Destinus selected among the five highest-ranked applicants in the European Defence Agencyâ??s Sentinel Strike Challenge

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Following Stage 1 evaluation, Destinus has been invited to demonstrate its system in EDAâ??s operational experimentation campaign in Portugal this autumn.

BRUSSELS, July 30, 2026 /PRNewswire/ â?? Destinus, a European developer and manufacturer of strike missile systems and interceptor systems, has been ranked among the five highest-scoring applicants in Stage 1 of the European Defence Agencyâ??s Prize Contest â??Sentinel Strike Challengeâ?• on loitering munitions, run through EDAâ??s Hub for European Defence Innovation (HEDI). As a Stage 1 winner, Destinus is invited to Stage 2 of the contest: an operational experimentation campaign hosted by the Portuguese Army at the Santa Margarida Military Training Area.

The Sentinel Strike Challenge supports the operational experimentation of emerging loitering munition capabilities in Europe. It is designed to generate comparable operational evidence on the performance, resilience, reliability, safety and operational suitability of complete systems, assessed across the full precision strike mission cycle â?? from mission planning and launch through target detection, engagement and post-strike assessment â?? in realistic, degraded and contested conditions. Stage 2 takes place within EDAâ??s Operational Experimentation Campaign 2026 (OPEX26 PT), conducted in conjunction with the Portuguese Armyâ??s ARTEX26 experimentation exercise, from 28 September to 9 October 2026.

Destinus will demonstrate a complete loitering munition system developed and produced in Europe with operational experience in demanding environments. The selection follows an evaluation of technical proposals submitted by applicants from across participating EU Member States.

Stage 2 results will be announced at the EDA Annual Conference in early 2027.

EI SRL - P.IVA IT16017671005

Contact: destinus@fticonsulting.com

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