FLYING WHALES selects HEMERIA AIRSHIP to design and produce helium cells for its airships.

FLYING WHALES has chosen HEMERIA AIRSHIP, a HEMERIA Group subsidiary, for the design and production of the helium gas cells that will lift its LCA60T airships. This choice confirms the expertise of HEMERIA AIRSHIP (ex-CNIM AIR SPACE) in the complex, pressurized materials it has been designing for many years.

FLYING WHALES, which closed its third round of funding in June 2022, raising a total of €122 million, is now at the end of the engineering phase of its LCA60T program, an airship designed to carry heavy cargo (60 metric tons) to relieve landlocked areas from isolation. The main innovations of the LCA60T include a rigid structure made of composite materials and innovative textile, an exceptionally large cargo hold, the airship's hovering capacity and its relatively low carbon emissions. The airship does not require any heavy transport infrastructure either, thereby preserving the environment.

In this context, HEMERIA AIRSHIP will initially supply the 14 helium cells for the first LCA60T. With a view to a long-term partnership, HEMERIA AIRSHIP has decided to invest in a new plant entirely equipped and dedicated to the production of these gas cells. The new facility will be built in Ayguesvives, near the company's current site, and will be operational within a year.

This agreement illustrates the innovation-driven entrepreneurial vision shared by the two companies, their commitment to a more responsible, greener aerospace sector, as well as the commercial potential, with common customers such as the French space agency CNES.

Nicolas Multan, CEO of HEMERIA, underlines the importance of this project on several levels: "*We are very proud to have sealed this deal with FLYING WHALES. This is obviously a strong signal soon after the resumption of CNIM AIR SPACE activities, consolidating the future of the "balloons" business. With Vincent Guibout, we share the same entrepreneurial vision for the development of our respective companies and, in this regard, the agility with which we quickly reached an agreement is a promising sign for the future. The environmental responsibility that inspires FLYING WHALES is also, for me, a source of motivation to take part in this adventure*."

Vincent Guibout, Chief Executive Officer of FLYING WHALES, adds: *"We are proud to welcome HEMERIA AIRSHIP to the LCA60T consortium. HEMERIA AIRSHIP is a French player with a long experience in balloons inflated with Helium; its experience reinforces our skills and will thus allow us to implement innovative solutions to ensure the success of the program."*

About FLYING WHALES:

FLYING WHALES is a French company headquartered in Suresnes (France). Created in 2012, the company is developing an ambitious and unique program thanks to its innovations and the quality of its teams and industrial consortium: the LCA60T, a rigid airship for heavy load transport with a carrying capacity of 60 tons. Originally designed to meet the needs of logging renewable wood resources in hard-to-reach areas, the LCA60T's unique hovering loading and unloading characteristics will provide solutions to numerous logistical and landlocked problems around the world, with a very low environmental footprint. This solution will allow, at low cost, to free itself from all ground constraints for the point-to-point transport of heavy or bulky loads. Finally, FLYING WHALES is also developing FLYING WHALES SERVICES, the operating company for the LCA60T.

For more information, please visit: www.flying-whales.com

About HEMERIA

A major and recognized player in the space industry, a long-standing partner of the French space agency CNES and major contractors, HEMERIA designs, produces and supplies state-of-the-art space systems and vehicles for commercial, institutional and scientific customers at the national, European and international levels. A leader in the field of small satellites and stratospheric balloons, HEMERIA opens access to space for new entrants, thanks to optimized and competitive solutions based on French technical heritage. HEMERIA supports its customers from designing their solution to putting the operational system into orbit, and is one of the three main European suppliers of structures, thermal protection and interconnection devices for larger satellites.

For more information, please visit: www.hemeria-group.com

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