Highlights

Defence
- Successful partnership with the Romanian military and industry for more than 20 years
- Over 3000 tactical radios built locally and delivered to the Romanian Armed Forces
- Supplied an airborne anti-submarine warfare system
- Supplying IFF (Interrogating Friend or Foe) technologies to the majority of air, ground and naval military platforms in Romania

Transportation
- Revitalising existing rail networks and participating in modernising Romanian railway network
- A pioneer in signalling innovation and development for the Romanian National Railway (CFR)
- First company in Romania to successfully implement the European Train Control System Level 1 and Level 2 systems on Pan-European Corridor

DIS
- Romanian electronic passports including enrolment & personalisation equipment and application

Science & Technology
- Software development for railway transportation
- Start-up and implementation of electronic IDs in Romania
- Partner in developing global as well as local space projects and initiatives within telecom, satellite navigation systems and software for climate monitoring
- Involved in the European ELI-NP [Extreme Light Infrastructure-Nuclear Physics] laser research project
- Providing Romanian partners with a high-power laser system that will deliver the highest power in the world, 2x10 Petawatts (i.e. 20 million billion watts)

Romania
- A presence for over 20 years
- Over 800 employees, including R&D engineers
- Location: Bucharest

Passport readers for government and commercial applications
- 2nd Generation Tachograph digital cards for local drivers
- Collaborating with mobile network operators since the inception of mobile telecom services in Romania supplying SIM cards, MIM cards and services for eSIM
- Support of core government solutions, e.g. qualified certification authorities, ID solutions, domestic payment and money transfer solutions
Thales has been present in Romania for more than 20 years, which began decades ago as a supplier to the Romanian armed forces. Over the years, the Group has grown and diversified its portfolio of activities to cover other major markets of the Group. In 2007, Thales established an industrial presence in order to provide electronic signalling solutions railways, where today Thales has a 30% share of this market. Thanks to our own Software Engineering capabilities, Thales in Romania is today the sole signalling provider company able to deliver end-to-end interlocking solutions without any external partners.

Thales expanded its local expertise through the creation in 2019 of the Romanian Engineering Competence Centre (ECC), a transversal entity supporting most of the Group businesses in delivering competitive solutions. The Romania ECC has progressively grown from 250 engineers to approximately 800 engineers in 2021. Today it serves as a regional hub for the Group’s software development needs, as well as activities in hardware, operations, maintenance and training.

Credit: Thales Group.
Local cooperation

Thales is committed to becoming an important technological partner for Romania, through a successful participation in the ongoing large programs in Naval, Space, Land & Air defence, as well as cybersecurity and biometrics.

Thales in Romania has established strategic partnerships with Politehnica University and CAMPUS Research Institute in Bucharest since 2019, focusing on R&D programmes, CSR projects (Education) developing young talents while building technical competences and skills for the future. The purpose of these partnerships is to support the large ECC Internship Programme and to position Thales as an employer of choice among students and graduates.

By building the best local partnerships, customer intimacy and delivering competitive local industrial and development capabilities, Thales Romania has and will continue to decisively contribute to the success of this strategy. As an example, Thales delivered the most powerful laser system in the world (2x 10 PetaWats) to the Defence. Thales Romania directly contributed to the installation of the system and today a mixed French-Romanian team is operating this unique scientific instrument.

Activities

Defence

As a trusted partner of the Romanian armed forces, Thales has supplied various military systems, from tactical radios to encrypted military telecommunications solutions and underwater technologies embedded into naval, land and air platforms.

Thales’ cooperation with the Romanian defence industry began with the manufacturing and development of Panther and Jaguar family of tactical radios. The collaboration dates back to 1996, when through a significant transfer of technology process, over 3000 tactical radios were built for the Romanian Armed Forces. Since then, these radios were successfully operated by the Romanian military in NATO, EU and international missions such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 2013, the Romanian Navy selected Thales to supply an airborne anti-submarine warfare system, which was fitted onboard the Puma Helicopters operated onboard the Type 22 Frigates, providing a significant capability multiplier for the NATO presence in the Black Sea.

Continuing the successful partnership with the Romanian military and industry for more than 20 years, a long-standing cooperation with Aerostar SA has evolved into a Key Industrial Partnership, where Thales has supplied Interrogating Friend or Foe (IFF) technologies to the majority of air, ground and naval military platforms in Romania.

Thales is also a leading supplier of Hardware Security Modules to protect data transfers in the Romanian Government and Critical Infrastructure.

Thales is committed to becoming the national technological leader by helping the Romanian Government to master every decisive moment, based on the current ongoing large procurement program, participating in the four new Gowind Corvettes programme and fostering closer ties and business partnerships for the ongoing Class II NATO UAS competition.

We continue to cooperate with the Romanian military and academic establishment as a local entity in the European Defence Fund initiatives, where Thales Systems Romania (SRL) is ideally positioned to leverage not only its local human and technological resources, but also the Group’s wider global footprint.

Transportation

Countries, cities and transport operators rely on Thales’ ground transportation solutions to adapt to rapid urbanisation and meet new mobility demands – locally, between cities and across national frontiers.

Our expertise in signalling, communications, fare collection and cybersecurity gives people and goods the connected journey they need to move safely and efficiently. And no matter how challenging the project, we stay by your side, committed to help creating the digital railways of the future.

With more than 20 years of experience in the Romanian market, Thales rail signalling solutions revitalise existing rail networks and ensure greenfield installations start off right. Thales has played a major role in modernising the Romanian National Railway network and has been a pioneer in many signalling innovations and developments with the national railway through time. Thales won multiple signalling projects to refurbish legacy systems, which has increased the capacity of passenger and freight networks, and accompany the railway in building future networks.
The first major project completed is the Bucharest North complex, which includes the Timisoara, Arad and Brasov stations, all equipped with Thales electronic interlocking and in commercial operation since 2004. Thales is the first company in Romania to successfully implement the European Train Control System (ETCS) level 1 system on the Pan-European Corridor section, Fetesti Constanta, thus improving safety whilst increasing the maximum speed of up to 150 km/h for passenger trains.

Another important milestone was the successful delivery of the first ETCS Level 2 system in Romania, the world’s first of its kind to be used on conventional lines, with mixed traffic.

On the secondary lines, Thales introduced electronic interlocking on the Iliia-Lugoj line, the first to be equipped with a modern electronic interlocking control, today covering seven stations and 75km of conventional line. In addition, Thales is currently implementing modern rail signalling systems, including ETCS Level 2, in the Rhine Daube Corridor, located in the Western Romania. Almost 100 km of the track is now equipped. Two new Radio Block Centres and seven new electronic interlockings will enter commercial operation by 2023.

The Romanian National Railway can rely on Thales for all safety critical systems and innovative digital mobility services, which finally will improve end user experience.

Digital Identity & Security

Identity & Biometric Solutions

In the civil identity sector, Thales offers end-to-end Identity & Biometric Solutions (IBS). This includes secure documents, robust identity solutions and services that address government programs for ID management and road safety, eGovernment/mGovernment infrastructures for trusted eServices, as well as border and visa management requirements. Thales also addresses public safety and law enforcement challenges, offering best-in-class forensic solutions.

Thales Romania delivers all raw materials for the Romanian passport production plus support and maintenance services, including blanks production, enrolment and passport personalisation. Thales Romania also supplies optical document readers for border control. Furthermore, Thales Romania delivers finished smartcards for Romanian Digital Tachograph use.

The company’s products and solutions are deployed in over 200 active civil identity programmes worldwide, with specific expertise in secure document issuance, biometrics, document readers, authentication, ID management and data protection.

The Regional Delivery Centre located in Bucharest deploys, services and maintains Secure Document Issuing systems as well as Automated Fingerprint Information Systems. To date, the local team has been involved in deploying 20+ projects worldwide.

Banking & Payment Services

Thales offers services for financial institutions in the Banking & Payment Services (BPS) unit. The world of financial services is changing fast and consumers are looking for evermore personalised, convenient and secure ways to pay, communicate and interact with their banks and accounts. Today, we provide the Romanian banking sector with a wide range of secure digital banking, cards and digital payment solutions meeting and exceeding these demands.

Mobile Connectivity Solutions

All around the world, Thales works with hundreds of mobile network operators, original equipment manufacturers and other service providers to deliver seamless connectivity across cellular networks, and strong digital identities for both people and connected objects. Since the start of mobile communications, we have brought trust to the mobile ecosystem by authenticating users and devices to mobile networks. Now that most people have at least one mobile device, we increasingly help operators support their customer relationships right from service sign-up. In Romania, we are working primarily with mobile network operators since the inception of mobile telecom services supplying SIM cards, MIM cards and services for eSIM.

Cloud Protection & Licensing

Thales is also well known for providing advanced data protection consisting of two areas: identity and access management solutions and encryption with advanced key management solutions. Awareness of our solutions is not only reserved for finance & public/government market. We are present in the e-commerce market as well as critical infrastructure providers and ICT service providers. Support of core government solutions, e.g. qualified certification authorities, ID solutions, domestic payment and money transfer solutions.
Science & Technology

Thales’ international growth strategy is based on the development of world-class expertise as close as possible to its customers.

In the field of science and technology, Thales in Romania is involved in the European laser research project ELI-NP (Extreme Light Infrastructure-Nuclear Physics), responsible for the turnkey development and supply of a complex scientific instrument.

Thales joined the Extreme Light Infrastructure ELI-NP programme in 2013 to develop the High-Power Laser System (HPLS), the most powerful system of its kind in the world. Thales began the delivery and installation of the system at the Mâgurele facility near Bucharest late 2016. This system is designed to generate twin laser beams of 10 PW each and will be the core instrument of a unique new advanced technology and fundamental research facility in nuclear physics.

Following first demonstrations in 2018 and 2019, in August 2020, the laser installation generated ten consecutive 10 PW fully compressed shots, reconfirming Thales as the world leader in high power lasers. Thales is now under a 3-year contract for operating and maintaining the laser system.

Thales has also developed a special technical and scientific training programme to train our local engineers and technicians to install and operate the system for European research programmes.

Engineering Competence Centre

In 2007, Thales set up Thales Systems Romania to meet the development needs of the local rail sector. Furthermore, Thales established an Engineering Competence Centre mainly covering the needs towards the Romanian Transportation sector.

In 2018, Thales Group decided to further expand its presence in Romania through the development of a Groupwide Engineering Competence Centre (ECC) as part of Thales Systems Romania, reinforcing its position as a leader in all its markets. The ECC delivers software development solutions beyond ground transportation, in a number of core Thales business areas, from space and defence, to security and aeronautics.

The Romanian ECC’s main focus is delivering on projects and improving existing solutions. With cybersecurity being a very important asset in any application, whether public, private or hybrid, Thales’ engineers are focusing their attention on this aspect, now, more than ever. As a long-term target, Thales Romania aims to be a key contributor within AI (Artificial Intelligence), IoT (Internet of Things) and Digitalisation.

The ECC delivers a first-class Thales engineering capability in Romania thanks to the existing ecosystem of skilled engineers and the agile environment, which Bucharest has to offer.

As a global technology leader, Thales has the capabilities to address new challenges and new opportunities ahead in Romania. With our engineers and researchers, Thales has unparalleled capability to design and deploy equipment, systems and services to meet the most complex security requirements.