

Elevating Ontario's Aerospace Industry

McGuinty Government Supports Research And Innovation In Aerospace Sector

NEWS

September 16, 2010

Ontario is helping a Burlington aerospace business design the next generation of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems for the aerospace sector.

The province is supporting [L-3 WESCAM](#) to develop leading-edge technologies in airborne imaging systems that will provide clearer images, from greater distances and under harsh conditions, using lighter and smaller equipment. These innovations will help the company improve its business outlook in a highly competitive and technology-driven marketplace.

Ontario is providing a grant of \$17.5-million to L-3 WESCAM to support research and development of this technology. This province's support will help create 375 highly-skilled jobs, while retaining 555 existing positions at the business over the next five years.

Partnering with local business organizations is a key component of the five-year [Open Ontario plan](#) to create new job opportunities and promote economic growth.

QUOTES

"The aircraft of tomorrow will demand cutting-edge innovation. Our province is a leader in the R&D and advanced technologies that will benefit the global aerospace industry. L-3 WESCAM demonstrates a strong focus on innovation that helps promote greater growth in this sector."

— Sandra Pupatello, Minister of Economic Development and Trade

"We are excited about the potential of this project, and appreciate the government's recognition that L-3 WESCAM contributes significantly to the growth of the global innovative [aerospace sector](#)."

— John Dehne, President, L-3 WESCAM

QUICK FACTS

- L-3 WESCAM is a major provider of global airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems.
- The company relies on a pool of highly-skilled people from Ontario's unique concentration of universities and colleges in the Golden Horseshoe region.
- Ontario's aerospace industry employs 19,000 people with annual sales of approximately \$4 billion (source: [Stats Canada](#)), about 80 per cent of which are exports.
- As a result of our comprehensive tax package, the tax on business investment in Ontario is being cut in half, making Ontario businesses more competitive.

LEARN MORE

Read about [Open Ontario](#), the government's five-year plan for the economy.

Find out more about [Ontario programs supporting business](#).