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PRESS RELEASE

CNIM enters exclusive negotiations to acquire a controlling interest in Airstar Aerospace

The CNIM Group has begun exclusive negotiations with the majority shareholders of Airstar Aerospace, with a view to acquiring 85% of the company's share capital. Subject to final agreement, following consultations with CNIM's employee representation bodies, the transaction is expected to be completed by the end of March 2019. Following the planned takeover, Thales Alenia Space will remain an industrial partner and minority shareholder of Airstar Aerospace, alongside the CNIM Group.

About Airstar Aerospace: <http://airstar.aero/fr/>

Airstar Aerospace is a leading designer and manufacturer of stratospheric balloons (including airships able to ascend to and travel in the stratosphere), tethered aerostats, airships and thermal insulation for satellites. Airstar Aerospace was founded in 2015, following the Airstar group's takeover of Zodiac Marine's Space division.

Airstar Aerospace works with major players in the defense and space industries, including CNES, Thales, the French military procurement agency DGA, Airbus Defence & Space and the Swedish Space Corporation. Airstar Aerospace, which employs 46 people near Toulouse, France, has been subject to bankruptcy protection measures since 16 October 2018.

Through this acquisition, CNIM aims to become the European leader in aerostat and airship solutions for defense, monitoring, inspection, security and space applications.

A propos de CNIM : <http://www.cnim.com>

CNIM develops designs, produces turnkey industrial solutions with high technological content, and provides expertise, services and operations in the areas of the environment, energy, defense and industry. CNIM leads projects and sells equipment worldwide. CNIM relies on a stable family-based majority shareholding structure committed to its development. The Group employs 2,570 staff and had revenues of €634.9 million in 2017, 51.6% of which was from exports. CNIM is listed on the Euronext exchange in Paris.

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