

# TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Patrouille de France is made up of elite pilots but also mechanics who truly symbolize the excellence and expertise of French aviation. Every single trade possible in aeronautical mechanics is represented in the Patrouille de France workforce.

The "Chief of Technical Services and his deputy" co-ordinate the use of aircraft and ensure the availability of the 12 Alphajets.

The "Technical Department" monitors the ageing of aircraft parts via a specific software program

The "Troubleshooting Team" is in charge of corrective and preventive maintenance of the Alphajets with the aim of having 10 operational aircraft every single day in strict compliance with flight safety and maintenance regulations.

"Ramp Services" bring together the workforce, the equipment and the infrastructure dedicated to the landing and take-off of aircraft (or inbound and outbound aircraft) in strict compliance with flight and personnel safety.

"Aircraft Armament Systems specialists" inspect, and operate "pods" coloured smoke,



election seats, pyrotechnic devices and life support systems.

Aircraft Electrical and Environmental Systems team inspect and evaluate navigation instruments, communications, wiring, voltage regulators, actuators in each Alphajet.

Aerospace Propulsion specialists Diagnose engine problems, including the fuel, oil, electrical and engine airflow systems.

Aerospace Ground Equipment specialists are

responsible for maintaining the equipment that supplies electricity, as planes receive maintenance and prepare for flight in strict compliance with flight safety and maintenance regulations. All those specialists give the Patrouille de France full autonomy.



# HISTORY

The name "Patrouille de France" was given by Jacques Noetinger, the show's commentator in Algiers on May 17th 1953. During the show he exclaimed "Ladies and gentlemen, here is the Patrouille de France !". On September

14th of that very year the Military S adopted the name.

M. Pierre Mesmer, Defence Minister that time, made this rebirth official February 1964. As a consequence, Patrouille de France would be stationed on Salon de Provence Air Force Base and would be equipped with a new fleet of eleven CM 170 "Fouga Magister".

# THE PILOTS

## THREE NEW PILOTS PER YEAR

Pilot selection follows the same procedure every year. Three new fighter pilots need to have completed a minimum of 1,500 flying hours and be qualified as a patrol leader before joining the Patrouille de France as a charognard, or inner left or right wingmen. After administrative verification, the applicants, will do a backseat flight with the team. They will also be interviewed and perhaps selected by the members of the team in place.

