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Ascendance and Airbus Partner to Accelerate Aviation Decarbonization with Hybrid-Electric Technology

A Strategic Alliance for the Next Generation of Hybrid-Electric Propulsion

Toulouse, June 12, 2025 – <u>Ascendance</u>, a pioneer in hybrid-electric solutions for aviation since 2018, and <u>Airbus</u>, the world's leading aerospace company, have announced a strategic partnership to jointly explore innovative hybrid-electric technologies. This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to delivering practical, low-carbon propulsion solutions and advancing the decarbonization of the aviation sector.

Combining Industrial Scale and Deep Tech Agility

Through this partnership, Ascendance brings its expertise in designing modular, certifiable hybrid-electric systems, while Airbus contributes its industrial scale and global experience as a leader in aviation transformation. By combining the strengths of an established aircraft manufacturer with a fast-moving technology innovator, the partnership aims to develop hybrid-electric systems that reduce aviation emissions and meet the industry's rigorous certification standards.

"This partnership with Airbus validates our vision: delivering practical, realistic technology that meets the demands of modern aviation. It marks a new milestone in our commitment to making cleaner, more accessible air travel a reality," said Jean-Christophe Lambert, CEO and co-founder of Ascendance.

"Ascendance embodies an innovative and pragmatic approach. Their ability to turn disruptive concepts into certifiable, real-world solutions is a real asset for accelerating aviation's energy transition. This partnership aligns with our decarbonization roadmap and reflects our ambition to invent the future of flight," said Karim Mokaddem, Head of Aircraft of Tomorrow Technologies at Airbus.

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