

# Press Release

## **Constellium inaugurates a breakthrough casthouse in Issoire to be rate-ready with AIRWARE®**

### ***A 52 M € investment to meet a growing aerospace demand for high performing solutions***

**Issoire, 26 March, 2013** - Earlier today, Constellium held a major ceremony to present to its customers and partners its ground-breaking casthouse in Issoire (Puy-de-Dôme, France) dedicated to low density alloys. The event signals the industrialization of its highly innovative AIRWARE® technology, which demonstrates a unique combination of strength, lightness, resistance to fatigue and recyclability. *“These properties enable AIRWARE® solutions to be at the fore when it comes to choosing aerospace materials. We believe AIRWARE® is a true game changer that contributes to delivering a more efficient, cost effective and greener industry”,* said Christophe Villemin, President of Constellium’s Global Aerospace activities.

AIRWARE® is already making a difference for airframe makers. It has been selected for the Airbus A350 XWB (internal wing structures, fuselage), the Bombardier C-Series (fuselage) and the SpaceX Falcon 9 Launcher. Eric Zanin, Airbus Senior Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer Procurement, said: *“AIRWARE® has been a major opportunity to further extend our partnership with Constellium. This project illustrates our common efforts to develop innovative platforms and to ensure technological leadership. This casthouse showcases Constellium’s ability to support our ambitions”.*

*“We want to make a compelling case for selecting AIRWARE®, at a time when supply chain reliability and on-time delivery are key decision drivers. Our responsibility as partners of the aerospace industry is to make innovation widely available,”* added Christophe Villemin. *“We believe the AIRWARE® casthouse gives proof of our commitment to customers through our capacity to deliver innovation. This is an exciting development that we expect will allow us to meet new opportunities, such as those existing in the strategic twin-aisle and single aisle markets”.*

The success of AIRWARE® goes far beyond product innovation. Constellium had to reinvent some manufacturing processes to industrialize this technology, adopting a 360° approach to innovation. A total amount of €52 million is dedicated to this project, which included a pilot phase that took place in Constellium’s R&D center in Voreppe (Isère) three years ago. Constellium believes the AIRWARE® casthouse strengthens Constellium’s integrated manufacturing system, which brings together aerospace plants from Issoire, Ravenswood (USA) and Sierre (Switzerland).

#### **Constellium**

Laura Berneri

Phone: +33 (0)1 73014673

[laura.berneri@constellium.com](mailto:laura.berneri@constellium.com)

**Hill+Knowlton Strategies**

Elizabeth Cheek

Phone: +1 (212) 885 0682

[elizabeth.cheek@hkstrategies.com](mailto:elizabeth.cheek@hkstrategies.com)

#### **Media relations Constellium Corporate**

Aina Ramboatiana

Phone : +33 (0)1 80 50 53 11

[aina.ramboatiana@clai2.com](mailto:aina.ramboatiana@clai2.com)

**Media relations Constellium Aerospace**

Anne-Elvire Kormann-Esmel

Phone : +33 (0)1 44 94 86 74

[aesmel@apcworldwide.com](mailto:aesmel@apcworldwide.com)

**About Constellium**

Constellium, formerly Alcan Engineered Products, is a global sector leader that develops innovative, value added aluminium products and solutions for a broad scope of markets and applications, including aerospace, automotive, packaging and industry.

Constellium is owned by affiliates of Apollo Global Management (51%), Rio Tinto (39%) and the “Fonds Stratégique d’Investissement” FSI (10%). With around 8,900 employees Constellium generated approximately €3.61 billion of revenue in 2012.

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

**About AIRWARE®**

AIRWARE® is a breakthrough technology designed for all parts of an aircraft structure (fuselage, wings and tail fins). Drawing on an engineered microstructure exploiting nanoscale strengthening, AIRWARE® allows plane manufacturers to reduce the weight of aerospace components by up to 25%, taking advantage of lower alloy density, improved material properties and re-design of structural parts – a real benefit for airlines, for which fuel represents 30-40% of their costs. In addition, its superior resistance to corrosion and fatigue enables extended heavy maintenance intervals. It allows aircraft to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and its 100% recyclability makes a major contribution to a sustainable aerospace industry.