

## **Statement from General Electric-Rolls Royce on the F-136 Engine June 16, 2010**

Today, Secretary Gates said to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

"We think that the [F136] engine does not meet, probably does not meet, the performance standards that are required."

GE & Rolls-Royce, developers of the F136 engine, have the following response:

The F136 engine is having an excellent testing program in 2010, meeting and exceeding all performance expectations in terms of aeromechanical characteristics, temperature margins, turbine design, the control system and operability.

The secretary's comments contradict the detailed assessment from the Department of Defense, which has consistently awarded very good and excellent ratings to the F136.

The F136 development program is on time and on schedule.

At the onset of the F136's full-scale development program in 2005, the engine design was specifically modified to meet new requirements for the aircraft. As a result, GE and Rolls-Royce are highly confident that the engine will continue to meet and exceed all performance expectations during 2010, when a total of six test engines are scheduled to run, and next year, when the engine is flight tested on JSF aircraft.