Swiss values and global power
Thales in Switzerland
83,000 employees in 68 countries

17 billion euros revenue (2020)

1 billion euros self-funded R&D investment
The digital revolution is profoundly changing markets. At the same time, it offers enormous opportunities for developing solutions that enable our clients to make the right decision at the right moment in increasingly complex situations.

Through the interplay of cutting-edge technology, creativity and dedicated employees, Thales is currently developing solutions for the data-driven, autonomous, immersive world of tomorrow. Thales solutions range from autonomous vehicle controls to collaborative defence systems, from the connected cockpit to the secure cloud, from self-learning radar systems to virtual-reality solutions for training and predictive maintenance.

Digital identity and security are critical elements of this new world. At every step in the digital decision chain, user identity and authentication must be verified – virtually instantaneously – with the appropriate level of security.

Today, the Thales Group is investing heavily in underlying technologies such as connectivity, big data, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity to help our clients improve efficiency, protection, value, security and profitability.

Find out on the following pages what Thales can do or is already doing for you in Switzerland.

Thales — your partner for a secure world

Globar Leader for our safety

- Digital Security: No. 1 for digital data security
- Aerospace: No. 1 for air traffic control / No. 2 for in-flight entertainment and network systems
- Defence & Security: No. 1 in Europe for sensors and deployment systems / No. 1 for intelligent, secure airport solutions
- Space: No. 2 for civil satellite systems
- Ground Transportation: No. 2 for rail signalling solutions

From the bottom of the oceans to the depths of space

Your partner for a safe world

Thales is increasingly investing in the digital technologies needed to develop networks: connectivity, big data, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity.
In Switzerland, we are active in the following markets:

- **Rail Signalling Solutions**
  Thales Rail Signalling Solutions AG, Zürich

- **Defence & Homeland Security**
  Thales Suisse SA, Zürich

- **Thales Alenia Space**
  Thales Alenia Space AG, Zürich

- **Digital Identity & Security**
  Thales DIS Schweiz AG, Aarau

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**Centre of expertise for high-tech Thales in Switzerland**

Thales’ roots in Switzerland go back to the mid-19th century. Since that time, we have developed into an authoritative, trend-setting provider of high-tech solutions, key technologies, systems and services in the fields of transportation security, defence & security, satellite and space technology, and digital identity and security.

**CUSTOMER-ORIENTED COLLABORATION**

Security is an indispensable prerequisite for freedom and mobility. In a world that is changing increasingly quickly and at the same time full of opportunities, Thales in Switzerland is making a significant contribution thanks to its many years of experience.

We support our clients in critical decision-making processes. To this end, we provide solutions and technologies that enable them to cope with increasing complexity and ever higher security requirements.

**SWITZERLAND: CENTRE OF TECHNOLOGY**

Within the Group, we are a centre of expertise for:

- Defence & Security: radio relay systems – broadband data transmission on microwave frequencies / power management systems for military vehicles
- Rail Signalling: interoperability services (IOP Services) for ETCS-conform solutions
- Aerospace: optical communications systems for satellites

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**Expertise for Switzerland and the world**

- Technology leadership in active and passive security
- Established, reliable and long-standing partner of government agencies, institutions, industry and the financial sector
- System integration in cooperation with manufacturers and providers of platforms, components and solutions
- Qualified, professional project management
- Development of security solutions
- Close collaboration with universities, colleges and technical institutes

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In Switzerland, we are active in the following markets:

- **Rail Signalling Solutions**
  Railway security technology
  Thales Rail Signalling Solutions AG, Zürich

- **Defence & Homeland Security**
  Military and civil security
  Thales Suisse SA, Zürich

- **Thales Alenia Space**
  Satellite and space technology
  Thales Alenia Space AG, Zürich

- **Digital Identity & Security**
  Identity documents, bank cards and data security
  Thales DIS Schweiz AG, Aarau
No. 1 in Switzerland for ETCS solutions and electronic axle counters
Security in rail traffic
Rail Signalling Solutions

In the field of control and security for local and long-distance rail traffic, Thales is one of the leading suppliers of trackside equipment – globally and especially in Switzerland.

SWISS VALUES HIGHLY VALUED AROUND THE WORLD

All major railway companies in Switzerland are among our customers and trust Thales. Our solutions are designed according to the highest requirements in terms of safety, availability, reliability and ease of maintenance, and in particular cover the following areas:

- Electronic interlocking systems
- Railway security systems
- Axle counters
- Point machines
- iLED signals

This includes our solutions for the European Train Control System (ETCS), where we hold a leading position. Thales’ ETCS L2 solutions ensure the continuous transmission of information between the track and the trains, which enables the permitted speed to be constantly tracked and controlled.

Thanks to the successful realisation of major projects, we have built up a team of recognised specialists in the field of security installations in Switzerland, as well as a centre of expertise for interoperability services (IOP services) for ETCS-compliant solutions.

Our laboratory received accreditation in 2019 from the Swiss Accreditation Service (SAS) as a test laboratory for integrated interoperability (IOP) in the field of ETCS (STS 0659).

We benefit from the following expertise and services for the design, construction and testing of railroad safety systems:

- Know-how in the Swiss rail market
- Integration of complex technical projects
- Project management

Expansion of our offering for metre-gauge railways

Thales continues to expand its range of services and adapt its proven rail security solutions for use on metre-gauge railroads.

Thales Rail Signalling Solutions AG
8055 Zürich
Successful major projects

Gotthard Base Tunnel: longest rail tunnel in the world
With the commissioning of the Gotthard Base Tunnel in December 2016, Switzerland made history and Thales was part of it. At 57 km long, it is the longest rail tunnel in the world. Due to its advanced security systems, such as the ETCS Level 2, the tunnel has a capacity of more than 300 trains per day in two separate tubes. Travel speed in the tunnel is up to 250 km/h and travel time between Zurich and Milan has been reduced to 3 hours and 25 minutes.

The Gotthard Base Tunnel strengthens the shift of transalpine traffic from road to rail and is part of the NRLA (New Rail Link through the Alps) initiated by the Swiss federal government with the Lötschberg Base Tunnel, which was inaugurated in 2007.

Ceneri Base Tunnel: new transalpine corridor
The 15.4 km-long Ceneri Base Tunnel between Bellinzona and Lugano is the last section of the transalpine corridor. For this project as well, Thales was mandated to install the security systems and bears overall responsibility for planning, integration and commissioning. Completion in 2020 reduced travel time between Locarno and Lugano from 55 minutes to 22 minutes, and travellers from Zurich can now reach the Lombard metropolis of Milan in less than three hours.
401 million kilometres from Earth — Swiss high-tech on Mars
Cutting-edge Swiss technology in space

Thales Alenia Space

We are convinced that outer space is the new horizon for humanity; it is where we will achieve the progress that will make sustainable life on Earth possible.

COMPLEX EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTION

Thales Alenia Space Switzerland has over 20 years of experience in designing and building opto-electronic systems for space and has established itself as a leading supplier of small, high-performance opto-electronic observation and communications systems for the European and global space industry. As a key partner to the European Space Agency (ESA), Thales Alenia Space provides critical sub-assemblies for scientific instruments that help increase understanding of the Earth, our solar system and the cosmos.

Thales Alenia Space Switzerland masters complex system development to bring together optical, electronic, thermal and mechanical assemblies, making it possible for the Swiss science community to study Mercury’s surface and capture high-resolution images of desert landscapes on Mars.

Our expertise ranges from the development and production of thermally and mechanically stable telescopes, optical systems and focal planes of satellite instruments, through to low-noise readout electronics for highly sensitive sensors, controlling the latest generation of atomic clocks, and complex, extremely stable laser systems.

The latest generation of communications systems

More than 20 years ago, Thales Alenia Space began research and development in Switzerland for optical communications systems. These systems use laser beams to transmit data between near-Earth satellites, planetary missions and Earth, as well as for high-speed data transmission between satellites.

Today, Thales Alenia Space Switzerland is one of the leading suppliers of optical communications systems. Through its latest product, OPTEL-μ®, Thales Alenia Space is now making this technology accessible to smaller satellites, opening up new markets and applications for many countries active in space and for companies worldwide.

In addition, the development of the next generation of products for data transmission between individual satellites is being driven forward to support future satellite constellations.

Optical communications is a key technology for future satellite-based telecommunications services, helping to connect people on Earth. Above this, the increased data transmission capacity of scientific satellites will help increase our knowledge of our world and the universe.

Know-how and high-tech made in Switzerland

- Optical communication terminals for the next generation of telecommunication satellites
- Radiation monitors for the detection of space weather
- Cameras for planetary exploration, earth observation and satellite monitoring
- Laser altimeters for measuring planet surfaces

Thales Alenia Space AG
8052 Zürich
Opening new horizons

**BEPICOLOMBO**
The ESA space probe is on its 7-year journey to Mercury. Once there, the surface will be measured with centimetre-level precision using the laser altimeter developed by the University of Bern and Thales Alenia Space.

**EXOMARS**
The ESA space probe reached the orbit around Mars as planned on 19 October 2016. On board was the telescope that Thales Alenia Space created for the stereo camera of the University of Bern.

**IXV**
Thanks to Thales Alenia Space’s sensor technology and IR camera, important technical and scientific findings were gathered during the space shuttle’s re-entry, which is now making it possible to develop and build the next generation.
No. 1 in Switzerland for governmental identity documents, bank card solutions and public transport cards
INNOVATION AS A TRADITION

In Switzerland, our history goes back to the founding of Trüb AG in 1859. The company has been active in security printing for over 100 years and began producing post and bank cards in the 1970s. Successful developments in governmental identity and travel documents began with the polycarbonate Swiss identity card introduced in 1995.

In 2015, the company has been acquired by Gemalto, the global leader in digital security, which was integrated into the Thales Group in 2019.

Our wide range of products, software and services is based on the combination of digital identity and data protection – the foundation for security in a digital world.

Identity & Biometric Solutions

In Switzerland, we produce, personalise and supply numerous governmental identity and travel documents, identity cards for cantonal police forces and digital tachograph cards.

In addition, we supply and operate the ABC (automated border control) gates at Zurich and Geneva airports, and our document readers are used for issuing biometric identity documents in Switzerland’s passport offices and in Swiss embassies worldwide.

Strong Swiss innovation

- Development of security elements and identity documents made of polycarbonate, as well as their industrialisation at other production sites
- Personalisation of bank cards and identity documents as well as in-house development of a high-performance, modular personalisation solution
- Production of high-quality, high-security polycarbonate identity documents

Swiss expertise and know-how

Digital Identity & Security

Thanks to the solutions and expertise in the area of Digital Identity & Security, Thales offers an unrivalled portfolio of physical and digital identity and security solutions based on technologies such as biometrics, data protection and cybersecurity.

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Swiss expertise and know-how

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Banking & Payment Services

Since the introduction of the first cards for cashless payment in the mid-1970s, we have been the market leader for high-quality card solutions: credit, debit and bank cards. Our customers include all the major financial institutions in Switzerland.

We also produce and personalise loyalty cards for major distributors and for public transport.

We deliver and operate highly secure, customised solutions for online banking, mobile payment and for the reliable, efficient verification and validation of cardholder identity.

Cloud Protection & Licensing

Whether it’s about protecting data in the cloud, digital payments, blockchain or the internet of things, Switzerland’s most respected companies, banks and government agencies rely on us to ensure the protection of their sensitive data, identities and intellectual property wherever it is created, shared or stored. Through our advanced encryption, access management and strong authentication solutions, we help our customers move securely to the cloud and ensure compliance with security policies.

Thales DIS Schweiz AG
Digital Identity & Security
5001 Aarau
Strong Swiss innovation

Swiss identity card sets global milestone
The 1995 introduction of the world’s first polycarbonate identity card for Switzerland, which is also used as a travel document and was developed by Thales DIS Schweiz AG in close cooperation with the Swiss federal government, marked a significant milestone in the development of identity and identification documents worldwide.

The Swiss ID card has since been continuously produced and personalised by Thales DIS Schweiz AG.

Switzerland’s first biometric payment card
In November 2019, Cornèrcard, in collaboration with Thales DIS Schweiz AG and Visa, became one of the world’s first card issuers to launch the biometric Visa Gold credit card. Designed by Thales, the technologically advanced payment card, which identifies the cardholder by biometric fingerprint, guarantees a whole new payment experience. Purchases are paid for conveniently and quickly with a quick touch on the fingerprint sensor integrated on the card. Payment by fingerprint is possible for amounts both small and large.

As with all payment cards, security is a key element of the biometric payment card. The fingerprint is easily registered on a sensor on the card designed for this purpose, and the digital fingerprint data is stored and encrypted exclusively on a second chip in the card.

The biometric Visa payment card is very easy to use and can be used at around 54 million merchants worldwide – wherever Visa cards are accepted.
80 employees  50% engineers  10% officers
RELIABLE PARTNER OF THE SWISS ARMED FORCES

Thales has regularly been able to demonstrate its capabilities thanks to many years of customer-oriented cooperation with the Swiss Armed Forces and other security organisations.

In the process, we have earned an excellent reputation as a reliable industry partner of the Swiss federal government. Thales Defence & Homeland Security has been a regular contractor to the Swiss Armed Forces since the mid-1940s.

As a general contractor, we have delivered programmes such as the army’s command and control information system, the Air Force’s helicopter simulators and NBC reconnaissance vehicles for the engineering and rescue corps, in addition to providing them with support over the years during the operational phase.

As a reliable centre of expertise for tactical directional beams, we have been developing and supplying the Swiss Armed Forces with directional beam technology for over 30 years. Security forces have to act ever more quickly and flexibly. Integrated and autonomous vehicles must be ready for action within the shortest possible time, making high mobility a success factor.

As a system integrator, Thales, in close cooperation with the platform manufacturers, makes a significant contribution to the design, development and integration of vehicle instruments and equipment in communications (directional beam nodes and access), NBC reconnaissance and integrated radio reconnaissance and transmission systems.

Swiss precision for our security
- Modular radio relay system for broadband communication
- Army command & control information system
- Power management system for tactical vehicles
- Helicopter simulators
- NBC reconnaissance vehicles
- Radio access point and multi-purpose transmitter tanks

High-tech for the army
Defence & Homeland Security

With the definition, development and integration of sophisticated tactical systems in communication, radar, command & control, surveillance, reconnaissance and simulation, Thales successfully established itself in military security solutions.

We have succeeded in developing several innovative solutions for the Swiss Armed Forces, which are now internationally recognised technology references.

Secure means of deployment
The thinking and actions of modern security organisations are not limited to the deployment of forces and the acquisition of information on the ground. Electromagnetic space and cyberspace must be included in situational and use-of-force assessments across all escalation levels.

Thales Defence & Homeland Security offers specialised know-how in communications, radar, command & control, reconnaissance and simulation systems. We support our customers throughout the entire lifecycle of our products and systems: from product conception, project management, operations and logistical management to decommissioning.

Thales Suisse SA
Defence & Homeland Security
8045 Zürich
Engineering at the pulse of technology

Thales Defence & Homeland Security’s strengths lie in the integration of its own products and those of third parties, as well as in the development of solutions for our primary customer, the Swiss Armed Forces.

Radio relay systems
The cooperation with the Armed Forces has resulted in the creation of a centre of expertise for radio relay systems and their further development for the entire Thales Group in Switzerland.

Power management systems
Tactical vehicles are equipped with many systems that require power. Thanks to the modular control unit developed in Switzerland, empty batteries are a thing of the past. The system monitors the power circuit from generation through storage to distribution, ensuring a reliable power supply.

ThalesLab Schweiz
Our internationally recognised team of engineers covers the specialist areas vehicle systems, software engineering, system engineering, integration and support. In addition to the further development of existing products, the ThalesLab Switzerland team also creates new solutions and products for domestic and foreign customers.
No. 1 in Switzerland
for innovation enthusiasts
We see the training of young people as an investment in the future of our company and our society. We offer apprenticeships in a wide range of areas and provide the best opportunities for a successful start to a career.

» «At the beginning, I was almost overwhelmed by the complexity and multi-layered nature of my tasks here at Thales. A few months and many challenges later, my team has presented an elegant solution that simply and coherently reconciles all the requirements.»
Development engineer after 6 months at Thales

» «As an apprentice at Thales, I do interesting tasks that are part of the development of new solutions. This means I am directly involved in the creation of new products.»
3rd-year apprentice

We offer perspectives to innovation enthusiasts

The positive dynamics of Thales, its innovative strength and ultimately our success are based on the qualities contributed by our employees, their motivation and their job satisfaction.

SUCCESSFUL TOGETHER

It is the expertise, commitment and team spirit of our employees that make our success possible. Thales supports and encourages a shared passion for technology and invests specifically in personal and professional development.

We take a long-term approach and do everything we can to prepare our employees for the challenges of tomorrow.

Our qualified specialists guarantee the quality of our services with expert knowledge, versatile skills, many years of experience and international networking.

Equal professional opportunities for women and men of all nationalities and cultures are a matter of course for us. With special programmes, we promote diversity and support the compatibility of work and family.

We encourage all employees to be actively involved in shaping their own professional future, to constantly expand their wealth of experience and to help shape their individual development path.
Anticipation and skills management are an essential part of our human resources policy with regard to professional and personal development.

We monitor industry trends and technical developments in order to build up the necessary resources at an early stage.
To this end, we support alongside-work study programmes and offer part-time models.

We see the training of young people as an investment in the future of our company and our society. We offer apprenticeships in a wide range of areas and provide the best opportunities for a successful start to a career.

OUR COMPANY VALUES

Responsibility and top performance
Client confidence
One Team One Thales
Personnel development
Agility and innovation