

Thales in Japan

Factsheet



Locations



Present since

1970

Tokyo (Akasaka, Hachioji)

- Country headquarter
- Sales & Project Management
- Cyber & Digital
- Cyber & Digital Logistics Center

Osaka

- Cyber & Digital

Nagoya

- Cyber & Digital

3 office locations

150+ employees



Did you know?

- Thales is actively supporting the **Japanese Self-Defense Forces** with **optronics, radars and sonars** to secure Japan's territorial borders.
- Thales cybersecurity and digital identity solutions are used across the **public, financial, telecommunications and high-tech sectors** in Japan.
- Thales provides **In-Flight Entertainment (IFE) solutions on board Japan Airlines**, the country's major carrier.
- In less than a year, Asia's largest satellite operator, SKY Perfect JSAT, awarded Thales two contracts to build the **JSAT-31 software-defined satellite and the JSAT-32 geostationary communications satellite**.

About **Thales**

Thales is a global leader in advanced technologies specialized in three business domains: Defense, Aerospace and Cyber & Digital. It develops products and solutions that help make the world safer, greener and more inclusive. The Group invests more than €4 billion a year in Research & Development, particularly in key innovation areas such as AI, cybersecurity, quantum technologies, cloud technologies and 6G. Thales has more than 83,000 employees in 68 countries. In 2024, the Group generated sales of €20.6 billion.

About Thales in Japan

Thales established its presence in Japan in 1970, initially focusing on defense and security by providing solutions to the Japanese Self-Defense Forces.

Over the years, Thales' presence has expanded to support Japan's needs across the defense, aerospace, cybersecurity and digital identity, space, medical, academic and science sectors.

Employing 150 people in Tokyo, Thales Japan's strategy focuses on close partnerships with key Japanese industrial players, including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, IHI, SkyDrive and RIKEN.

Across a wide range of industries, Thales promotes technological innovation and is an active and recognized partner within Japan's local ecosystem. Its highly localized workforce supports a diverse range of markets, including digital identity and security, medical and aviation.



Defense

Addressing a growing range of ever-changing threats, Thales supports nations and their armed forces to make the right decisions at the right time through advanced technologies, solutions and services – in the land, sea, and air domains. From cybersecurity to AI, we are constantly innovating to give armed forces the decisive edge.

Thales is a long-term partner to the Japan Self-Defense Forces, providing solutions that offer operational superiority. Adopting a multi-domestic strategy, Thales pursues strong partnerships with local industries and major Japanese defense companies to support their efforts in addressing the international defense export market.

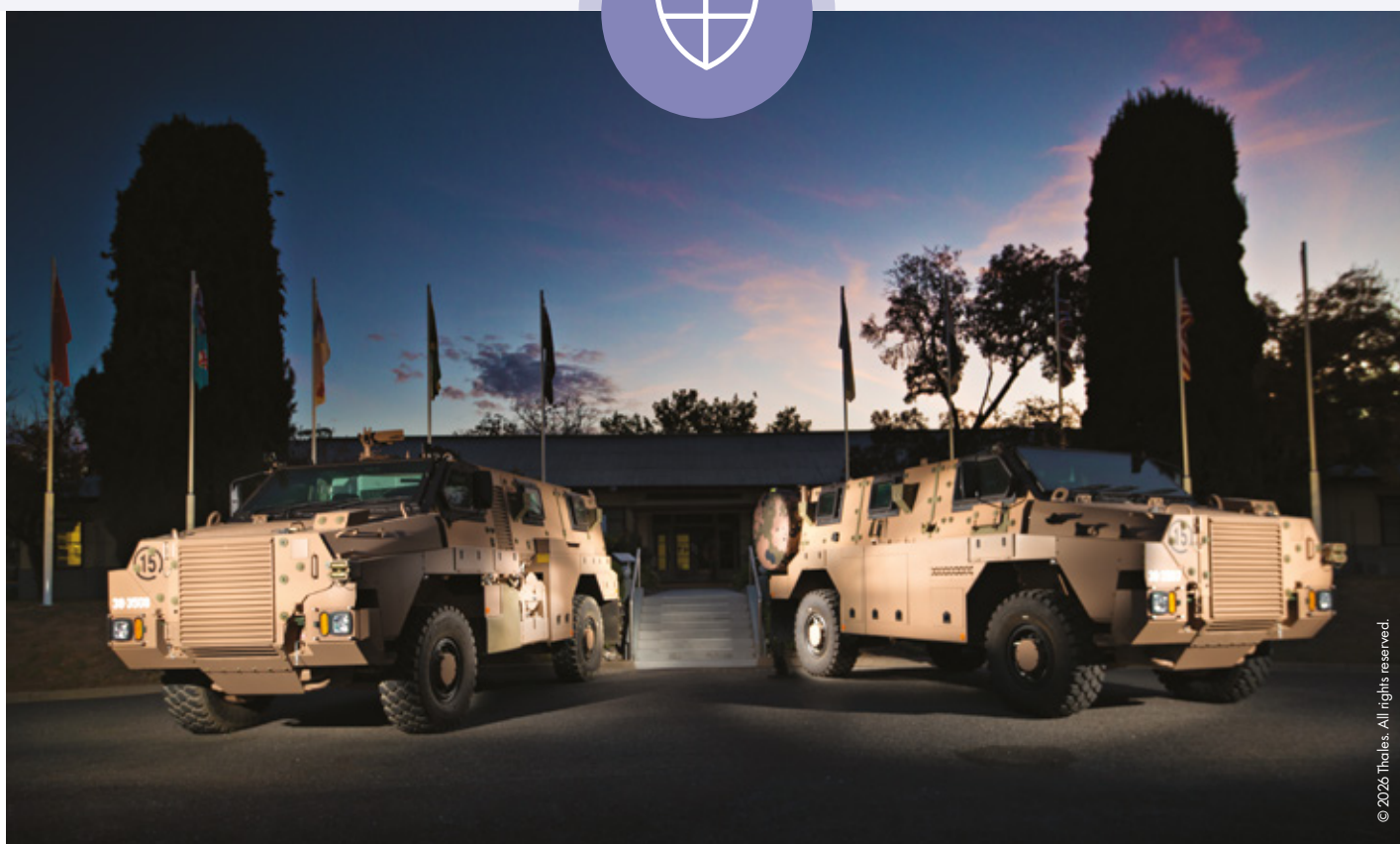
Thales supplied Bushmaster protected vehicles to the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF). All vehicles, which are troop carrier variants, were manufactured at the Thales' facility in Bendigo, Australia.

Thales also provides avionics and communication systems, military air traffic control solutions and an Electronic Warfare (EW) pod for the Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) F-4 fighters.

For the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), Thales has historically supplied optronics, radars, and sonar technologies for surface ships, submarines and aircraft. Thales has been recognized by the JMSDF for its years of continuous service and support.

In 2020, Thales and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) signed a contract for the delivery of the High Frequency Synthetic Aperture Sonar (HFSAS) SAMDIS to equip MHI's OZZ-5 Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV).

In 2021, under the framework of the French-Japanese bilateral defense agreement, France and Japan signed a cooperation agreement for the co-development for the dual-frequency sonar demonstrator for mine countermeasures aboard an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV), developed jointly by Thales and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI).



Civil Aviation

Thales, a major player in avionics, aircraft cabin systems, air traffic management and digital identity, is helping to build the sustainable, connected aeronautics of tomorrow by offering a unique passenger experience in airports and in flight, optimising flight operations and enabling the safe integration of new types of aircraft in airspace, capitalizing on cutting-edge technologies such as AI and cybersecurity.

Thales is recognized as a key partner for aerospace solutions, providing avionics and In-Flight Entertainment (IFE) systems on board world-renowned airlines across the Asia-Pacific region.

Thales has equipped Japan Airlines' (JAL) Boeing 787 aircraft with its Android-based AVANT Thales IFE systems. In addition, Thales IFE systems are also installed on JAL's Boeing 767 and Boeing 777 aircraft, operating on both domestic and international routes.

Thales provides the TopDeck avionics suit for the Japan Coast Guards' search-and-rescue Sikorsky S-76Ds helicopters.

In 2023, SkyDrive Inc., a Japanese manufacture of electrical Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft, selected Thales to provide its FlytRise flight control avionics systems for SkyDrive's three-seat, zero emission eVTOL aircraft. Marking a historic milestone, the first successful demonstration flight of the SkyDrive aircraft took place at the Expo 2025 event in Osaka, Japan.



Science & Medical Industry

Thales provides sub-systems and components for scientific and industrial applications through its Microwave & Imagine Sub-systems business.

In Japan, Thales also supplies Flat Panel Detectors and Imaging Solution for the Medical industry, and Tubes for the science and space sectors.

Other products include cryocoolers and special optics that holds complex optical components and systems, tailored for a range of applications including synchrotron facilities and astronomy observation. Thales also provides radio frequency (RF) components for fusion, particle accelerators and nuclear physics, as well as sub-systems for large instruments.

With over sixty years of experience in microwave tubes and image intensifiers, Thales provides technologies for scientific and Non-Destructive Testing (NDT).



Cyber & Digital

In a world where the number of digital connections and cyberattacks are constantly growing, Thales provides products and services which create a circle of trust between people and the digital services they rely on. The world's leading companies and governments in 180 countries trust us to secure people's and objects' identities, personal and sensitive data and their most critical applications. Our cybersecurity and digital identity technologies are designed to offer solutions for a more sustainable digital transformation.

- **Cyber security products:**

Today's enterprises rely heavily on the cloud, data and software to make critical decisions. That's why many of the most respected brands and largest organizations rely on Thales to protect and secure access to their most sensitive information and software. Thales solutions enable organizations to move to the cloud securely, ensure compliance with confidence, and create greater value from their software in devices and services. Thales also empowers software vendors and device manufacturers to optimize revenue and business models through advanced Software Monetization solutions, enabling flexible licensing, usage analytics and protection against unauthorized use. Thales is also helping customers to address new and emerging challenges & threats like Artificial Intelligence, Post Quantum Computing and Digital Sovereignty.

- **Mobility connectivity solutions:**

Thales empowers Japan mobile operators throughout their digital transformation by providing connectivity management solutions. This includes securing connections with our SIM and eSIM profiles and helping Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) effortlessly manage subscriptions by SIM over-the-air (OTA) management. Thales solutions also facilitate secure local connectivity for the automotive industry and IoT devices, regardless of where they are deployed or their stage in the lifecycle.

- **Payment services:**

Thales is actively championing the adoption of Thales D1 Platform and innovative card technologies to elevate and modernize the user experience. These advanced technologies are designed to provide seamless, secure, and efficient payment services tailored to the evolving needs of today's consumers.

- **Thales D1 Platform: The Modern Card Issuing Platform**

It enables issuers to design cutting-edge card and payment experience in real-time, and to launch modern card-issuing programs swiftly. Banks can unlock new use cases and offer secure, instant, mobile-first card experiences directly within their apps. From card ordering and PIN setup to delivery tracking and instant activation—everything happens in one unified platform. For those who prefer mobile payments, the card can be easily added to a digital wallet. Users can utilize a single-use virtual card which offers enhanced security for online transactions.

- **Innovative card: Sustainable materials and Metal Card Designs**

Thales' innovative card range features environmentally friendly materials, and premium metal cards designs, addressing the growing demand for sustainable and premium options. These cards demonstrate Thales' commitment to reducing environmental impact and promoting more responsible payment solutions, while also appealing to users seeking a luxurious and sophisticated aesthetic. Thales proactive approach to Thales D1 Platform and innovative card implementations underscores a commitment to innovation and delivering superior user experiences in digital payment services.

- **Identity and biometric solutions:**

Thales proposes biometric technology solutions such as Facial, Fingerprint and Iris detection for civil and law enforcement applications. These include document reader products for both government and civil markets, and secure components for government use. Thales document readers have already been deployed at major airports to verify new Japanese passports and at hotels for inbound tourists.



Space

Thales Alenia Space offers institutions, governments, companies and operators a wide range of space solutions – satellites, ground segments, end-to-end-systems – for telecommunications, satellite navigation, earth observation, science and space exploration.

Thales is a key contributor to Japan's space industry, supplying state-of-the-art on-board equipment, systems, and ground systems to major Japanese space programs. This includes the Aeronautical Mission Payload System for Air Traffic Control, Satellite Ground Earth Station, and Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TTC) Systems.

In 2024, Asia's largest satellite operator, SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation (SKY Perfect JSAT), awarded Thales Alenia Space a contract to build JSAT-31— a new generation software-defined satellite based on the Thales Alenia Space Space INSPIRE (INstant SPace In-orbit REconfiguration) platform. JSAT-31 will offer high speed broadband services across Japan, South-East Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. It will have the highest-capacity satellite in SKY Perfect JSAT's history.

In 2025, SKY Perfect JSAT once again entrusted Thales Alenia Space with a contract to build the geostationary communications satellite, JSAT-32. JSAT-32 will provide coverage over Japan and its surrounding seas, with newly added spot beams tailored for mobility applications. JSAT-32 will serve as a future replacement for existing SKY Perfect JSAT satellites that support communication and distribution services in Japan.



Sustainability Commitments



Thales Japan is committed to contributing to a safer, greener and more inclusive society, in alignment with Thales Group's global ESG goals.

The local team engages in proactive community outreach, leading coastal cleanups and environmental education events, as well as educational support programs for orphanages. The company's dedication to inclusivity and sustainability goes beyond employee volunteerism, with office-wide participation in global initiatives such as International Women's Day.

By remaining aligned with Thales global purpose and ESG vision, Thales in Japan continues to work with perseverance and dedication to drive long-term sustainable growth and build a future we can all trust.





Local Partnerships

Thales forges strategic partnerships with leading Japanese industrial players as a testament to its commitment to shaping Japan's future and strengthening its local presence.

In Japan, Thales works with over 500 suppliers, ranging from large enterprises to SMEs. Together with its partners, Thales addresses a wide spectrum of needs across scientific, security, medical, space and various industrial applications.

In the defense front, Thales collaborates in consortium with major Japanese players, including Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI), to serve both domestic and international markets.



Annexes/ List of Historical References



Defense

- › In 2020, Thales and MHI signed a contract for the delivery of HFSAS SAMDIS to equip MHI's OZZ-5 Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV).
- › In 2016, Thales awarded a contract by JGSDF to deliver IFF interrogators equipment (Identification Friend or Foe) with Mode 5.



Civil aviation

- › In 2017, AVANT In-Flight Entertainment system launch service for Japan Airline's Boeing 787-9.
- › In 2016, AVANT In-Flight Entertainment system launch service for Japan Airline's first Boeing 777-200 retrofit.



Research & Technology (R&T) and Innovation

- › In 2025, Successful Unveiling of SKYDRIVE SD-05 at Osaka-Kansai Expo Through Strong Partnerships with Suppliers - SkyDrive Inc.



Cyber & Digital

- › In 2021, First partnership with a technology start-up in Japan, EVERING.
- › Thales collaborates with Dai Nippon Printing.



Space

- › In 2025, SKY Perfect JSAT entrusted Thales to build "JSAT-32".



Headquarters:

Thales Japan K.K. & Thales DIS Japan K.K.
Akasaka Tameike Tower 8F
2-17-7 Akasaka, Minato-ku
Tokyo 107-0052
Phone: +81 3-6234-8100 & 81-3-6744-8900

Hachioji Fulfillment Centre

Marutaya Bldg. 5F
6-9 Yokoyama-cho, Hachioji-shi
Tokyo 192-0081
Phone: +81 42-660-7191

E-mail: thales.japan@thalesgroup.com

[thalesgroup.com](https://www.thalesgroup.com)

