

27 NOV 2017



**Dr Andrew Murrison MP**  
Chair of the Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Dear Dr Murrison,

On behalf of ADS and our members I welcome the opportunity to outline the importance of the aerospace sector in Northern Ireland as part of the Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee inquiry on Bombardier and the future of aerospace manufacturing in Northern Ireland. ADS is the national trade association for the UK's Aerospace, Defence, Security and Space sectors. From technology and exports, to apprenticeships and investment, our sectors are vital to the UK's growth – generating around £72bn a year, £37bn in exports, and supporting around 300,000 jobs across the entire United Kingdom.

Aerospace in Northern Ireland is a key part of the overall UK aerospace industry, and a strategically important sector within the Northern Ireland economy. Overall, around 10,000 people are directly employed across the country, with the sector generating £1.3bn to the economy and contributing to around 20% of Northern Ireland's exports.

The aerospace sector is built on openness to trade between its major manufacturing nations, promoting healthy commercial competition, therefore undue trade barriers or tariffs hinders market access, reduces the choices available to consumers and limits innovation and productivity.

Bombardier and the CSeries programme are vital to the growth of the UK's Aerospace sector, as well as both the UK-wide and local Northern Ireland economies. The CSeries programme and its Belfast-designed revolutionary composite wing represent the very best of UK innovation, investment and ingenuity. Boeing has been a long-term strategic partner to the UK, investing in suppliers and working with UK Government to deliver significant platforms and drive economic growth across the UK.

Both companies are valued investors across the UK and ADS urges the UK Government to play a proactive and constructive role in resolving the dispute by continuing to work with the Canadian and US Governments to take all appropriate steps to find an amicable resolution that supports the interests of the global aerospace sector and the highly skilled and innovative workforce in Northern Ireland. Given the current commercially-sensitive nature of this dispute, ADS is not in a position to comment further.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Everitt', is written over a faint, larger signature.

**Paul Everitt**  
Chief Executive