

Thales and Google Cloud Announce Strategic Partnership to Jointly Develop a Trusted Cloud Offering in France

- The jointly developed sovereign cloud offering will meet the French "Trusted Cloud" requirements and enable French organizations to innovate and fully benefit from hyperscale cloud technology, while keeping their data confidential, secure and fully sovereign
- This solution will live on dedicated infrastructure that will be managed and operated by a new company, of which Thales will be the majority shareholder

PARIS and SUNNYVALE, Calif., Oct. 6, 2021 /[PRNewswire](#)/ -- **Thales and Google Cloud today announced a strategic agreement to co-develop a sovereign hyperscale cloud offering for France. Operated by a joint company with Thales as the majority shareholder, it will meet the criteria of the French 'Trusted Cloud.'** With this new offering, French companies and public sector organizations will benefit from all the power, security, flexibility, agility and sovereignty offered by the respective technologies of the two organizations.

By addressing the highest legal and technical requirements for 'Trusted Cloud', the Thales and Google Cloud offering will enable private and public sector organisations who need to meet the criteria - defined by France's Information Systems Security Agency (ANSSI)¹ - to benefit from cloud computing services, in accordance with the country's sovereign cloud strategy.



The joint offer of Thales and Google Cloud is based on the most advanced technologies and services of each partner. Google Cloud's services, which will be enhanced and complemented with new innovations regularly, will bring elasticity, agility and technological openness, enabling companies to innovate transparently and autonomously, without vendor lock-in.

Thales, a leader in cybersecurity for more than 40 years, will bring the necessary guarantees of France's sovereignty requirements by ensuring the management of encryption keys, access, identities, and cyber threat monitoring with its Cybersecurity Operations Center. Thales thus provides the levels of trust and of security required from French customers so that they can migrate their most sensitive applications to the cloud while maintaining control.

French companies and public sector institutions will be able to benefit from a set of hyperscale cloud services

that are:

- operated by a dedicated, newly formed company under French law, held in majority by Thales;
- hosted in France, within infrastructure that is separate from Google Cloud, with a separate network and servers controlled and operated by the new company;
- supported locally by the new company, ensuring customer service is handled in France;
- locally secured with identity management, data encryption, administration and supervision being provided by the new company;
- regularly enhanced via rolling software updates that are evaluated and validated within a security sandbox managed by Thales; and
- managed on a sustainably developed infrastructure.

"To adapt to the diversity of our customers' cloud needs, Thales offers a wide range of options with partners in its ecosystem. Thanks to this unique collaboration with Google Cloud, we will be able to help power the digital transformation for organizations of all sizes and industries that want to keep control and sovereignty over their data and that of their customers. Together, we will address the criteria defined by the government for a trusted cloud, as well as environmental goals with a sustainable approach for the infrastructure we will build," said Marc Darmon, Executive Vice President, Secure Communications and Information Systems at Thales.

"Thales and Google Cloud have a joint vision to deliver the most innovative and trusted solutions to companies and public sector organizations in France. Our unique approach to addressing the concerns of French citizens and government bodies, including the development of a new company, ensures organizations can benefit from the innovation and agility of the cloud, without compromising on the security, privacy and sovereignty required by the French government," said Thomas Kurian, CEO at Google Cloud.

"The government's national cloud strategy clearly specifies the state's willingness to use and promote high-performance and trusted cloud offerings. The challenge is to have the widest possible range of solutions compliant with the SecNumCloud repository which details the technical, operational and legal security rules capable of effectively protecting data and processes hosted in a cloud service. ANSSI therefore enthusiastically welcomes this ambitious project that meets these criteria," said Guillaume Poupard, Director General of the National Information Systems Security Agency (ANSSI).

About Google Cloud

Google Cloud accelerates organizations' ability to digitally transform their business with the best infrastructure, platform, industry solutions and expertise. We deliver enterprise-grade solutions that leverage Google's cutting-edge technology – all on the cleanest cloud in the industry. Customers in more than 200 countries and territories turn to Google Cloud as their trusted partner to enable growth and solve their most critical business problems.

About Thales

Thales (Euronext Paris: HO) is a global leader in advanced technologies, investing in digital and "deep tech" innovations – connectivity, big data, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and quantum computing – to build a confident future crucial for the development of our societies. The Group provides its customers – businesses, organisations and governments – in the defense, aeronautics, space, transport, and digital identity and security domains with solutions, services and products that help them fulfil their critical role, consideration for the individual being the driving force behind all decisions.

Thales has 81,000 employees in 68 countries. In 2020 the Group generated sales of €17 billion.

¹ The Trusted Cloud label will offer a double level of security – both legal and technical – and will allow French companies and administrations to benefit from the best cloud services. Some of the world's most efficient cloud services are published by non-European companies: these services will also be eligible for the label under certain conditions, notably concerning the entity operating these services and the location of the data. (source: <https://www.numerique.gouv.fr/uploads/Strategie-nationale-pour-le-cloud.pdf>)

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