

PRESS RELEASE

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Vallair augments its aircraft maintenance capability with addition of new, purpose-built Châteauroux facility

“Expanding our sustainable aviation business model in France will underpin our growth strategy and utilise the exceptional depth of technical and engineering skill-sets in the region” says Gregoire Lebigot, CEO



Luxembourg – 9th March 2021: [Vallair](https://www.vallair.com), the multi-faceted aviation business dedicated to the support of aircraft operators and lessors, has signed an Lol (Letter of Intent) with The Centre-Val de Loire Region and The Châteauroux Centre Airport Establishment. The Lol will see Vallair awarded a ten-year lease for a state-of-the-art full-service aircraft maintenance, repair, overhaul and cargo conversion hangar adjacent to its existing aerostructures repair and logistics facility in Châteauroux, France.

“This is an important step for Vallair as we establish our blueprint for growth,” says Gregoire Lebigot, CEO of Vallair. “This new facility will be a natural extension of Vallair’s existing operations in Montpellier and Châteauroux providing maintenance, lease transfers, modifications, reconfigurations, aircraft parking and storage as well as repairs of aerostructure and composite elements. In addition to this we will be establishing our own dedicated conversion unit which will showcase Vallair’s experience and knowledge of passenger-to-freighter conversions. Our aim is to support our customers through these challenging times and to be prepared for the surge in demand expected from the fourth quarter. Vallair currently has seven aircraft scheduled for such work in Châteauroux, with another five expected over the coming weeks. This will be our initial orderbook.”

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This new hangar will soon begin to positively impact on local employment through the creation of 200 jobs which will be divided between Vallair employees and subcontractors. With a footprint of 8,500m² the facility will be able to accommodate four A321 size aircraft, or a combination of A330s and A321s. Although completion is anticipated by Summer 2021, Vallair will continue to support this project with a forecasted 5m Euro investment in the coming months.



“On behalf of Vallair, I would particularly like to thank Francois Bonneau from The Centre-Val de Loire, and Dominique Roulet from the Châteauroux Centre Airport Establishment and their teams for their continuous support of this project,” continues Lebigot. “Our unrivalled focus on mature aircraft assets enables us to provide enhanced sustainability, and we look forward to the contribution this new facility will make towards a future full of opportunities for Vallair.”

Vallair is an aviation company with offices in Luxembourg, Chateauroux and Montpellier in France. It provides integrated support for mature aircraft, engines and major components. Seven complementary business units are founded upon engineering excellence: trading & leasing, cargo conversions, aircraft MRO, engines, aerostructures & painting, material management and aircraft disassembly. These offer aircraft operators and owners worldwide cost-effective solutions to extend the life of their assets or dispose of them in an economically beneficial and environmentally acceptable way. Vallair is a leading player in the trading and leasing of A320 family, ATR and B737 aircraft. To learn more visit www.vallair.aero

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