable internationalisation score. The turnover data reveals positive sector growth, with an 8.3% increase compared to 2020.



AIDAA →
ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA
DI AERONAUTICA E ASTRONAUTICA



Agenzia Spaziale Italiana





IAC 2024 IN MILAN

The 75th edition of the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) will be held in Milan between 14-18 October 2024. Over 10,000 experts and researchers from academia, space agencies, research centres and astronautical associations from all over the world will meet at the IAC 2024 in Milan.

The Committee promoting the event organisation includes the Italian Association of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIDAA), as the representative of academia, Leonardo as the leader of the Italian aerospace industry, and the Italian Space Agency (ASI). IAC 2024 is organised with the support of AIM Group International, and the venue will be the Milano Congress Centre (MiCo).

The 2024 edition will once again recognise the major role played by Italy in Space Exploration, Earth Observation, Space Economy and Space Diplomacy at a global level.

Italy can be proud of its thriving, comprehensive and consolidated space ecosystem, which consists of approximately 300 industries, SMEs and start-ups, as well as research centres and universities, which train thousands of undergrads and tens of PhD students every year. These experts and researchers, under the coordination of ASI, contribute to the innovation and technological development of various international space programmes. In this regard, Milan and the Lombardy region stand at the forefront.

The motto for IAC 2024 is 'Responsible Space for Sustainability'. The aim is to raise awareness in the international community of the need to use the space environment more consciously and responsibly. The proliferation of satellite constellations and the rising number of new missions in orbit increases the risk of objects colliding in Space (which leads to more space junk) and the risk of negatively affecting the function of satellite systems, which many of our daily activities rely on, such as telecommunication systems, transport, environmental monitoring and security.

Among the main topics of the 2024 edition, will be skills, diversity, inclusivity and the training of young people, especially women, to involve them in STEM subjects and help them discover new opportunities for the future at the IAC. Another focus point will be what the Space Economy can provide to developing countries. Space has always been the place where interaction and collaboration between different countries and generations become crucial for humankind's development, innovation and knowledge.

The event is organised by the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), established in 1951 by ten founding members, with AIDAA among them. It now includes 73 members states, represented by all the main space agencies, companies, research centres, universities, societies, associations and museums. The Milan edition will be the fifth time the IAC is held in Italy; three editions were organised by AIDAA and were held in Rome (1956 and 1981) and in Turin (1997), while the 2012 event in Naples was organised by ASI. It is now the turn of Milan to host the congress – this will make the city the world capital of Space for one week.



ASI - ITALIAN SPACE AGENCY

www.asi.it

The Italian Space Agency (ASI), established in 1988, is a national public body with the task of preparing and implementing the Italian space policy in accordance with the Government guidelines.

Today ASI is recognised as one of the most important global stakeholders in all space domains from human and robotic exploration to space science, earth observation, navigation and telecommunications.

ASI coordinates the Italian participation in the European Space Agency (ESA), where Italy is the third major contributor, and maintains international relations with numerous space partners and international organisations. ASI is member of IAF - International Astronautical Federation since 1989.

Finally, ASI performs the role of the national coordinating body for the entire industrial supply chain of the Italian aerospace sector.



ITA - ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

www.ice.it

The Italian Trade Agency (ICE/ITA) is the governmental agency that promotes Made in Italy throughout the world, supporting the growth of Italian companies and contributing to the attraction of foreign investment to Italy.

In doing so, ITA implements the strategies set by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and works closely with all the stakeholders appointed for the internationalisation of the Italian market.

ITA facilitates, develops and promotes Italian economic and trade relations with foreign countries, focusing on SMEs' needs, their associations and partnerships.

Through its HQ in Rome and a worldwide network of about 80 offices, ITA provides information, consultancy and training to Italian companies on foreign markets, promoting and fostering export and cooperation in all areas – consumer and capital goods, technologies, agrifood, services, etc. – to increase Italian companies' presence abroad and make it more effective.

The Sydney Office is responsible for both Australia and New Zealand.



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