

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **In concurrence with the 2022 EuroSatory Exhibition, CERBAIR and Icarus Swarms announce partnership combining their R&D efforts to create a French team of excellence around Drone Swarms and Anti-Drone Control**

**The two French startups, CERBAIR and Icarus Swarms, have decided to pool together their research and development work around drone swarms. This collaboration has several objectives :**

- **Improving anti-drone solutions**
- **To design drone swarms capable of circumventing the most efficient protection systems**
- **Create a French drone and anti-drone team of excellence whose research will benefit the Armed Forces.**

### **Opportunities and threats of drones**

The fight against asymmetric threats is one of the major concerns for all branches of the Armed Forces.

Drones, and more importantly, swarms of drones are redefining today's combat strategies in theaters of operations. As we can see, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine demonstrates the paradigm shifts associated with the use of drones.

"It seems essential for the military to understand how to protect a site against drone-related threats, and also have free moving drones as part of their operations," says Jean-Dominique Lauwereins, co-founder of Icarus Swarms.

"France has the technology and expertise in research and development to effectively implement threats and countermeasures. We have decided to pool our resources together to get a headstart on the likely evolution of future threats," says Lucas Le Bell, President of CERBAIR.

**Icarus Swarms**, a French startup specializing in drone swarm technology, is one of the few companies in the world that uses artificial intelligence to simultaneously deploy hundreds of aerial drones that act in unison.

Their CertiFence product ([www.certifence.com](http://www.certifence.com)) makes it possible to evaluate the effectiveness of anti-drone systems by testing their capabilities under live conditions.

### **Anticipating future threats to better protect the Armed Forces**

CERBAIR was chosen by Icarus Swarms based on its expertise in anti-drone initiatives (LAD), as well as the quality of its radio frequency detection, classification, and localization systems used for NATO's Class 1 Drones. The anti-



drone specialist hopes that such cooperation will improve the solutions it deploys in existing anti-drone (LAD) programs, such as PARADE for the Ministry of the Armed Forces or DCND for the Ministry of Justice.

CERBAIR will present their newest innovations at the 2022 EuroSatory Defense and Security Exhibition, a prestigious European Defense Conference held in Paris, France. For this occasion, the Montrougean company will present "HYDRA 300", the latest generation of advanced 'direction finder' designs for anti-drone (LAD) programs, as well as many other LAD vehicle integrations.

The two startups complement each other well, with one playing the role of the attacker (Icarus Swarms) and the other playing the role of the defender (CERBAIR), which allows them to incrementally develop unique expertise.

### **An Initiative Open to European Industrialists and Military Operations**

Icarus Swarms and CERBAIR have understood the enormous complexity of this problem, and in order to solve it, the major European players will have to work together and pool together their resources.

In particular, this collaboration includes regular training programs and real tests that can use every type of commercially available drone that can be purchased and used in modern conflicts.

The "penetration in difficult areas" part will be accomplished with the help of Anafi drones provided by French manufacturer, **Parrot**.

Henri Seydoux, CEO of Parrot said, "We are delighted to support this initiative. It will undoubtedly contribute to the excellence of French drone solutions."

**Naval Group**, who has collaborated with Icarus Swarms and CERBAIR on the Fight Against Asymmetric Threats program (LCMA), naturally joined this initiative as well.

Having worked with Icarus Swarms and CERBAIR for several years in the detection and fight against drone swarms, it was an easy decision to collaborate in this program. The Naval Group has been particularly interested in discovering devices that can be used to fight against asymmetric threats on-board military vessels.

In April 2021, the Naval Group organized an experiment that brought together CERBAIR, Icarus Swarms, and other companies to test the current detection and response capabilities to drone swarms. They are currently involved in projects with Icarus Swarm and CERBAIR to develop solutions to combat drone swarms and also use them for the benefit of its 'Naval' clients. Agile collaborations with startups in the group's ecosystem gives them an essential dynamic to provide rapid responses to the needs of their clients.

The last link in this new initiative is **KEAS**, a major player in the French civil jamming market in Europe, and strategic partner of CERBAIR in the anti-drone (LAD) program. Their new-generation electronic countermeasure (analogue, digital, fixed, and mobile) systems will prove useful in this new collaboration.

CERBAIR, Icarus Swarms and partners Parrot, Naval Group, KEAS hope to make this approach available to other companies in the field.



CERBAIR and Icarus Swarms are two French startups that were incubated by GICAT's GENERATE program.

## About CERBAIR

As a designer of Anti-Drone solutions with an electronic warfare approach, CERBAIR has taken control of this field of study, with radio frequency (RF) at the heart of its solutions since 2015. CERBAIR has won the trust of major institutional players such as the Ministry of the Armed Forces, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice. They also recently supported the RAID during the 45th G7 Summit in Biarritz, France and the Med7 Summit in Porticcio, France. Distinguished by the European Commission's Accelerator program as one of the most innovative and promising startups in Europe, CERBAIR won 1st prize in the "Digital Cities" category at the EIT Digital Conference in 2019. In 2021, CERBAIR joined the JEY-CAUS project alongside 38 other anti-drone specialists and won numerous structuring contracts with the French anti-drone (LAD) programs, such as PARADE, where they were a subcontractor for Thalés and CS Group, and they co-contracted the DCND program with KEAS.

### Contact Information

Philippe Rouin

[philippe.rouin@CERBAIR.com](mailto:philippe.rouin@CERBAIR.com) / +33 (7) 56 27 11 72

For more information: <https://www.CERBAIR.com/>

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## About Icarus Swarms

A trailblazer among the creators of autonomous drone swarms, the Icarus Swarms team has more than 5 years of experience developing swarm flight systems.

It offers its expertise to military, police, and emergency response forces to utilize drone swarms easily and inexpensively.

Icarus Swarms offers kits composed of mini swarms of Parrot drones that are used to perform specific security missions such as; lighting and illumination, radio jamming, testing of anti-drone systems, radiation mapping, and searching for people or equipment.

Icarus Swarms works with the Special Forces, RAID, Thales and the Naval Group. It is mainly based on drones from the French manufacturer, Parrot.

At this year's EuroSatory Defense and Security Exhibition, Icarus Swarms can be found at **Stand E60 HALL 5A** and in the Dynamic Demonstration Area where they will perform swarm flights every day at **9.45am and 3:30pm**.

### Contact Information

Email: [contact@icarusswarms.com](mailto:contact@icarusswarms.com) / Phone: +33 (5) 57 67 25 64

Website: <https://www.icarusdroneswarms.com/>