

"We aim to be the company capable of designing and manufacturing Thai-made products that can be accepted and used on aircraft worldwide."

Lenso Aerospace

-Tatiya Meemetsakul Chief Executive Officer of Lenso Aerospace

The Thai-made Aircraft Components Company That's Redefining Precision

Lenso Aerospace is a leading manufacturer of precision and complex aircraft components specializing in the area of ultrahigh precision machining, sheet metal fabrication and build to print assemblies. Lenso Aerospace began operations with a \$1 million investment in March 2011 as a joint venture between a British engineering company and a Thai businessman.



Starting with just 1,200 square meters of floor space and 6 VMC machines, Lenso Aerospace was able to get AS9100 Rev C approval after only 6 months of operation. Over the next two years, Lenso Aerospace's business volume began to grow, so they added 9 additional VMC machines, a Turn-Mill Lathe and a Sliding Head Machine.

They increased their factory floor space by a further 1,000 square meters and began an assembly line to provide customers with added value processes. Lenso Aerospace also started manufacturing airplane and structural components. components After 4 years of operation, Lenso Aerospace was acquired by the Lenso Group and a group of private investors, creating a wholly Thai owned company. With the new capital provided by these investors they acquired 4 additional VMC machines and a 5-axis machine. Having outgrown their original facility, Lenso Aerospace saw the need for expansion and acquired 12,000 square meters of land for a new factory.

In 2016, the company erected a brand new 6000 square meter facility. The company has added the ability to provide in-house surface treatments and has achieved NADCAP (National Aerospace and Defense Contractors Accreditation Program) approval as a 2nd-tier manufacturer, who can directly

contract to deliver goods to 1st-tier customers such as Boeing and Airbus. The company is further preparing to be certified at an even higher level in order to become a future 1st-tier manufacturer themselves. Achieving the 1st-tier level of Boeing and Airbus will enable the company to receive orders from, co-design with, and produce components for the airlines as it wishes, as well as subcontract lower-tier manufacturers to produce additional parts.

Mr. Tatiya Meemetsakul, CEO of the company, said "This is a good opportunity for Thai aircraft component manufacturers such as ourselves because we have both the skills and the precise knowledge for designing and manufacturing components". He added that people in the aircraft components industry are also interested in locating in Thailand due to the uncertainty of increasing tariff barriers between China and the USA, and already some manufactures have started to move out of China. As the aviation markets of Thailand and nearby countries such as China, India, and Indonesia are expected to continue their current outstanding growth rates, outpacing other regions worldwide, Thailand 's location in the heart of Southeast Asia to ideal for companies looking to enter or expand into those markets.



Thailand has long been recognized as an ideal base. manufacturing To further strengthen the overall competitiveness in aviation, the government has embarked on numerous initiatives, such as upgrading U-Tapao airport to become Asia's MRO hub. Since Thailand's air traffic has growth has resulted exceeding Suvarnabhumi Airport's maximum capacity, AOT has Suvarnabhumi begun the Airport Development Project valued at \$62,503 million, with completion scheduled for 2019. The Don Mueang International Airport Master Plan is currently in the 3rd phase, with the goal of further increasing the airport's passenger, cargo and runway capacity.

The Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) offers a wide range of tax and non-tax incentives for projects that meet national development objectives. Tax-based incentives include an exemption or reduction of import duties on machinery and raw materials, as well as corporate income tax exemptions of up to eight years. In addition,

(corporate CIT income on-top tax) exemptions may be approved for investment in the EEC Aerotropolis (EEC-A) area within the Eastern Economic Corridor, which has been specifically provided for the aerospace industry, where investors may receive up to the maximum of 13 years of exemption. **CIT** Non-tax incentives additionally include permission to bring in expatriates, own land and take or remit foreign currency abroad.

Additional information about specific activities relating to the aerospace industry can be found by clicking <u>here</u> or contacting the BOI's Investment Promotion Division 2.
