

# PZL Mielec To Manufacture Major Assemblies For Global F-16 Program

*New work begins in 2022, sustaining 200 Polish jobs*

**Warsaw, POLAND, NOVEMBER 22, 2021** - PZL Mielec, a Lockheed Martin company and one of Poland's longest established aircraft manufacturers, is to be a manufacturing partner for one of the world's most successful fighter aircraft programs. Beginning next year, PZL Mielec will build components and assemblies for the latest generation F-16 Block 70/72, sustaining around 200 jobs, with approximately 60 new jobs being created.

This development marks a significant new milestone for PZL Mielec, which was last involved in the production of fighter aircraft in the 1960s.

Beginning next year, PZL Mielec will manufacture the rear fuselage, center fuselage, cockpit structure, cockpit side panel and forward equipment bay for new production F-16s, exporting the aerostructures to Lockheed Martin's final assembly line in Greenville, South Carolina.

"Today's announcement underlines our commitment to PZL Mielec and to growing Lockheed Martin's industrial footprint in Poland, where we currently employ around 1,600 people directly and sustain work for more than 5,000 others in the Polish supply chain," says Robert Orzyłowski, Lockheed Martin director for Poland, Central and East Europe.

"During our 20+ year strategic partnership with Poland, we've delivered technology transfer, research and development opportunities, long-term sustainable high technology jobs, growth and exports," Orzyłowski adds. "Poland's acquisition of the F-35 opened the door for a further expansion of this relationship and helped enable today's exciting announcement."

With orders already secured for the F-16 Block 70/72 from five customers, global interest remains high for new-build production aircraft and for F-16V upgrades.

Poland has operated F-16s in its own fleet for the past 15 years, and this summer marked a 100,000 flight-hour milestone.

"The F-16 remains a critical part of the Polish Air Force," says Danya Trent, Lockheed Martin vice president, F-16 program. "This new production work at PZL Mielec will further ensure Poland is part of the F-16 global enterprise for many years to come."

Beyond the F-16, Poland is also procuring 32 F-35s, the first of which will be delivered in 2024. The complementary capabilities and interoperability between both fighter aircraft types serves to strengthen Poland's airpower capabilities and enables partnerships across missions, training, equipment and tactics with other NATO members.

## About Lockheed Martin

Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, Lockheed Martin Corporation is a global security and aerospace company that employs approximately 114,000 people worldwide and is principally engaged in the research, design, development, manufacture, integration and sustainment of advanced technology systems, products and services.

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