



Association of  
European Research Establishments in Aeronautics

## **Expected Investment Needs for Research & Testing Infrastructures**

Catalin Nae

Member of the EREA Board

General Director INCAS

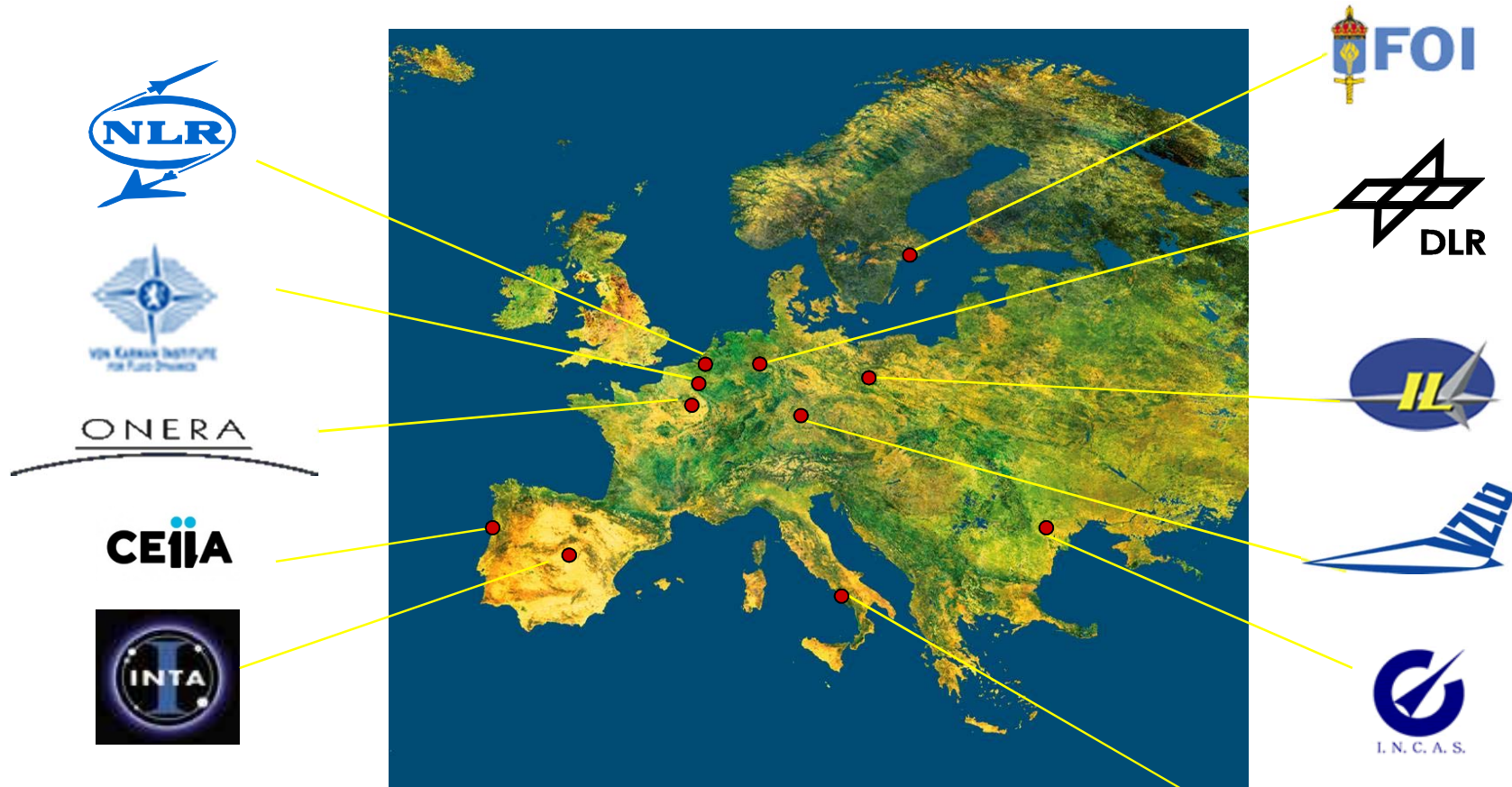


# Outline

- EREA – facts and figures
- Overview of EREA capabilities
- Operating Facilities for R&D
- Operation and maintenance – cost models
- The need for investments ...
- Some conclusions



# Association of European Research Establishments in Aeronautics



## Associate Members & Strategic Partners

- AIT** Austrian Institute of Technology
- CSEM** Swiss Center for Electronics and Microtechnology
- TsAGI** Central Aerohydrodynamic Institute (Russia)

[www.erea.org](http://www.erea.org)





# EREA Objectives

**EREA** is a **non-profit association** with the objectives :

- to promote and represent the **joint interests** of its members
- to intensify the **co-operation** between its members, aimed at **further integration** of their activities in the field of **civil, military and space-related aeronautics**
- to improve and intensify the co-operation of EREA and its members with third parties in the field of aeronautics
- to facilitate the ultimate goal of the Members of **an integrated management of joint activities**, thereby contributing to **Europe's role as a global player in aeronautics.**



## **EREA in numbers**

**5.135**

**Employees in aeronautics**

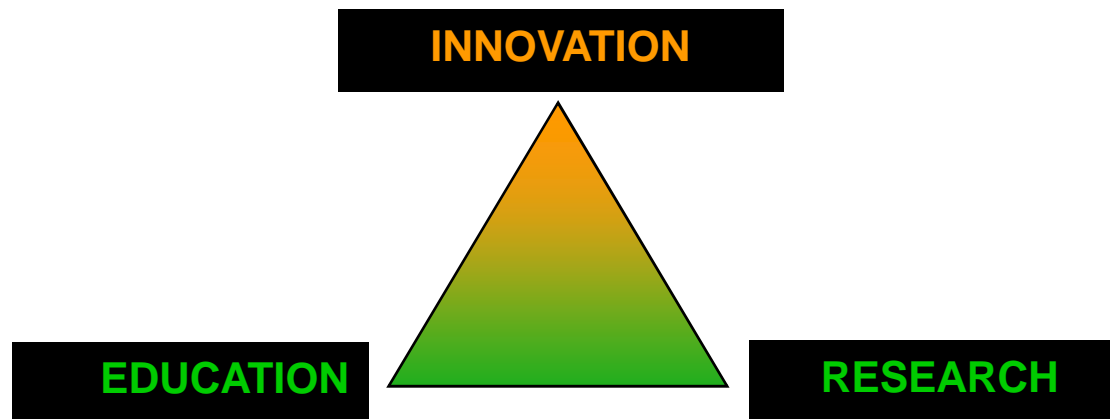
**€ 447.000.000**

**Spend on research in aeronautics**



# EREA Strengths

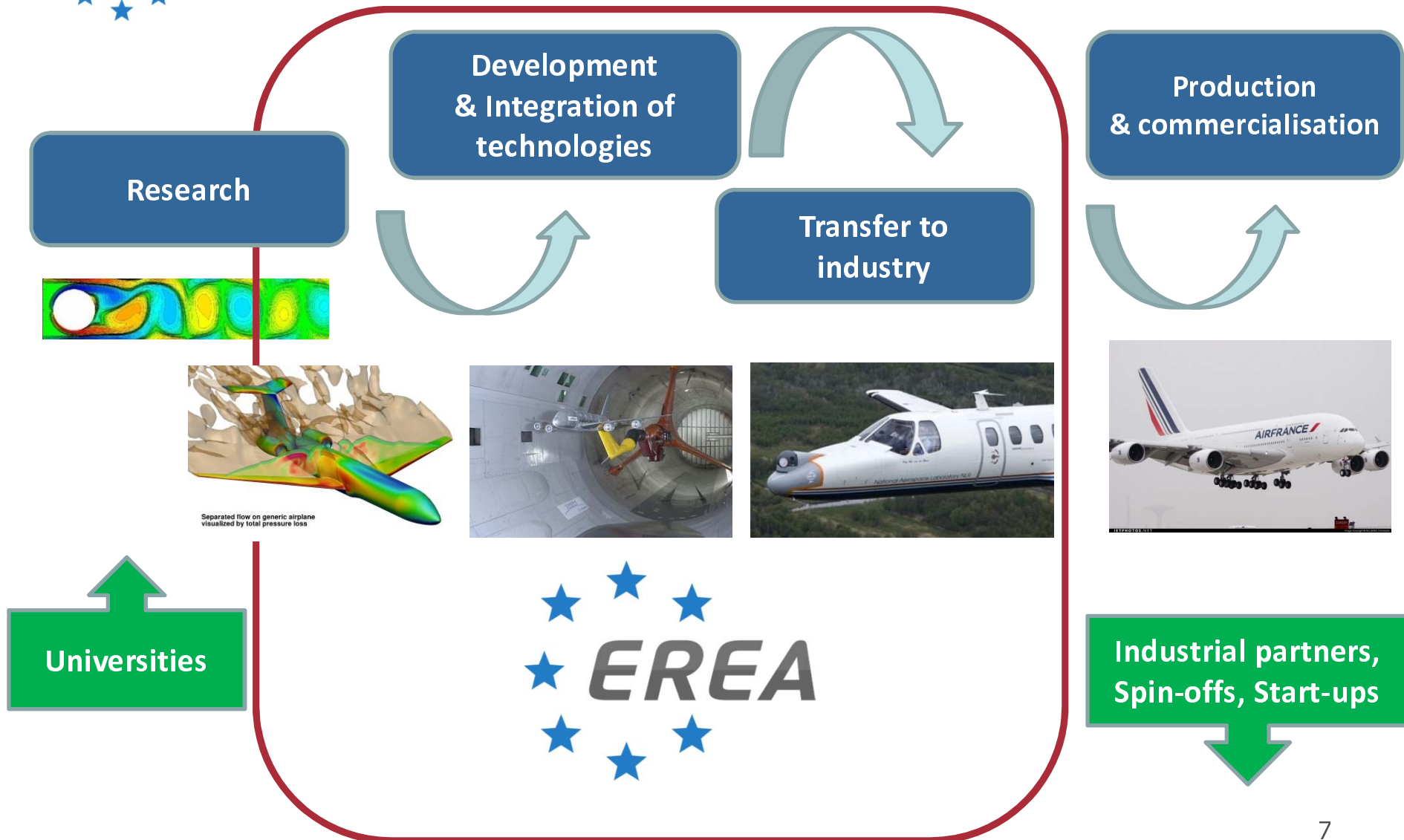
- EREA is a major contributor to European aeronautical research, addressing all elements of the “triangle of knowledge” in this field:



- EREA members are owners of R&D infrastructure
- EREA members have specific national missions



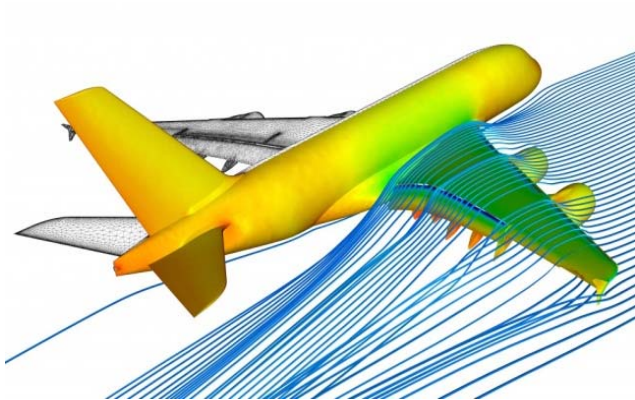
# The position of EREA



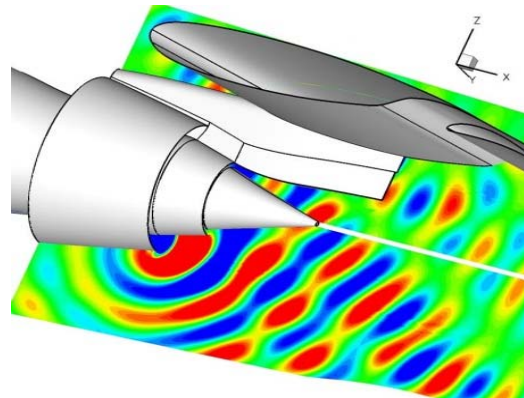


# Capabilities

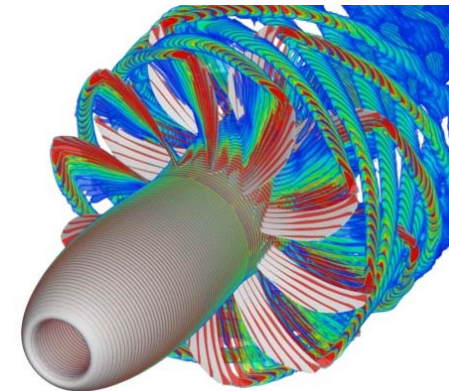
Our tools to take aerospace research further



**Aerodynamics**



**Acoustics**



**Propulsion**



**Environmental research**



**Safety**



**Materials and structures**





# Capabilities

Our tools to take aerospace research further



**Avionics**



**Flight mechanics**



**Security**



**Flight testing & simulation**



**Human factors**



**Aircraft operation**



# Capabilities

**Our tools to take aerospace research further**



**Certification**



**MRO**



**ATM & airport**



# Multi-disciplinary Research and Testing Infrastructures



**Research aircrafts**



**Structure facilities**



**Materials facilities**



**Windtunnels**



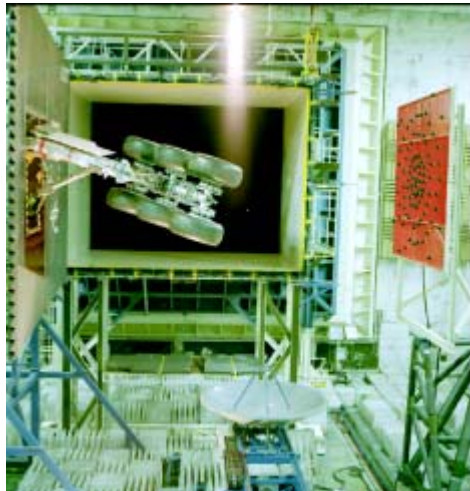
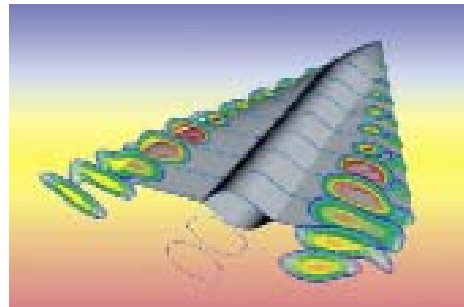
**Engine testing**



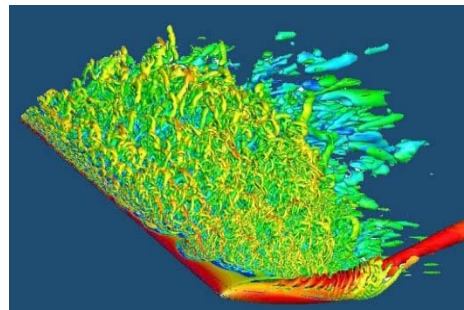
**Simulators**



# Multi-disciplinary Research and Testing Infrastructures



**Acoustic facilities**



**Super computing**



**Concurrent Engineering**



# Multi-disciplinary Research and Testing Infrastructures



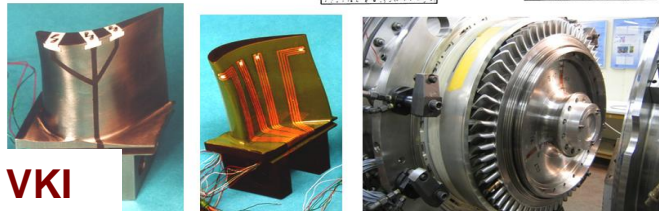
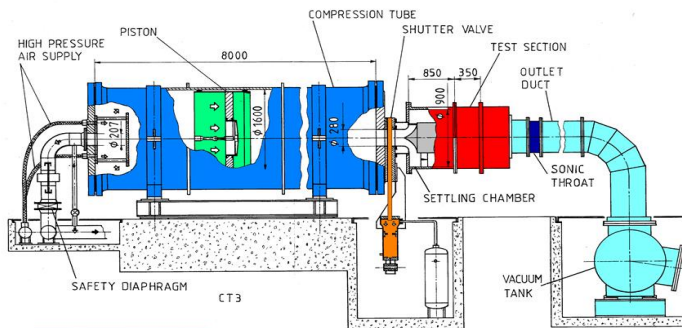
**IWT**



**SWT**



**Tower Simulation**



**VKI**



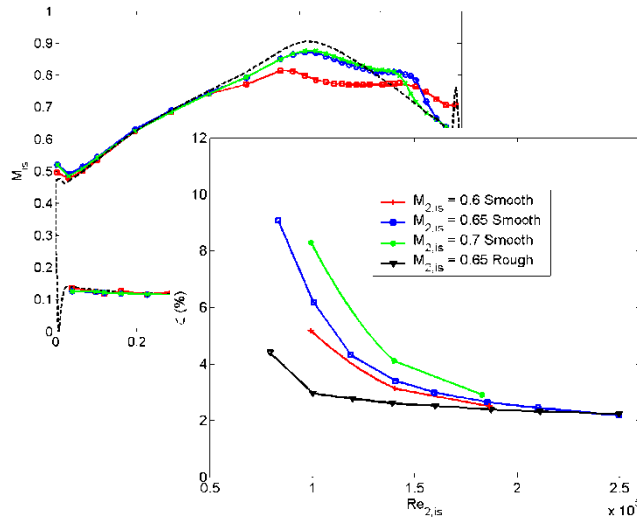
**LISA**



**Crash Tower**



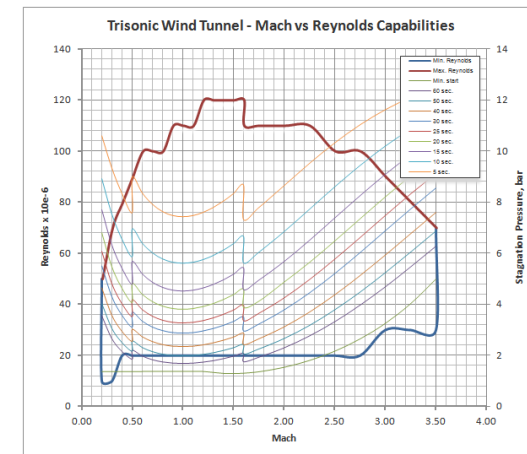
# Operating Facilities for R&D



The Low Re, High Mach number LPT Facility - VKI

Operating in Relevant Environment (Mach, Re, St, etc.)

[www.erea.org](http://www.erea.org)



INCAS Supersonic Wind Tunnel



# Operating Facilities for R&D

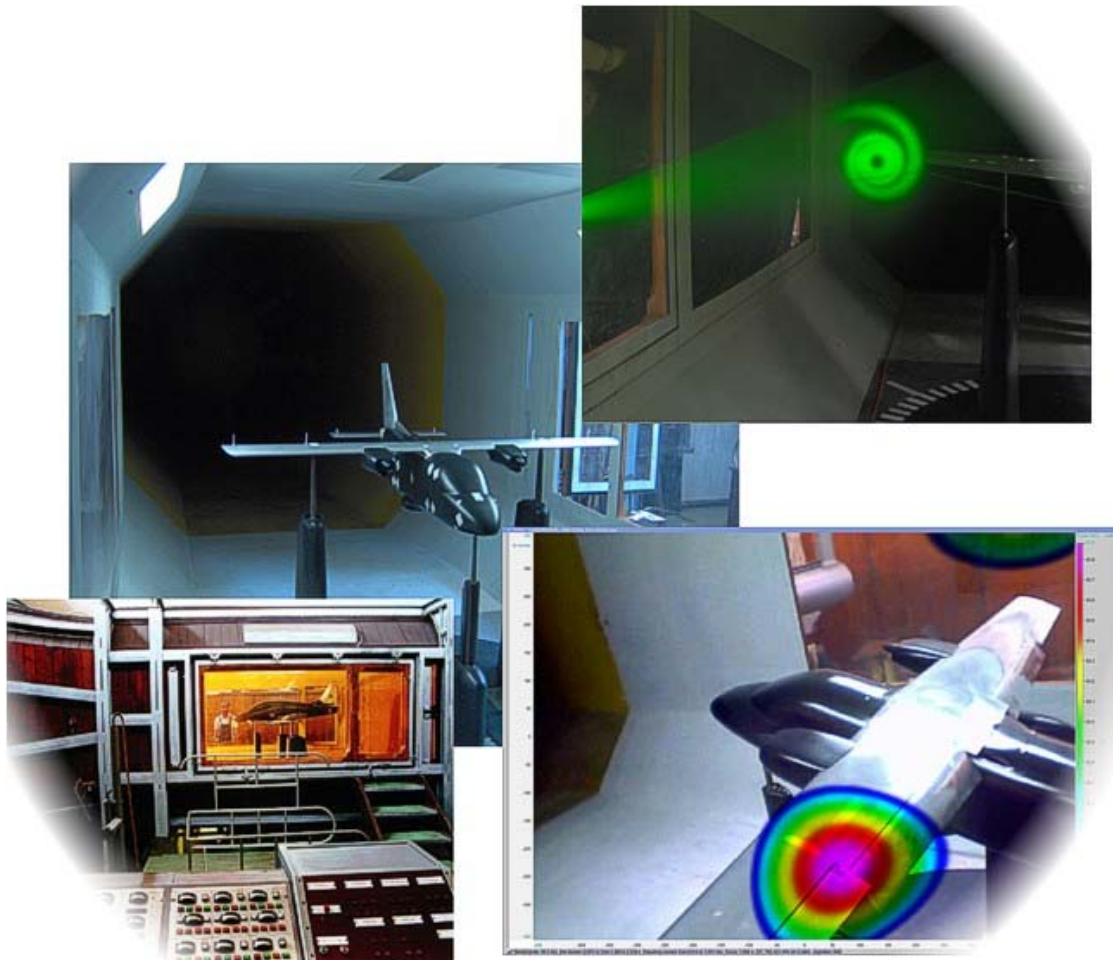
Various modes for operation :

- Service providers for the industry
  - 100% funding from customer (industry)
  - Infrastructure developed and used according to industrial needs/specifications
  - Cost-effective operation ? – Not the main criteria !
  - Operation for profit ? – Possible !
  
- R&D activities – applied research based on co-funding scheme
  - Funding up to 75% - What are “Direct Costs” ?
  - Needs additional funding scheme – national programs
  - Cost-effective operation is mandatory !
  
- Basic research activities
  - Funding should not be a problem – low costs and/or dedicated grants



# Operating Facilities for R&D

## INCAS current practices



### ***Subsonic Wind Tunnel***

- Atmospheric pressure, continuous
- Maximum speed : 110 m/s
- 2.5m x 2.0m x 4m test section
- Reynolds number up to 2.5 million.

### ***Basic operation:***

- Aerodynamic testing – general
- Aeroacoustics and airframe noise evaluation

### ***Cost Model :***

- co-funding up to 50%
- R&D grants – national and international





# Operating Facilities for R&D

## INCAS current practices



### ***Subsonic Wind Tunnel***

- Blowdown type
- 1.2m x 1.2m test section
- Mach number range : 0.1 ... 3.5
- Reynolds number up to 100 millions/m
- Max test run duration : 90 sec.
- Max pressure : 16 bar (settling chamber)

- Interchangeable porous transonic test section
- Variable porosity from 0.01% up to 9%
- Active model/combustion capability

### ***Basic operation:***

- Aerodynamic testing – general
- Special test rigs for industrial partners

### ***Cost Model :***

- Industrial service – cost effective !
- co-funding up to 25%
- Basic funding – national support 5%



# Operating Facilities for R&D

## INCAS current practices



### **ATMOSLAB**

- Beechcraft King Air C90 GTx
- SPEC Hawkeye Cloud Particle and Precipitation Probe
- CAPS - Cloud, Aerosol and Precipitation Spectrometer
- RIEGL LMS-Q680i long-range airborne laser scanner

### **Basic operation:**

- Atmospheric research – ice particles/ volcanic ash
- ATM research - EGNOS

### **Cost Model :**

- Industrial service – cost effective !
- co-funding up to 50%



# Operation and maintenance

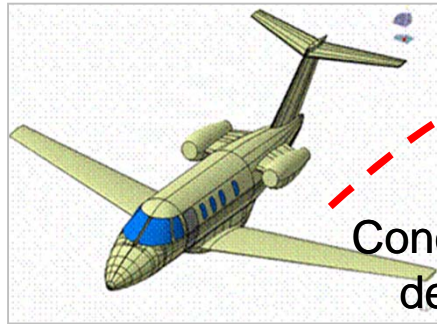
## cost models

Various cost models for EREA partners:

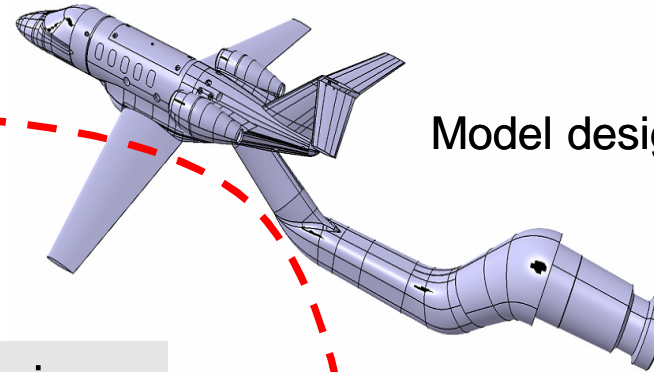
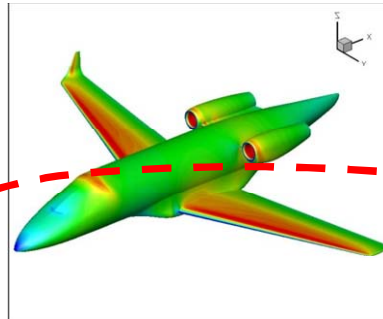
- Externalized service
  - Specific for large testing facilities
  - International cooperation cost models
  - Charged as “Other Direct Costs” in FP7 projects
  - Maintenance costs are included in the global price
  
- R&D cost
  - Small/Medium testing facilities
  - Funding up to 75% - What are “Direct Costs” ?
  - No maintenance costs charged – additional funding needed !
  
- Package for R&D activity
  - Model design & instrumentation included
  - Model manufacturing – basic option
  - Funding up to 75% - “Direct Costs” + “Other Direct Costs”
  - No maintenance costs charged – may be compensated by the “Indirect Costs” (partially!)



# Operation and maintenance INCAS



Conceptual design



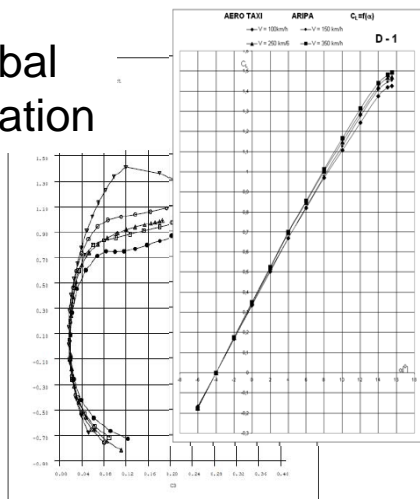
Model design

Integrated design,  
manufacturing  
and testing capabilities



Model manufacturing

Global evaluation



WT testing



# The need for investments

- Maintain the cost-efficient capability using state-of-the-art systems and experimental technologies
- Extend the “relevant environment” capabilities for industrial services
- Human resources investment plan – *unique personel with unique expertise*
- Enable low cost access for basic research using dedicated instruments (national/EU)



## Proposed measures

- Inclusion of Aviation research infrastructures into ESFRI list
- Additional European funding for RI (H2020, Structural funds, CF!)
- Increase efficient use and operation of facilities by
  - Joint management
  - Common operation teams
  - other...



## Conclusions

- Research infrastructures (larger and smaller ones) are needed to carry out aeronautical research;
- RI should be reconsidered based on the relevant environment capability criteria;
- Our trained staff turns these infrastructures into strategic research capabilities for Europe;
- Some RI can be run and maintained on national basis for national/regional demands;
- EU action is needed/requested to support sustainable development



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