

**LT. GOVERNOR RUTHERFORD TO LEAD DELEGATION
OF MARYLAND BUSINESSES TO PARIS AIR SHOW**
*Announces Planned Agreement Between
Celeste Industries and Thomas Cook Group Airlines*

ANNAPOLIS, MD (June 12, 2015) – Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford will join Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary Mike Gill in leading a delegation of seven Maryland businesses to the 51st Paris Air Show, the world’s largest aerospace industry event. At the seven-day show, which is kicking off Monday, June 15, at Le Bourget Airport, Maryland will have a 60 square-meter booth where participating Maryland businesses can showcase their products and services. In addition to meetings with global aerospace companies, Lt. Governor Rutherford will attend a reception hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to France and Monaco Jane D. Hartley.

“The Paris Air Show presents a unique opportunity to reach the decision makers of many of the world’s largest aerospace companies and encourage them to explore Maryland as the ideal place to establish operations,” said Lt. Governor Rutherford. “With more than 2,200 exhibitors from 44 countries, the show will also help connect our participating Maryland businesses with new opportunities for global trade and investment.”

The Maryland companies exhibiting are: ASTec Metalworks in Middle River; Ausley Associates in Lexington Park; Celeste Industries Corp. in Easton; Cobham Advanced Electronic Solutions in Baltimore; IntelligentUAS in Riverdale; Mecaer Aviation Group (MAG) in Hagerstown; and SURVICE Engineering in Belcamp. The majority of the companies attending received an ExportMD grant from DBED to help offset the cost of the show.

Celeste Industries, a global specialty chemical company developing cleaning and odor-control products, will be announcing at the show that they have signed an agreement with London-based Thomas Cook Group Airlines, one of the world’s leading leisure travel groups, to supply their range of water-based and environmentally-friendly interior cleaning products throughout Europe. Celeste services most of the world’s commercial airlines, as well as bus, rail and janitorial companies.

“Being a part of the world’s oldest and largest air show creates the unique opportunity for Celeste Industries to feature the cutting-edge technologies it employs in the formulation of sustainable and environmentally sound aircraft cleaning products,” said Gene DeJackome, general manager of Celeste Industries. “The Paris Air Show brings together the global operators of commercial and general aviation aircraft that are the core of Celeste’s current business and future growth.”

Maryland remains a leader in the aerospace and defense industries. In addition to its highly-skilled workforce and critical mass of companies, Maryland offers the benefit of proximity to many federal agencies, including NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Joint Base Andrews, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory.

Maryland is also home to eight of the top 10 aerospace companies in the U.S., including Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems, BAE Systems, and General Dynamics. In addition, the state has many of the top defense contractors, making it one of the world’s most competitive and extensive aerospace and defense clusters.