In the last 20 years, Canada’s global share of aerospace activity has tripled and today we are the world’s fifth-largest aerospace nation. Aerospace companies in Western Canada have always had a critical part to play in our industry’s aerospace successes, and together they form a competitive, growing and vibrant sector of the aerospace industry in Canada.

Aerospace in Western Canada has a proud history that reaches back over a century. Over the years, our companies have grown into an industry that supports the employment of over 27,000 people and generates over $4.5 billion in annual revenues. Innovation and technology growth in the aerospace sector continues to be a hallmark of the Western Canadian economy.
Today, the West is Canada’s undisputed leader in the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) sector—nearly half of all MRO activity in Canada takes place in the West. However, Western Canadian companies boast capabilities in a broad range of aerospace industry sectors, including:

- Aircraft and component manufacturing
- Airframe and engine maintenance repair and overhaul
- Manufacture and repair of advanced metals and composite materials
- Advanced materials research and development
- Aerospace-based geomatics and scientific research
- Defence electronics
- Satellite manufacture and ground tracking
- Space systems and remote sensing
- Environmental testing and certification services
- Logistics support to military forces
- Technical and flying training
- Robotics, tooling and assembly automation
- Unmanned vehicle systems research, testing, development and manufacturing

With a stable, highly skilled workforce and a network of aerospace and defence research and development institutions, Western Canadian aerospace companies compete around the world across the commercial aviation, defence and security, UVS and space market segments.

Western Canada’s aerospace sector is working together with support from Western Economic Diversification Canada and our provincial economic development partners from the Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia governments.

Western Canada’s Aerospace Industry by the Numbers:

- Made up of over 400 companies
- Supports the employment of over 27,000 people
- Generates over $4.5 billion in annual revenues
- Contributes more than $2.5 billion to Canada’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Invests more than $1 billion in research and development annually