

PRESS RELEASE

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Naval Group and NTNU to sign memorandum of understanding to strengthen R&D collaboration

Naval Group and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) signed on June 19th a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore future collaboration in the field of Research and Development (R&D), with a focus on naval innovation and maritime technologies. This agreement with NTNU's Department of Ocean Operations marks a significant milestone in Naval Group's strategy to build long-term partnerships with Norway's world-class research institutions.

The agreement was signed on June 19th at the Hotel de Lassay of the French National Assembly, in the presence of Pascal Lecamp, Member of Parliament and President of the France-Norway friendship Comity, Vincent Caure, Member of Parliament, H.E. Niels ENGELSCHIØN, Norwegian Ambassador in France, Claudine Smith, CEO BNP Paribas Norway & President of the Norwegian-French Chamber of Commerce, and Thibault Farineau, Director of Strategy and Innovation Management for Naval Group.

Supporting naval innovation

This new MoU sets a formal framework for cooperation in a range of scientific and technological areas of mutual interest, including ship design, navigation systems and naval drones.

With this agreement, Naval Group aims to strengthen its engagement with the academic and research community in Norway and foster joint innovation in support of future naval capabilities.

A strategic Norwegian partner

As part of its commitment to Norway's naval future, Naval Group has initiated several strategic R&D partnerships in Norway. In addition to the agreement with NTNU, similar cooperation frameworks have been signed with leading research centers such as SINTEF and NORCE.

The agreement is signed a few days only after a new tripartite agreement between Naval Group, INRIA (France's National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology) and the Norwegian research center SIMULA was reached – further strengthening the academic ties between Norway and France.

NTNU, as Norway's largest university and a leading maritime research hub, is a key partner in this effort. The university's strong expertise in ocean operations, autonomy, and digitalization is highly complementary to Naval Group's ambitions in future naval technologies.

"We are very honored to sign this cooperation with NTNU, one of Europe's foremost universities in the field of maritime research and engineering. This agreement will enable the development of joint projects and the sharing of cutting-edge knowledge in areas critical to future naval innovation," says Guillaume Weisrock, Naval Group's SVP for Sales and Business Development in Europe and North America.

"The agreement with Naval Group gives us a valuable opportunity to apply our research to operational needs in naval design and autonomy. We look forward to building this collaboration further," says Hans Petter Hildre, Head of Department Ocean Operations and Civil Engineering, NTNU.

A long-term commitment to Norway

Naval Group brings decades of experience in the design, construction and integration of advanced naval platforms and systems. As part of its long-term commitment to Norway, the group is actively working to establish industrial and research partnerships that will create value for the Norwegian defense and maritime sectors.

Through cooperation with Norway's top research institutions, Naval Group seeks to contribute to a broader ecosystem of innovation and R&D cooperation that supports both national security and technological excellence.

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About Naval Group

As an international naval defence player, Naval Group is a partner for countries seeking to maintain control of their maritime sovereignty. Naval Group develops innovative solutions to meet its customers' requirements. The group is present throughout the entire life cycle of vessels. It designs, produces, equips, integrates, supports and upgrades submarines and surface ships, as well as their systems and equipment, right up to the final phases of deconstruction and dismantling. Naval Group's unique know-how in autonomous systems, underwater weapons and drones place it in pole position to become European leader in the sector. As a high-tech company, it draws on its outstanding expertise, unique design and production resources and ability to establish strategic partnerships, in particular within the framework of transfers of technology. It also provides shipyard and naval base services.

Ever mindful of the issues concerning corporate social responsibility (CSR), Naval Group is a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact. Located on five continents, the group generates revenue of 4.355 billion euros and has 16,722 employees (Full-Time Equivalent average annual workforce - figures as on 31 December 2024).

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