

# Samtel to showcase indigenous technology at Aero India



**N**ew Delhi. The leading maker of high-technology products for avionics and military applications, Samtel Display Systems is looking forward to place India on the global avionics map, especially when it comes to indigenisation of technology.

Samtel has a rich history and experience of manufacturing displays for televisions, and has moved forward strategically to provide services in the areas of design, development, manufacture, testing, qualification, maintenance and obsolescence management of avionics products and equipment for military as well as commercial aircraft. The products developed by Samtel Display Systems include Color Avionic Tubes (CAT), Multi Function Displays (MFD), Head Up Displays (HUD), Helmet Mounted Displays (HMD), Automated Test Equipments (ATE) and IADS, as well as Control Displays for Armored Military Vehicles.

At its stall E-9 at Aero India, Samtel will be exhibiting along with its two joint venture companies – Samtel HAL Display Systems and Samtel Thales Avionics. Visitors to the booth will be able to see a live 5"x5" MFD which has been developed by Samtel in collaboration with DRDO, and has been fully cleared for flight worthiness. The MFD has been

further developed by Samtel HAL Display Systems, and is flying on Sukhoi 30 MKI aircraft. In a specially created section in the booth, Visitors will also be able to see the working of a System level Test Bench, which is used to evaluate performance of the MFD by performing a suite of tests as defined in the Acceptance Test Procedure (ATP) of the MFD.

Also on display at the booth will be a working model of 20.1" Ruggedised LCD panel – which are mainly used in Naval displays. Besides this, Samtel will also be displaying its indigenously developed Color Avionics Tube, for which it already has long-term supply contracts with Honeywell and Thales. The visitors will also be able to gain insight about the indigenously developed HUD (Head Up Display).

A model of the Indian Helmet Mounted Sight Display, which will be indigenously developed by Samtel and Thales through their joint venture will also be on display at the booth. "The Indian Helmet Mounted Sight and Display is meant for Indian fighter aircraft and is based on Thales' advanced and proven technologies. It ensures pilot's safety, comfort and health, and is suited for all Indian fighter aircraft", says Puneet Kaura, Director - Commercial for Samtel Display Systems.

Samtel is poised to become the offset partner for all avionics display system integrators around the world as it capitalises on its strong experience spanning decades, tested relationships with its joint venture partners, its vertically integrated focus and the strength of its manufacturing capabilities.

Samtel Display Systems' joint venture with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Samtel HAL Display Systems, has bagged an order with a potential of Rs 2.2 billion (\$50 million) for the development of multifunctional display systems for fighter aircraft such as the Sukhoi (Su-30 MKI) and the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).



Samtel HAL Display Systems was formed as India's first defence sector public-private partnership in 2006. In the first phase, the indigenous display systems will be fitted into the Sukhoi fleet that is to be produced by HAL over the next 10 year period, for supply to the Indian Air Force (IAF). The multifunctional display (MFD) systems have undergone tests for flight worthiness at the government-owned Defence Avionics Research Establishment (DARE), after being cleared by the regional centre for military airworthiness. Through this joint venture, Samtel and HAL are targeting to replace all the imported cockpit displays (MFDs, HUDs, HMDs & ISIS) across all platforms of HAL with Samtel-HAL JV's products. HAL chairman Ashok Baweja said HAL was on track to become a powerhouse in design, analysis, engineering and software solutions, and is committed to fostering India's ambition of being a leading player in the aviation world in the next decade.

Samtel Thales Avionics is a joint venture between Samtel and Thales, and brings Thales' technological expertise to India through Thales' multi-domestic strategy of partnering with leading industry players across the world. "The JV will work towards the local development, production, sale and maintenance of Helmets Mounted Sight & Display (HMSD) and other Avionics Systems destined for the Indian market. Samtel Thales Avionics will become the design authority for products and equipment developed and manage them through their entire life cycle", adds Kaura. ■