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# Overview of Torino Piemonte Aerospace



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## **Background:**

Italy's economy is diverse with most of the industrial activity centered in the north of the country. It is the 7th largest economy in the world, the 4th largest in Europe and maintains the highest proportion of manufacturing jobs among the G7 economies. The United States is one Italy's largest trading partners with the U.S. being its 6th largest supplier.

Italy has a long tradition of excellence in the aerospace sector, which today forms the cornerstone for the country's modernization and economic development plans. Finmeccanica and its subsidiaries, Alenia Aeronautica and Agusta Westland, for example, lead the aerospace industry sector, which characterized by a vertically-integrated supply chain comprised of hundreds of small to medium-sized suppliers, strong collaboration with a university network that includes eight universities that offer degree courses in aerospace and aviation engineering, as well as national scientific centers that conduct basic and applied research. Annual R&D investment is estimated at US\$2 billion (or 1.3 billion Euros). Italy's aerospace sector accounts for \$15.7 billion (10 billion Euros) in annual revenue, employs 50,000, and has lower labor costs compared to other European countries such as the UK, Netherlands, and France.

Italy's successes in space have made it a world leader in the space industry. The Italian Space Agency (ASI) was created in 1988 to implement a national space strategy. Italy was the first European country and the third country worldwide to launch its own satellite. Today, ASI collaborates with NASA on the International Space Station, and it is participating in an international program for Mars exploration. Italy is one of the top three contributing nations to the European Space Agency.

## **Torino Piemonte Aerospace:**

The Piemonte region of Italy is home to five major international aerospace companies: Alenia Aeronautica, Thales Alenia Space, Avio Group, Selex Galileo, and Microtecnica, employing approximately 7,000 people. Supporting these companies are approximately 400 small to medium-sized enterprises employing approximately 3,000. The manufacturing value chain consists of end producers of complex sub-systems, parts and components suppliers, and specialized sub-contractors. Innovation plays a key role in this sector. One in three companies maintains its own laboratory and one in three companies engages in international programs and projects and collaborates with Italian and overseas research centers.

The Torino Piemonte Aerospace began as a three year initiative promoted by the Torino Chamber of Commerce, the Italian Ministry of Economy, the European Union, and the Piemonte Agency for Investments, Export and Tourism. The initiative is designed to facilitate international business development via matchmaking activities for 62 of the region's top enterprises representing the following core competencies: aircraft manufacturing, components and mechanics, electrical systems for aircraft and satellites, test and control equipment, engineering, among others.

Sources: CIA World Factbook, US Commercial Service, Invest in Italy, Torino Piemonte Aerospace

## **Torino Piemonte Aerospace**



## Italy

### *Basic Statistics:*

Population: 58.1 billion  
Per Capita GDP: \$30,400  
Unemployment: 6%

## **Torino Piemonte Aerospace (con't):**

Companies selected to participate must meet strict standards of evaluation in technical knowledge, innovative products and processes, program development, global competitiveness, and team work/collaboration. For more information, visit: ([www.torinopiemonteaerospace.com](http://www.torinopiemonteaerospace.com))

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