

Ascendance Strengthens Its Strategic Advisory Committee with the Appointment of Former French Transport Minister Jean-Baptiste Djebbari

Toulouse, June 2, 2025 – [Ascendance](#), a pioneer in hybrid-electric aviation, announces the appointment of [Jean-Baptiste Djebbari](#) to its **Strategic Advisory Committee**, effective today. The former French Minister of Transport brings his extensive expertise to the company at a pivotal stage in its development, supporting industrial scale-up, international expansion, and the structuring of key partnerships.



A graduate of ENAC (French Civil Aviation University) and École Polytechnique, Jean-Baptiste Djebbari began his career as an airline pilot before joining the business aviation sector as Director of Operations at JetFly, a major player in the European market for 6- to 10-seat aircraft. Elected to the French National Assembly in 2017, he became Minister of Transport in 2019, where he led the rail sector's revival, investment plans for low-carbon mobility, and the first policies for sustainable aviation.

He currently serves as Managing Partner at Magellim Infrastructure, a fund dedicated to clean energies and **sustainable mobility**. He sits on the boards of several technology companies (E-Space, Look Up Space, Evera) and

advises investment funds, while also supporting high-impact environmental startups.

His background—**combining aeronautical expertise**, a deep understanding of **industrial** policy, and public governance experience—represents a strategic asset for Ascendance. Djebbari will play a key role in shaping the company's strategic direction, especially as it targets international markets.

"Jean-Baptiste's arrival is a real catalyst for structuring our international development. His unique expertise and broad perspective—at the crossroads of aerospace, sustainable mobility, and renewable energy—complement our advisory board as we enter a new phase of growth," said **Jean-Christophe Lambert**, co-founder and CEO of Ascendance.

"Joining Ascendance means supporting a company that made the strategic choice for hybrid-electric from day one, with ambitious and rigorous technologies that meet the expectations of a global market seeking credible solutions to decarbonize aviation," said **Jean-Baptiste Djebbari**.

He joins a Strategic Advisory Committee already composed of recognized industry and regional leaders: Jean-Paul Herteman, **former CEO of Safran**; Agnès Plagneux-Bertrand, vice president of Toulouse Métropole and former president of Aerospace Valley; Jean-Christophe Kugler, former executive committee member at Renault; Thierry Tea, former **CEO of Airbus Helicopters Philippines and Negocia Group**; and Andreas Löwenstein, formerly of Airbus and Kopter Group.

About Ascendance

Founded in 2018, Ascendance is a pioneering aviation company focused on decarbonization. The company develops two complementary solutions for low-carbon air mobility: ATEA and the STERNA Hybrid Pack.

ATEA is a hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft designed as a cleaner alternative to light helicopters for regional air transport, including passenger, cargo, medical, and security operations.

It is powered by the STERNA Hybrid Pack, a high-performance hybrid-electric propulsion system that combines extended range with significant emission reductions.

Based in Toulouse — the European capital of aerospace — and supported by Bpifrance, France 2030, and the Occitanie Region, Ascendance targets both civil and defense markets to accelerate the shift toward sustainable aviation.

<https://www.ascendance-ft.com>