



## Press release

12/12/2012

### The Wings Valley™ of Dubai

**Dubai World Central welcomes The Wings Valley of Dubai, the largest maintenance centre dedicated to business jets and helicopters, a project by Al Habtoor Trading and Altran.**

On the occasion of the Middle East Business Aviation Show 2012 (MEBA), Dubai World Central (DWC), Al Habtoor Trading and Altran are announcing the launch of The Wings Valley™ project with the presence of his Excellency Eric Giraud-Telme Consulate General of France in Dubai. Strategically located within the Aviation District at Dubai World Central, which includes the groundbreaking Al Maktoum International Airport, Al Habtoor Trading and Altran in cooperation with ADPI (a fully owned subsidiary of the Group Aéroports de Paris) have pooled their complementary expertise to create the first innovative services maintenance centre dedicated to business jets and helicopters.

With a maintenance capacity of 60 business jets and 40 helicopters per month, The Wings Valley of Dubai is a concentrate of high technology consulting and airport engineering. It will call upon the most advanced technologies for business aviation activities in the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) area in terms of maintenance, personalisation and a high level of flight safety compliance. It will focus on mastering traffic and repair control within environmental constraints, and offering a customised expertise to aircraft owners and crews.

According to Rashed Bu Qara'a, Chief Operating Officer of the Dubai Aviation City Corporation, said *"Dubai World Central is a strategic initiative of the Dubai Government that continues to open new possibilities in the global aviation industry. The Aviation District, in particular, attracts major industry players from all over the world in line with DWC's master-plan as the first purpose-built aerotropolis, which significantly optimises the business potential of all aviation businesses. In this regard, we believe that The Wings Valley of Dubai will further reinforce the status of DWC as the perfect platform for business aviation and a global hub for aviation excellence as it brings together world-class expertise and leading-edge technology to offer best-in-class MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) services. We will continue to work closely with global industry players as we move forward with our vision of establishing DWC as an important gateway for business aviation in the Middle East and beyond."*

The Aviation District at DWC will serve as an economic platform within which Al Habtoor Trading and Altran with the support of ADPI are committed to setting up the most innovative MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) in the world with a three-fold focus: environmental, technological, and educational excellence. The overall MRO project has been designed with a view to creating veritable



eco-friendly showcase with sustainable infrastructures, ranging from positive energy buildings to a recycling centre. Altran's experience in the healthcare industry will enable The Wings Valley of Dubai to act as a "surgical centre" dedicated to business jets and helicopters. In addition, it is the first platform of trained MRO engineers with the international awareness selected from some of the best schools of engineering.

*"The Wings Valley of Dubai adds strategic expertise to the UAE aeronautic network. As such, this pioneering, cutting edge and sustainable project is totally in line with the UAE's vision and drive for excellence. Together with DWC, Altran and ADPI, we will strive to transform this ambitious undertaking into a reality. We are proud to be part of The Wings Valley of Dubai, and with the expertise of our sister company the Al Habtoor Leighton Group, we will be able to build this dream into reality. We are committed to contribute to the full success of The Wings Valley of Dubai, contributing to the future of the UAE,"* said Rashid Al Habtoor, President of Al Habtoor Trading.

*"The Wings Valley of Dubai is the most advanced project of MRO in the world. As the developer of the overall concept, Altran will contribute by pooling its expertise in the aeronautics, aircraft-engineering and IT industries to create one cutting-edge global solution. The Wings Valley of Dubai is part of the Group's global strategy to lead international, complex and innovative projects",* declared Philippe Salle, Chairman and Chief Executive of the Altran Group.

The Wings Valley of Dubai's core objective is to offer a new way of architectural thinking. The organisation of the facilities is designed to allow access to all types of aircraft and helicopters. It aims to carry out all essential industrial processes in terms of commercial profitability.

### **An expertise centre**

The Wings Valley of Dubai will operate in environments exposed to extremely demanding weather conditions such as heat, humidity, and exposure to sand and seawater. It will provide the necessary technological skills in modelling and simulating the behaviour of materials in these extreme environments.

Sensitive to energy and environmental constraints and challenges and using the best practices from the aerospace and healthcare industries, The Wings Valley of Dubai integrates world-class levels of operational excellence with regard to production processes and facilities. Using health-monitoring systems, such as 3D medical-imaging software development and testing, The Wings Valley of Dubai will operate with a view to reducing AOG (Aircrafts On Ground) time and optimising unscheduled programmes.

### **An educative centre**

In addition to the architectural aspect, The Wings Valley of Dubai will offer a distinctive approach to knowledge management:

The Altran MRO Institute of Technology is a pool of international training institutes, whose mission is to train highly qualified engineers, technicians and managers in several areas (from maintenance, to aircraft technology and design solutions), and work in partnership with the best engineering schools.

### **A connected world**

"Prime Alliance", one of the future cornerstones of the project, is an international network of specially selected MRO VIP's. With the launch of the "Prime Alliance" network, The Wings Valley of Dubai will offer a unique blend of VIP *à la carte* maintenance services. Its documentation centre will



allow real-time operations monitoring. Thanks to this unique digital memory management, the aircraft's historical data will ensure line maintenance around the world.

The centre has been designed to accommodate all types of aircraft from Dassault, Gulfstream, Bombardier, Embraer to ACJ and BBJ. During a single trip to The Wings Valley of Dubai, members of "Prime Alliance", as well as aircraft owners and crews can put their planes in for a technical check-up, find an interior cabin design to retrofit according to their specific style and taste and choose the paint that is customised for their aircraft.

### **About Dubai World Central**

Dubai World Central (DWC) is a strategic initiative of the government of Dubai that strongly positions the emirate as a leading international trade centre. Recognised as the Middle East's first aerotropolis, Dubai World Central is one of the most ambitious projects of its kind in the world comprising the new Al Maktoum International Airport, set to be the world's largest in volume and size upon completion, and the adjacent specialized free zones focused on logistics sectors and aviation industries.

DWC occupies an area of 140 square kilometres in Jebel Ali and is in close proximity to Jebel Ali Sea Port, the sixth largest container terminal in the world. In addition to the dedicated link to Jebel Ali Sea Port, DWC's unique multimodal capabilities are supported by links to all main motorways in the country and the Al Maktoum International Airport, which once complete will handle up to 120 million passengers and 12 million tons of air cargo per year.

For more information visit: [www.dwc.ae](http://www.dwc.ae)

### **About Al Habtoor Trading**

Al Habtoor Trading is a project consulting company specialized in enabling multi-expertise specialists to realize innovative projects. It brings a strong insight as to sourcing competences and capabilities and works along side its sister concern, Al Habtoor Leighton Group, one of the major construction groups in the UAE, to provide construction experts, solutions, materials and technologies.

[www.htedubai.com](http://www.htedubai.com)

[www.hlggroup.com](http://www.hlggroup.com)

### **About Altran**

As global leader in innovation and high-tech engineering consulting, Altran supports companies in the creation and development of their new products and services. For thirty years, the Group Innovation Makers\* have been providing services to key players in the fields of Aerospace, Automotive, Energy, Railways, Finance, Healthcare, Telecoms...

Present at every stage of project development from new-technology strategic planning through to manufacturing, Altran is able to capitalise on its expertise in four key domains: Product Lifecycle Management, Mechanical Engineering, Embedded & Critical Systems and IT Systems.

With a global network of 17,000 employees\* (including 15,000 consultants), throughout more than 20 countries, and 500 major clients, the Group reported sales of €1,420m in 2011.

[www.altran.com](http://www.altran.com)



## Press contacts

### Dubai World Central

Orient Planet PR & Marketing Communications

#### Katrina Hall

Tel: 00 971 4 456 2888

[media@orientplanet.com](mailto:media@orientplanet.com)

### Al Habtoor Trading Enterprises L.L.C

#### Youssef Faouzi

Tel : + 971 4 395 4555

[youssef@aries.ae](mailto:youssef@aries.ae)

### Altran

Publicis Consultants

#### Jérôme Goaër

Tel : +33 (0)1 44 82 46 24

[jerome.goaer@consultants.publicis.fr](mailto:jerome.goaer@consultants.publicis.fr)

#### Veronique Duhoux

Tel: + 33 (0)1 44 82 46 33

[veronique.duhoux@consultants.publicis.fr](mailto:veronique.duhoux@consultants.publicis.fr)

#### Anne-Laure Sanguinetti

Tel : + 33 (0)1 46 41 72 10

[press@altran.com](mailto:press@altran.com)

[annelaure.sanguinetti@altran.com](mailto:annelaure.sanguinetti@altran.com)

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