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Drive System Design collaborates on aerospace innovation programme

Propulsion system development partner Drive System Design (DSD) is strengthening its position in the aerospace sector through its involvement in Project SONATA, focused on accelerating electrification in aviation. The project, supported by the Aerospace Technology Institute, is led by Airbus and brings together a high-profile consortium including the University of Southampton, DePe Gear Ltd, Magnomatics, CSA Catapult and Evolito.

DSD is contributing its expertise in electronics, control systems and software development to support the creation of next-generation inverter technology. These systems will play a key role in the electrification of aircraft ground operations, aiming to reduce emissions and improve efficiency while taxiing at airports. The company's work builds on decades of success in automotive electrification, particularly in the delivery of high-performance hybrid and electric powertrain solutions.

Steven Simmonds, Chief Engineer of Systems Programmes at DSD, said: "This project demonstrates how the aerospace sector is now moving into the same kind of electrification and hybridisation journey that automotive has already undergone. We're applying our experience from high-performance automotive systems to help aerospace customers overcome technical and regulatory hurdles in the shift toward cleaner, smarter aviation."

DSD's expanding aerospace activity reflects its growing recognition as a trusted partner for global OEMs seeking to deliver low-emissions innovation. In addition to its project work, the company is aligning its internal systems, software and processes with global aerospace standards, scaling its capabilities to meet the sector's stringent compliance demands.

The company's involvement in Project SONATA follows continued investment in test facilities, the development of aerospace-focused training programmes, and the recruitment of specialist engineering talent.

This latest programme adds further weight to DSD's credentials as a cross-sector electrification expert and marks an important milestone in its diversification into high-growth, future-focused markets.

UK Minister for Industry Chris McDonald MP said:

"Aviation needs to be sustainable on both land and air to reach Jet Zero, and that's why this government is backing this innovative project by DSD to electrify aircraft ground operations. The UK's world class aerospace sector has a key role to play in this race, and that's why we're doubling down on support for the sector through our Modern Industrial Strategy, delivering innovation and good jobs."

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

About Drive System Design (DSD)

Drive System Design (DSD) is an engineering consultancy which specialises in the rapid development of next-generation electric and hybrid powertrains, internal combustion engines (ICE), and associated technologies.

From concept to creation, DSD's award-winning team collaborates with OEMs, Tier-1s, and industry and government research bodies across automotive, commercial vehicle, off-highway, aerospace, marine and defence sectors.

DSD is part of the Hinduja Tech Group and has internationally recognised expertise in systems integration, simulation-led design, efficiency enhancement, development testing, and the analysis and control of powertrain systems.

DSD offers clients a robust, global delivery model, with state-of-the-art development and test facilities in the UK, USA, and India, and a presence in South Korea, Japan and Australia. All IP is transferred to our customers, ensuring that they can innovate with confidence.

About Hinduja Tech:

Hinduja Tech, a Hinduja Group company, is a trusted engineering partner for OEMs and Tier-1 suppliers in the mobility space. We provide end-to-end product engineering and digital technology solutions that accelerate innovation, reduce costs, and improve time-to-market. With a focus on sustainable mobility, Hinduja Tech together with its sister companies Drive System Design (DSD) and TECOSIM, leverages its global engineering talent, frugal methodologies, and deep domain expertise to co-develop future-ready solutions for the rapidly evolving mobility ecosystem. Hinduja Tech is committed to creating value, driving advancement, and ensuring quality and trust. Learn more at www.hindujatech.com.

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