



Farnborough 2026: Italy at the Forefront of International Aerospace

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The Farnborough International Airshow 2026, scheduled from July 20 to 24 in the United Kingdom, remains one of the most significant events for the global aerospace industry. Italy presents itself at the event as a central player, boasting an integrated supply chain that unites large industrial groups, specialized SMEs, and solid institutional coordination.

Leonardo and Technological Innovation

Leonardo confirms itself as the cornerstone of Italian participation, showcasing a cutting-edge multi-domain portfolio. The solutions presented include next-generation aircraft and helicopters – such as the M-346 Block 20 and the AW149 – and advanced defense systems, including anti-drone sensors (C-Uas) and technologies for the space domain. Particular emphasis is placed on strategic programs, from the Eurofighter Typhoon fighter to the development of the Gcap and *Collaborative Combat Aircraft* solutions, designed to operate in scenarios characterized by hybrid threats and the need for rapid data sharing.

Argotec: Italian Excellence in Space

In this context of innovation, Argotec stands out as a fundamental pillar of the national space ecosystem. Led by CEO David Avino, the company participates in Farnborough with a top-level team — composed of Andrea Accomazzo (Group Chief Technology Officer), Carlo L'Imperio (Executive Director Defence Business), and Alessandro Balossino (Head of Research & Development) — to showcase its end-to-end satellite capabilities. From pioneering missions like ISSpresso, LICIACube, and ArgoMoon, to the recent IRIDE constellation, Argotec demonstrates how Italian ingenuity can compete with major global players, offering dual-use and multi-mission technologies that range from low Earth orbit to deep space. The new SpacePark project represents the desire to further consolidate Italy's presence beyond Earth's orbit, focusing on quality and international collaboration capabilities.

The National System: Regions and Technological Supply Chain

Italy presents itself at Farnborough with an important institutional and industrial delegation. The competitiveness of the national system is guaranteed by leading entities such as Elt Group, Meccanotecnica Umbra, Ala, Piaggio Aerospace, Poggipolini, Secondo Mona, Telsy, Microtecnica, Forgital Group, Elettronica, Logic, Mecaer Aviation Group, UmbraGroup, and Aero Sekur. Alongside these, the presence of regional delegations, such as those from Lazio and Campania, confirms the strategic role of local supply chains in the development of national aerospace.

Growth Prospects and Space Policies

The 2026 edition acts as a catalyst for the creation of a national supply chain of small and medium-sized enterprises capable of supporting the effort towards the Moon and Mars. It is now essential to build a synergistic ecosystem that unites academic research, high-tech industry, and forward-looking public policies. The government is called to a decisive commitment not only through funding but with a modern space law that promotes transparent competition, overcoming bureaucratic rigidity to allow more agile entities to thrive. By valuing the country's historical engineering skills in mechanics and automation, Italy can consolidate its role as a protagonist in the space of the future.