



V2500 Engine successfully tests Sustainable Aviation Fuel

V2500 Engine proves viability with Sustainable Aviation Fuel in successful test by IAE Consortium.

Jet-A fuel, primarily composed of kerosene, was initially used to verify the operational status of the V2500 engine. Subsequently, the team flushed the system and proceeded to demonstrate the engine's capability to operate on HEFA-SPK, a sustainable aviation fuel derived from reclaimed fats. HEFA-SPK is known for significantly reducing carbon dioxide emissions during combustion.

The engine's performance met expectations without any surprises. The V2500, manufactured by IAE International Aero Engines AG, represents Pratt & Whitney's ninth engine tested on 100% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) since 2022. Pratt, a part of the RTX business and a member of the IAE consortium, has also tested three auxiliary power units on 100% SAF. This testing

record underscores Pratt and RTX's commitment to supporting the aviation industry's goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Sean Bradshaw, senior technical fellow for Sustainable Propulsion at Pratt & Whitney, said, "SAFs are a critical lever for the decarbonization of aviation. They really are key to the industry achieving its environmental goals."

The V2500 is a robust two-shaft turbofan engine widely utilized across commercial, military, and cargo aircraft fleets. Since its introduction in 1989, it has powered nearly 3,000 aircraft, including the Airbus A319, A320, and A321, and the Embraer C-390 Millennium. Its extensive deployment makes it a key candidate for testing on 100% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) as part of ongoing industry efforts.

Brandon Naples, associate director of V2500 Business Strategy at Pratt & Whitney, said, "This test demonstrates to our customers who are invested in the lifecycle of the V2500 that this engine continues to play a part in IAE's sustainability strategy."

The IAE consortium, comprising Pratt & Whitney, Pratt & Whitney Aero Engines International (PWAEI), Japanese Aero Engines Corporation (JAEC), and MTU Aero Engines AG, conducted the test in March 2024. The test site was MTU's maintenance, repair, and overhaul facility located in Hannover, Germany ■

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GE Aerospace advances Black Hawk Helicopter modernization

GE Aerospace delivers T901 Engines to Sikorsky, elevating UH-60M Black Hawk modernization.

GE Aerospace delivered two T901 Improved Turbine Engines to Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company, advancing the U.S. Army's UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter modernization. Moreover, these engines will enhance the helicopter's performance, increasing lift capability and range for improved mission planning and execution. Additionally, the T901 engine boosts the Black Hawk's power by 50% and enhances fuel efficiency, crucially supporting Lockheed Martin's vision for a modernized fleet under its 21st Century Security initiative.

Hamid Salim, Vice president of Army and Air Force Systems at Sikorsky, said, "Increased performance and range offered by the T901 are high-value capabilities the Army is able to implement on the Black Hawk in a cost-effective way that will not require expensive re-engineering. The ITEP and other enhancement efforts ensure the Black Hawk remains in operation well into the 2070s, securing its position as the Army's foundational tactical air assault and utility aircraft of choice."

Sikorsky is preparing to conduct a comprehensive multi-aircraft test program to meet the Army's ITEP acquisition schedule milestones. Initially, two T901 engines will be installed in a Black Hawk test aircraft for ground testing and flight trials. Furthermore, Additional aircraft hardware is already available for installing two more T901 engines in a second Black Hawk, which will expedite the testing process. The UHPO, ATE PO, and Sikorsky reached key milestones: H-60M Preliminary and Critical Design Reviews succeeded. They also completed IVHMS Software FQT and are preparing for the Flight Management System FQT this summer. Moreover, The program has received all necessary aircraft test instrumentation and "A-kit" hardware to support upcoming ground and flight tests, ensuring readiness.

Hamid Salim, Vice president of Army and Air Force Systems at Sikorsky, said, "We view this as an extension of the work we've completed on ITE with our Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft (FARA) prototype and are even better positioned for a timely and simplified integration of the engine into the H-60M, due to data and insights we've retrieved from successful ITE tests completed to date."

Sikorsky received the T901 engine and performed a successful engine light-off on the FARA prototype aircraft. Additionally, The ongoing program aims to collect crucial integration data, reducing risks for upcoming flight tests.

Sikorsky's H-60M modernization efforts prioritize ITE, Modular Open Systems Approach/digital backbone, and Launched Effects. These digital innovations, including a sustainment digital twin, enhance safety, mission readiness, and reduce downtime and maintenance costs ■

SR Technics extends PW4000 maintenance with Asiana

SR Technics extends PW4000 maintenance agreement with Asiana Airlines for five years, enhancing support for A330 fleet until June 2029.

SR Technics, a leading MRO service provider, announced an extension of the PW4000 engine maintenance agreement with Asiana Airlines. This agreement strengthens SR Technics' cooperation with its valued customer for the next five years. The engine maintenance will be conducted at SR Technics' renowned facilities at Zurich Airport in Switzerland. SR Technics has maintained Asiana Airlines' fleet of 15 A330 aircraft for the past five years. Now, the company will continue providing quality service and extend this relationship through June 2029.

Owen McClave, SR Technics' CEO, said, "We are very proud to continue our collaboration with Asiana Airlines. This agreement emphasizes the significance of the long-term goals of our partnership, the values we share, as well as all the efforts our teams put together. The extension of the PW4000 agreement with Asiana Airlines demonstrates our top quality and reliability, offering our customers impeccable support to their business for many years to come."

This agreement underscores SR Technics' commitment to the PW4000 engine platform. Asiana Airlines, a full-service airline and Star Alliance member, operates 51 international passenger routes, 7 domestic passenger routes, and 21 cargo routes across Asia, Europe, North America, and Oceania. SR Technics is pleased to continue delivering service with unwavering dedication to innovation and excellence.

Hoon Bae, Principal General Manager Purchasing of Asiana Airlines, said, "We are pleased to select SRT as our PW4168 MRO service provider for another 5 years. We are confident that SRT will ensure comprehensive support to our A330 fleet and we are committed to providing our customers with quality service through this partnership."

A world-leading Engine MRO service provider, headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, boasts over 90 years of operational experience. Working with an extensive network of partners and business development offices in Europe, the USA, Asia, and the Middle East, they offer comprehensive, fully customized solutions for the Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul of aircraft engines, airframes, and components sales. Additionally, they provide technical support to over 500 customers worldwide ■



ST Engineering expands support for Safran Aircraft Engines

ST Engineering enhances Safran support with LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B module repair offload agreement.

ST Engineering announced that its Commercial Aerospace business has expanded support for Safran Aircraft Engines. This expansion involves a two-year agreement with an option for extension. The agreement provides module repair offload support for the CFM LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines. Safran Aircraft Engines will offload module repair work to ST Engineering under the agreement. This work includes the high-pressure turbine (HPT) rotor assembly and stage 2 HPT nozzle assembly of the LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines. This collaboration addresses the increasing MRO demand for LEAP engines as operators ramp up their flying operations. Additionally, ST Engineering's offload support enhances Safran Aircraft Engines' MRO capacity and optimizes the turnaround time of engine shop visits for customers.

Nicolas Potier, VP Support & Services at Safran Aircraft Engines, said, "Expanding our partnership with ST Engineering is part of our strategy

to develop our global capacities for LEAP MRO activities. The LEAP fleet has experienced the fastest ramp-up in commercial aviation industry with a growing fleet of over 3,300 aircraft, which means that we will need to rely on our valued MRO partners as part of our growing network to keep providing our customers with the highest CFM standards."

Additionally, ST Engineering will enhance its support for Safran Aircraft Engines in LEAP-1B engines maintenance offload services. This reinforces their collaboration beyond the module repair offload agreement. ST Engineering continues to provide ongoing offload support for Safran Aircraft Engines. Moreover, This includes maintenance for the CFM56-5B, CFM56-7B, and LEAP-1A engines. Furthermore, This underscores the strong trust and partnership between the two companies.

Tay Eng Guan, SVP/Head, Engine Services at ST Engineering, said, "This offload agreement is the latest win-win

arrangement that strengthens our partnership with Safran Aircraft Engines and support for LEAP engines operators. We are well positioned to address the rising demand for quick-turn and performance restoration shop visits for LEAP engines, having made the investments in equipment such as shroud grinding machinery, and built up a strong team of skilled technicians. We will continue to ramp up our LEAP engine capabilities and look forward to providing even greater support to Safran Aircraft Engines and airlines so that they can maximise their operations."

ST Engineering, as the first independent MRO provider in Asia, joined the LEAP open MRO ecosystem under the CFM Branded Service Agreement in 2023. Additionally, Its Commercial Aerospace business currently possesses LEAP-1B engine testing capabilities. Moreover, it is progressively expanding its LEAP engine services at its Singapore facility. This expansion aims to offer the full suite of MRO services for both LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines. Specifically, LEAP-1A engine testing is anticipated to be operational by 3Q2024.

The LEAP engine fleet has exceeded 50 million engine flight hours recently, with continued growth expected. This growth is supported by a robust backlog of over 10,600 engines ■



Thomas Knäpper on RAS SAAR's Aircraft Maintenance Excellence

In a recent interview with MRO Business Today, Thomas Knäpper, Managing Director of RAS SAAR GmbH, ensures high-quality aircraft maintenance through advanced technology, rigorous training, and a commitment to safety and regulatory compliance, supported by a dedicated team and extensive industry expertise. For a deep dive into Knäpper's vision and strategies, read more about the conversation and discover how RAS SAAR is setting new standards in aircraft maintenance.

Q. How does RAS SAAR ensure high-quality and professional support in aircraft maintenance and technical matters?

Ans: RAS SAAR ensures high-quality and professional support through sustainable maintenance protocols, cutting-edge technology, and continuous investment in staff training and organizational development. The company utilizes a set of procedures to enhance customer interactions, ensure personalized support, and streamline communication processes. This approach helps in maintaining a detailed record of our client's requirements and feedback, leading to improved service delivery of RAS SAAR and much higher client satisfaction. Our team of over 100 skilled technicians and engineers in Saarbrücken is dedicated to maintaining the highest operational and safety standards.



Q - Can you elaborate on the specific services offered by RAS SAAR for regional jet and turboprop aircraft maintenance?

Ans: RAS SAAR GmbH, as part of the Rheinland Air Service (RAS) group, benefits from a network of facilities and expertise that strengthens its service capabilities. We at RAS SAAR offer comprehensive maintenance services for regional jets and turboprop aircraft, including scheduled maintenance, inspections, repairs, modifications, and overhauls. The company's advanced workshops and facilities include a paint cabin, battery shop, sheet metal shop, wheels shop, composite repairs shop, and avionics shop, enabling us to handle complex maintenance tasks with high precision and efficiency. We specialize in maintenance for ATR42/72, DHC-8, Do328, and since the beginning of 2024 also on Embraer E-Jets.

The RAS group enhances our capability portfolio through its extensive MRO services provided by its Mönchengladbach facility. This site features 12 in-house component shops specializing in flight controls, access panels, floor panels, composite components, de-icer boots, leading edges, and more.

Additionally, RAS' in-house non-destructive testing (NDT) capabilities provide faster access to crucial inspections, significantly reducing turnaround times (TAT). This capability allows us to offer a comprehensive one-stop-shop approach, enhancing efficiency and ensuring thorough inspections of aircraft and its components. This integration supports the overall safety, reliability, and quick service delivery that RAS SAAR is known for.

Furthermore, RAS Engineering, a design organization within the RAS group, provides specialized engineering support, including major and minor repair schemes, cabin/LOPA reconfigurations, paint schemes, and avionic modifications.

RAS SAAR GmbH, as part of the Rheinland Air Service Group, offers comprehensive maintenance services with advanced workshop facilities, in-house NDT capabilities for faster turnaround times, and support from the group's Mönchengladbach facility and RAS Engineering, positioning us and the whole group as a leader in aircraft maintenance services.

Q - What is RAS SAAR's approach to modification, repair, and transition management for aircraft like the ATR 42/72?

Ans - RAS SAAR GmbH employs a holistic maintenance approach that prioritizes continuous exchange and adaptation to customer needs and requirements for all types of aircraft which are in our capability list. This comprehensive customer-centric strategy involves detailed planning based on customer requirements, allowing a swift execution to ensure every aspect of the aircraft's maintenance or transition is meticulously managed. We at RAS SAAR leverage our facilities and highly skilled personnel to provide customized solutions tailored to client needs.

The approach integrates various maintenance disciplines, including in-

house NDT capability, structural repairs, complex modifications, and comprehensive refurbishment programs, ensuring that all maintenance activities are seamlessly coordinated and executed. By employing a systematic method that includes thorough inspections, precise repairs, and necessary modifications, we ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and industry standards. This holistic maintenance approach not only enhances the reliability and safety of the aircraft but also optimizes turnaround times and operational efficiency, ultimately delivering superior service quality and client satisfaction.

Q - How does RAS SAAR manage spare parts support to ensure efficient operations for its clients?

Ans - RAS SAAR manages spare parts support through a robust inventory and efficient logistics. We invest in specific consumables and expendables and have a strategic plan for further investments to reduce the pressure on our supply chain. Our logistics department employs experienced purchasers and warehouse clerks to ensure timely provision of high-quality aircraft spare parts and consumables. Of course, we cannot completely escape the global supply problems for aircraft spare parts, but we have a large network of contacts in the aviation supply chain so that we can always find optimized solutions for our customers.





Q - As an experienced aviation professional, what strategies have you implemented to optimize the quality, safety, and efficiency of technical processes in aircraft maintenance?

Ans - First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to point out that I took over responsibility as Managing Director of RAS SAAR GmbH less than three months ago. I think that in order to get an all-embracing picture and derive changes and initiate the first steps, a good leader must above all observe, talk to employees, listen and in particular understand. I am currently still in the evaluation phase and am working on possible optimization strategies with my team. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to explain my understanding of what the optimization of quality, safety and efficiency of technical processes in aircraft maintenance depends on.

I think optimizing technical processes in aircraft maintenance is driven by a commitment to continuous organisational learning and staff empowerment. The company needs to foster a culture of an ability to ongoing change, continuous education and training to ensure that all team members and the whole organisation stay abreast of the latest industry advancements and best practices. Transparency is a cornerstone of my approach, ensuring that quality, compliance, safety, and strategic goals are communicated and understood at all levels.

By empowering staff with the technical knowledge and tools they need but also on the strategic long-time goals, I

try to enhance their ability to execute maintenance tasks efficiently as well as effectively and furthermore have a better understanding of decisions being taken by the management. This transparent and inclusive strategy not only ensures high operational standards but also aligns the entire organization towards achieving its strategic objectives, thereby maintaining the highest levels of service quality and customer satisfaction

Q - Could you provide an example of a successful organizational change or improvement initiative you've led in the aviation maintenance sector?

Ans: As I have only been a member of the RAS for such a short time, I am unfortunately not yet able to give an example of how a change process has been led by me. These will come, but they still need to be specified. I think the best example of such a change process that I was able to accompany in a leadership role was during my time as a Nominated Person Continuing Airworthiness (NPCA) at Discover Airlines, where I helped set up the airline's Continuing Airworthiness Management Organization (CAMO). Discover Airlines was founded as a new airline within the Lufthansa Group with no organizational structure or shell to fall back on. The entire operational and organizational structure had to be defined from scratch and integrated into the Lufthansa Group.

All technical processes had to be designed, tested and established, from the selection of personnel and approval

under EASA aviation legislation by the LBA to the budget process, the first flight and the start of flight operations. We successfully started operations at Discover with wet lease flights for Air Dolomiti before we operated our inaugural flight as an airline to our first own destination in Mombasa. We then successively added further routes to our network, for which we as CAMO contracted maintenance providers. In the first six months, the CAMO expanded its capability list from A330-200 over A330-300 to A320 with the associated regulatory audits. We successfully carried out an IOSA initial audit and accompanied the first C-Checks at LTP in Manila. I think we started work very successfully as a CAMO team at that time and have continued to develop steadily. Even though the role of the NPCA is an operational role in flight operations, it manages the entire maintenance of its own fleet. I hope you will accept this answer at this point.

Q - What role does innovation play in your approach to solving challenges in aircraft maintenance and repair?

Ans: Aircraft maintenance is a complex and critical field, facing several challenges that impact efficiency, safety, and cost-effectiveness. Some of the challenges are technological advancement, regulatory compliance, skill shortages, supply chain management, environmental concerns, aging aircraft fleets to name just a few. Innovation plays a crucial role in overcoming these challenges by introducing advanced technologies and methodologies that enhance operational readiness, solve obsolescence issues, reduce maintenance-related costs and strengthen supply chains. At the RAS Group, we need to take a closer look at some innovative solutions and evaluate how they can increase efficiency, improve quality and reduce costs.

Such innovative solutions could be Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR & VR). AR and VR can be used for training maintenance personnel or providing real-time assistance during maintenance tasks. These tools can enhance the learning experience, improve skill levels, and ensure that complex procedures are followed accurately. Another

development relates to the technical documentation of the aircraft that we look after and whose data we have to archive securely, verifiably and unambiguously.

We need to assess how blockchain technology can be used for compliance and record-keeping. This technology ensures secure and immutable record-keeping of maintenance activities, enhancing transparency and traceability. This is crucial for regulatory compliance and maintaining the integrity of maintenance records. These are just two examples from a large number of possible innovations. RAS SAAR does not act alone, but we work together in the RAS Group to develop sustainable solutions. This is the strength of our group.

Q - How does RAS SAAR stay current with advancements in aviation technology and best practices in maintenance and overhaul?

Ans - RAS SAAR GmbH stays updated with advancements in aviation technology and best practices through continuous exchange within the industry, cooperation with European aviation training facilities, and partnerships with universities. This proactive approach includes participating in industry conferences, engaging in collaborative research projects, and leveraging the expertise of academic institutions. By fostering these relationships, we ensure that our staff are continuously trained and aware of the latest technological innovations and regulatory changes.

This commitment to ongoing education and industry engagement enables RAS SAAR to maintain high standards in maintenance and overhaul, ensuring that our practices are always at the forefront of the aviation industry. We also employ RAS' PART21J Design Organisation (DOA) by participating in programs with a research component.

Q - Can you discuss the importance of regulatory compliance in aircraft maintenance and how RAS SAAR ensures adherence to aviation laws and standards?

Ans - Compliance and safety management are critical in the aviation industry as they ensure the highest standards of operational integrity, pre-



vent accidents, and safeguard lives. For us at RAS SAAR, maintaining rigorous compliance and safety protocols is essential to uphold our reputation, meet regulatory requirements, and provide reliable, high-quality maintenance services to our clients. The regulatory compliance at RAS SAAR is ensured through rigorous internal and external audits, continuous training, and obtaining necessary certifications.

Internal and external audits are crucial as they provide an objective assessment of compliance with aviation standards and identify areas for improvement. External audits are used to ensure that we do not lose sight of external perspectives or become blind to our operations. We use external experts to audit our processes as well as competent personnel from the entire RAS Group. The exchange of compliance personnel between the different facilities facilitates the sharing of objective views and best practices, ensuring alignment within the RAS Group and fostering continuous improvement in regulatory adherence and safety management.

Additionally, continuous training ensures that staff are up-to-date with the latest regulations and best practices, maintaining high safety and quality standards. Cooperation within the RAS Group further enhances compliance by sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise across different facilities, ensuring a unified and thorough approach to regulatory adherence. RAS SAAR adheres to guidelines set by aviation authorities such as EASA, CAA (UK), and FAA to maintain compliance. Here too, in the important area of compliance and safety management, RAS SAAR GmbH

benefits from the diversity of the entire RAS group.

Q - What are the key factors you consider when developing and implementing maintenance schedules for regional jet and turboprop aircraft?

Ans - First of all, I would like to state that RAS SAAR GmbH does not have its own CAMO and is not affiliated with the technical department of an airline. Therefore, we do not develop maintenance schedules, we can only contribute to them. However, a maintenance organization has a great responsibility in this contribution. Every CAMO's reliability program needs reliable data. This data is recorded by us as RAS SAAR, be it in the form of measured values, execution of operational tests or consumption of operating fluids such as engine and hydraulic oil. The drivers for a maintenance program are ground times, the airline's operating model and maintenance capacity in the flight plan.

When supporting maintenance schedules, RAS SAAR considers factors such as manufacturer recommendations, aircraft usage patterns, historical maintenance data, and regulatory requirements. They aim to balance optimal aircraft performance with minimal operational disruption. Therefore, we recommend the adoption of predictive maintenance technologies, such as advanced sensors and data analytics. These allow maintenance teams to monitor the health of aircraft components in real-time. This helps in predicting failures before they occur, reducing unplanned maintenance and downtime, and optimizing the maintenance schedule ■

JPE secures FAA approval for new Aircraft parts

Expanded FAA approval: JPE introduces 17 New PMA Parts and 3 DER repairs for Aircraft Maintenance and Upgrades.

Jet Parts Engineering (JPE), along with subsidiaries Airline Components Parts and PG Aerotech, has recently obtained FAA approval for 17 new PMA parts and 3 new DER repairs. These include thrust reverser parts for 737NG, 737MAX, A320, and A330 aircraft, oil gaskets for the GENx engine, and various components such as engine fan blade platforms and hardware for aircraft strobe lights. The newly approved parts and repairs are accessible through JPE's e-commerce platform and are detailed on their website for direct purchase.



OEM PN	PMA PN	Part Name	Eligibility
4900823-4	4900823JP-4	Switch-Thermostat	747-400, 767-200, 767-300, 767-300F, 767-400ER, 777-200, 777-200LR, 777-300, 777-300ER, 777F
3575-1329-01, 3575-2791-01	APM3575-2791-01	Washer, Vent Valv ^e	737, 747, 757, 767, 777, A318, A319, A320, A321, A330, A380, ERJ170, ERJ190
BAC1522-706-714	BAC1522-706JP-714	Seat Track Cover	707, 727, 737, 747, 757, 767, 777, 787
0727628	0727628JP	Cable Assy	A318, A319, A320, A321
72324841-1	72324841JP-1	Grommet	737-600, 737-700, 737-700C, 737-800, 737-900, 737-900ER, 737MAX
60-2745-11	60-2745JP-11	Lampholder	757, 767
S3203-675	S3203JP-675	Packing	CFM56
799803-1	799803JP-1	Ring, Piston	747, 767
8378-5	8378JP-5	Piston Rod Assembly	A319, A320, A321, A330, A340
WE3876293-1	REPAIR	Differential Pressure Switch	CRJ700, CRJ900
3888058-7 & 3888058-8	REPAIR	Ignition Exciter	737NG, 737MAX, A220, A320, A310/330, A350
305-115-709-0	305-115-709JP-0	Seal Assy – Sealol	CFM56-5/7
340-001-817-0	340-001-817-0JP	Platform – Fan Blade	CFM56-7B
827129-1	827129JP-1	Overspeed Governor Valve Set	F117-PW-100, PW2000, PW2037, PW2040, PW2043, PW2143, PW2643
321-400-604-0 & 321-400-603-0	REPAIR	Doors Deployed Switch	A320
315A2504-8	315A2504JP-8	Link	737NG
315A6504-1	315A6504JP-1	Link	737MAX
74M215-004	74M215JP-004	Bushing	A330
74M215-003	74M215JP-003	Bushing	A330
2364M47P01	2364M47P01JP	Gasket	GENX-1B70

Jet Parts Engineering leads in FAA-PMA parts and engineered repairs, ensuring global spare part solutions. Specializing across over 25 ATA chapters in aircraft systems, they provide a wide array of part-types. Their e-commerce portal provides immediate access to pricing, availability, technical specifications, and efficient order management and tracking features ■

AFI KLM E&M partners with Croatia Airlines for A220 fleet

AFI KLM E&M and Croatia Airlines form strategic alliance for comprehensive A220 Fleet Component support and maintenance solutions.

AFI KLM Engineering & Maintenance, a top global MRO service provider, has partnered with Croatia Airlines. They aim to enhance aircraft maintenance capabilities through this new collaboration. This collaboration will provide comprehensive component support for Croatia Airlines's Airbus A220 fleet. Moreover, This partnership marks a significant step in enhancing operational reliability and performance. It focuses specifically on Croatia Airlines new generation aircraft.

Tomislav Imprčić, Technical Director of Croatia Airlines, said, "AFI KLM E&M's expertise and extensive support network



are invaluable as we introduce the A220 to our fleet. This partnership ensures that we can maintain the highest standards of safety and efficiency, delivering a superior travel experience to our passengers."

AFI KLM E&M will offer a wide range of component support services, encompassing repairs, access to a dedicated pool of spares, and logistics support. Leveraging

decades of experience in aircraft maintenance, AFI KLM E&M's support for the A220 is extensive, supported by technical knowledge and a proven track record in managing new-generation aircraft. Consequently, the collaboration will enable Croatia Airlines to benefit from AFI KLM E&M's state-of-the-art repair facilities. They will also benefit from innovative maintenance solutions.

Marcel Kuijn, VP Sales Europe & Key Accounts at Air France Industries KLM Engineering & Maintenance, said, "We are delighted to partner with Croatia Airlines in supporting their A220 fleet. Our complete component support services are designed to meet the specific needs of new-generation aircraft, and we are committed to providing Croatia Airlines with the highest level of operational excellence and reliability."

Croatia Airlines, the national air carrier of Croatia, was established in 1989 and is headquartered in Zagreb ■

AT THE HEART OF AEROSPACE

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■ As a founding member of AFRA (Aircraft Fleet Recycling Association), Vallair has contributed significantly to establishing global standards for aircraft disassembly and materials recycling.

Vallair leads Global Aircraft Teardown and Recycling

Vallair leads in efficient aircraft teardown and recycling, ensuring asset value realization and global industry standards.

Vallair, specializing in mature aircraft assets for operators and lessors, is dismantling an Airbus A330 airframe for CORAX, a Danish spare components specialist. Additionally, this teardown underscores Vallair's expertise in aircraft disassembly and component management. This aircraft, previously operated by Hongkong Airlines for 23 years, is currently 80% disassembled. Upon completion, over 1,500 parts will be removed for use as USM. Vallair's logistics team oversees the processing, listing, and crating of these parts. Furthermore, CORAX will then assess, repair, and sell them.

Morten Espenhein, President of CORAX, said, "Realising the value of mature assets relies on fast and efficient disassembly practices that protect each part throughout the inspection and

evaluation process. Our global customer base enjoys unlimited access to one of the fastest growing aircraft component inventories in the world. We have a commitment to innovation and expansion and that means sourcing both narrow and wide body aircraft for teardown and managing the streamlined transition to USM in a cost-effective way."

Vallair holds approvals from both FAA and EASA and has long been a key participant in the aircraft teardown and recycling industry. As a founding member of AFRA (Aircraft Fleet Recycling Association), Vallair has contributed significantly to establishing global standards for aircraft disassembly and materials recycling.

François Biarneix, Operations Director at Vallair MRO in Châteauroux, said, "We are recognised as a leading independent

provider of teardown services and have an extensive network for sourcing and disposal of assets. Our teardown facility in Châteauroux, France, employs skilled and certified mechanics to identify, store and manage parts properly for maximum efficiency and asset value realisation. We work in partnership with parts brokers, investors, lessors and MROs."

Vallair offers integrated support for mature aircraft, engines, and major components through seven business units. Moreover, these units, focused on engineering excellence, provide global aircraft operators and owners with cost-effective solutions. Services range from extending asset life to environmentally responsible disposal. Additionally, Vallair specializes in trading and leasing A320 family, ATR, and B737 aircraft, and leads in passenger to freighter conversions ■

Lufthansa Technik secures Air India MRO deal

Lufthansa Technik takes over Air India's Boeing 777 Component support with Multi-Year maintenance, repair, and overhaul agreement.



(L to R) - Dennis Kohr, Senior Vice President Corporate Sales Asia Pacific at Lufthansa Technik, and Campbell Wilson, CEO of Air India

Lufthansa Technik has signed a multi-year agreement to take over the Total Component Support (TCS) for Air India's Boeing 777 fleet, encompassing services for a total of 27 aircraft. The agreement included the maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) of aircraft components, facilitating Air India's utilization of Lufthansa Technik's worldwide component pool and logistics services. This robust partnership aims to optimize the airline's technical operations, enhancing spare parts availability and operational efficiency to the highest standards.

S.K. Dash, Chief Technical Officer at Air India, said, "The partnership with the well-experienced Lufthansa Technik for the component support of our entire Boeing 777 fleet of 27 aircraft is a significant milestone in our collaborative journey. It has demonstrated professional ad-hoc support for our Boeing 777 fleet and we are delighted to strengthen this relationship further by way of this long-term agreement."

Lufthansa Technik is a prominent provider of MRO services for aircraft and components globally. Known for the extensive expertise and advanced technical capabilities. It supports airlines and operators with comprehensive solutions that ensure optimal aircraft performance and operational reliability. Through its expansive network and innovative services, the company plays a crucial role in enhancing aviation safety, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness for its clients worldwide.

Dennis Kohr, Senior Vice President Corporate Sales Asia Pacific, Lufthansa Technik, commented, "We would like to thank Air India for their trust and for awarding Lufthansa Technik to provide comprehensive Total Component Support. As the airline continues on its growth path in the next few years, we look forward to supporting them with our services and eagerly anticipate expanding our new partnership further."

In addition to Air India, Lufthansa Technik has forged partnerships with Tata group airline companies such as Vistara, specifically focusing on Boeing 787 components since 2020. Furthermore, Lufthansa has collaborated with Air India Express starting January this year, particularly in the domain of Engine Maintenance Services ■



S.K. Dash
Chief Technical Officer
Air India



INFLIGHT CONNECTIVITY & MORE

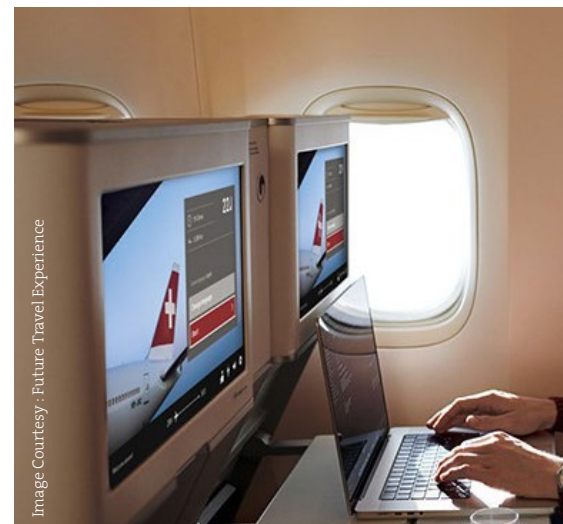
Inflight Connectivity & the Joy of Flying

The market for In-flight Internet is expected to grow rapidly, reaching USD 2.1 billion by 2029, from USD 1.6 billion in 2024, at a CAGR of 5.7%, according to Marketsandmarkets.com

With the purpose of flying having shifted focus, where travellers now conduct business onboard private / commercial aircraft, connectivity providers have seen their markets boom because of this pressing need for Inflight Connectivity. In the age of 'everything instant' digital connectivity 35,000 feet above the ground becomes an enabler

for data and ideas exchange. Evolving technologies and market pull, have shaped in-flight connectivity, in the aerospace sector. An airline's in-flight connectivity solutions must therefore provide good download speeds, make available the familiar apps and tools used on ground in offices and homes. Connectivity must be robust and reliable right through an aircraft's flight path. Basically, an enhanced bandwidth, where one can send more information at a given transfer speed.

The future then of in-flight connectivity will see more fulfilment of business productivity in the air, as it happens on



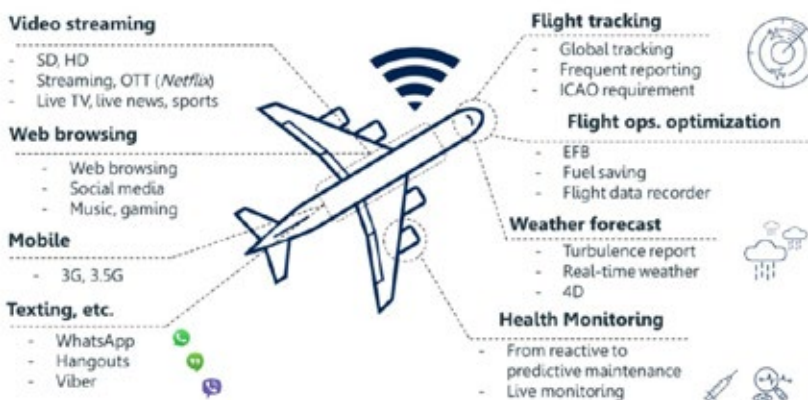
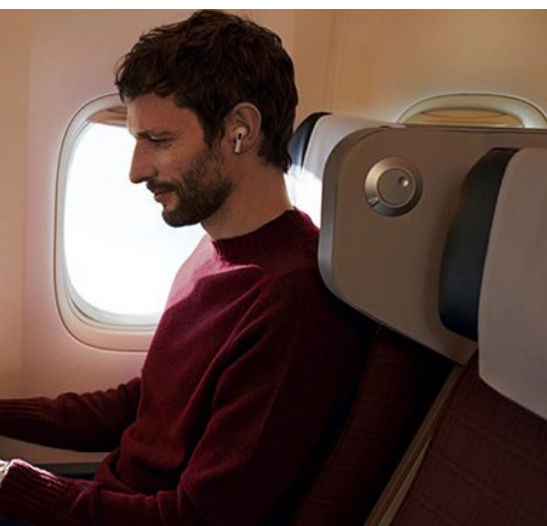


Image Courtesy : Aircraft Interiors International

ground. Tall order, but possible. Quite apart from this, giving families hours of curated content to while away those hours especially on long haul flights, has become a brand differentiator, where carriers vie with each other for a larger passenger/market share. The requirement then is for cost-effective Internet should be customised to suit demographics and choices of the passengers it serves.

Lack of inflight connectivity amounts to unproductive flying hours for today's professionals. Thus, with the inclusion of inflight connectivity, and passenger conveniences and delight it brings in, would build the airline's reputation while facilitating secondary revenue generation.

The Engineering Behind the Scene

Behind the passenger delight and safety feature 'inflight connectivity,' there lies complex set of engineering and planning marvels. The devices that are being connected are moving close to the speed of sound at an altitude of 35,000 feet – this then is a paradigm shift in inflight connectivity.

Aircraft travel over vast regions at lightning speed, and this means data link to adjust quickly in real time. A signal must connect with an aircraft multiple times and adjust to shifting, orientation, speed, and direction. For pilots and passengers, in-flight connectivity needs to be constant.

Air-to-Ground (ATG) and Satellite Technologies

Important resources are air-to-ground (ATG) and satellite technologies. An aircraft communicates with a ground station. With ATG, the ground station antennas help communicate with the aircraft that pass through their airspace.

The satellite receives and routes the radio transmission back to ground stations. Although communication satellites often have geosynchronous orbits, aircraft can transfer between several satellites along the chosen flight path. Such a connection (with a maximum speed of merely 3 Mbps) can be made only when the aeroplane is above the ground and not over the sea.

With either technology, key factors are the available network capacity, the number of available towers and/or satellites covering flight routes, and connectivity redundancy which ensures continuous connectivity.

The network coverage available for either ATG or satellite systems application heavily influences the quality / reliability of these connections.

The maximum internet speed for Ku-Band (12 to 18 GHz microwave) is 50 Mbps, while for Ka-Band (26.5 to 40 GHz microwave) is 70Mbps. The actual connection speed experienced onboard is lower due Internet sharing between multiple aeroplanes flying at terrific speed.

The Hardware of It



Image Courtesy : Astronics Inflight Hardware

Edge Cabin Network Platform employs the power of a distributed computing system architecture to eliminate weighty Servers.

Unit acts as a server and a router to

FEATURE

provide a cost-effective AID solution.

The hardware involved in inflight connectivity is the modem/router – like boxes, and most connectivity solutions include aerodynamic antennas or radomes that attach to the fuselage.

The Passenger Interface

Passengers may find it most convenient to access content inflight and at affordable rates, by downloading select programmes while on ground. Once onboard, the content/movies etc can be accessed on a hand-held device, without any internet connectivity. This is both practical and economical. To caution, even when streaming video midair is technically feasible, the cost can climb up due say, heavy video files.

Passengers look forward to the following:

- ✦ Easy Wi-Fi access
 - ✦ High navigation speed
 - ✦ High resolution streaming
 - ✦ Protected & secured wireless network
 - ✦ Wide range of entertainment content
 - ✦ Easy access to on-board services
- Availability of content on the device of passengers can either be manual or automatic. Manual onboarding requires registering on the flight portal's URL, to get on the network. Through the portal passengers can engage in duty-free shopping and purchase internet data as well, if required.

In automated onboarding, passenger devices are configured with a subscription provided by the airline. A Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) automatically allocates IP addresses for accessing portal services. The automated system allows, users switch between multiple networks throughout the flight, seamlessly.

Onboard Wi-Fi enabled the Internet on flying aeroplanes and the market is still expected to rise. Passengers now have access to in-flight content like movies, shorts, documentaries, flight routes/ maps, flight information, or just browsing the Internet.

Crew & Passengers look forward to the following:

- ✦ Ergonomic & easy-to use web interface



Image Courtesy: Avionics International

- ✦ Easy & optimized meal management
- ✦ Offer additional services / information

✦ Online shop, online brochures

For airlines, these options result in possible ancillary revenue earnings, get to gather data to evaluate customer satisfaction through feedback surveys and similar. Airlines can capture passenger preferences and tailor content accordingly. A short, digital feedback form if filled in by most passengers, can bring in a host of data. This could give airlines to align their services to passenger needs.

A secondary source of revenue is possible by making inflight content free, but charge passengers for internet, based on data consumed.

Watchpoints

Distance and latency are two challenges facing non-stop and consistent inflight connectivity. The aircraft covers vast distances and this can weaken connections over certain spots. The way to circumvent this would mean switching from one ground station to another, several times or switching between satellites.

Latency, happens a lot of times on account of this switching. These drops then become service issues, which air travellers are conscious of. Advanced systems of are smart and efficient, and can erase much of these inconsistencies today inflight systems are extraordinarily efficient and make all of this nearly invisible to end users.

One must be mindful that newer aeroplanes are equipped with state-of-the-art technology, which may not be available in mature aircraft. Passengers may see this as inconsistency in service levels.

The price of internet usage comes at a much higher price than what is available on ground. Passengers must be aware of the rates in advance, instead of being alarmed and disappointed.

Internet laws differ from one country to another. Also, many websites available in one country might not give access when the plane connects to another country's internet. Businesses personalize their website's content based on geolocation

Enablers of Inflight Connectivity

VPNs facilitate access to any website from anywhere. They are encrypted and secure internet connection; A Captive portal or a CAPPORT displays network-related information and prompts users to enter credentials before accessing the Internet. Important information for an equitable distribution of bandwidth, accurate usage tracking, and invoice generation is possible.

OpenRoaming by Wireless Broadband Alliance (WBA) helps passengers maintain a stable internet connection by switching to multiple networks throughout the journey.

Next Generation Hotspot Solution by HSC is a cloud-hosted hotspot 2.0-based network solution that brings

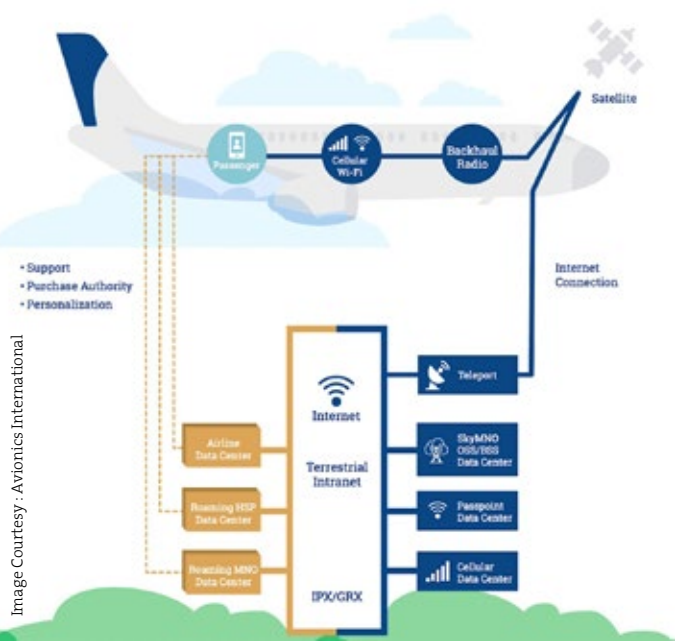


Image Courtesy : Avionics International

cellular-like connectivity to Wi-Fi access points; Connected Cabin by Collins Aerospace minimizes face-to-face interaction between passengers and crew, improving operational efficiency. Passengers can select food, beverages, entertainment, and the internet using their preferred devices, avoiding manual efforts.

Major In-flight Internet companies include:

- ✈ Inmarsat (UK)
- ✈ Viasat, Inc. (US)
- ✈ Gogo Business Aviation LLC (US)
- ✈ Panasonic Avionics Corporation (US)
- ✈ Thales (France)
- ✈ Collins Aerospace (US)
- ✈ Global Eagle (US)

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Air Canada acquires eight Boeing 737-8 Aircraft

Air Canada and BOC Aviation finalized an agreement for eight Boeing 737-8 aircraft, set for 2024 delivery with latest technology.



Air Canada and BOC Aviation Limited have announced an agreement for eight Boeing 737-8 aircraft. These aircraft are from BOC Aviation's orderbook. Additionally, all eight aircraft will feature CFM LEAP-1B engines and are scheduled for delivery in 2024. Moreover, Air Canada is Canada's largest airline and the country's flag carrier. It is a founding member of Star Alliance, the world's most comprehensive air transportation network.

Steven Townend, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, BOC Aviation, said, "We are pleased that Canada's flag carrier, Air Canada, is working with us once again as it strengthens its network. Continued growth in passenger travel is stimulating demand for aircraft, which we have been able to address for Air Canada in this transaction with eight aircraft delivering from our 100% latest technology orderbook."

BOC Aviation, a leading global aircraft operating leasing company, owns, manages, and has aircraft on order totaling 688. Furthermore, as of 31 March 2024, BOC Aviation had leased its fleet of 688 aircraft to 90 airlines across 45 countries and regions. Additionally, the company has its headquarters in Singapore and offices in Dublin, London, New York, and Tianjin.

Michael Rousseau, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Canada, said, "We look forward to these aircraft entering into service next year, upon the completion of their reconfiguration. These eight brand new, fuel and cost-efficient 737-8, will provide more fleet flexibility and additional capacity, while supporting one of our sustainability goals of mitigating emissions."

Air Canada provides scheduled service to over 180 airports in Canada, the United States, and internationally on six continents. Moreover, the airline holds a Four-Star ranking from Skytrax. Additionally, Air Canada's Aeroplan program is Canada's premier travel loyalty program, where members can earn or redeem points on the world's largest airline partner network of 45 airlines. Furthermore, they can do so through an extensive range of merchandise, hotel, and car rental partners ■



Cebu Pacific orders 152 Airbus A321neo Aircraft

Cebu Pacific's historic \$24 billion order with Airbus includes up to 152 A321neo aircraft, powered by Pratt & Whitney GTF engines.

Cebu Pacific (CEB), the Philippines' leading carrier, has signed a binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Airbus. The agreement is for the purchase of up to 152 A321neo aircraft, valued at USD 24 billion (PHP 1.4 trillion). This deal represents the largest aircraft order in Philippine aviation history. CEB has selected Pratt & Whitney GTF engines to power these future aircraft. The MOU includes firm orders for up to 102 A321neo aircraft. Additionally, it covers purchase rights for 50 A320neo Family aircraft.

CEB Chief Executive Officer Michael Szucs, said, "The order is designed to provide Cebu Pacific with maximum flexibility to adapt fleet growth to market conditions, with the ability to switch between the A321neo and A320neo. When finalized, the deal will be a significant milestone for the local airline industry and a testament to CEB's unwavering commitment to support the Philippine growth story."

Cebu Pacific (CEB), the Philippines's leading airline, entered the aviation industry in March 1996 and pioneered the 'low fare, great value' strategy, flying over 200 million passengers since its inception. CEB offers the widest domestic network in the Philippines, with 35 domestic destinations, and operates flights to 23 international destinations across Asia, Australia, and the Middle East. The airline operates from three strategically placed hubs: Manila, Cebu, and Clark.

They anticipate finalizing the purchase agreement in the third quarter of the year. This finalization marks a significant milestone for both Cebu Pacific and Airbus ■



Turkish Airlines expands Cargo fleet with Boeing 777 Freighters

Turkish Airlines expands Cargo fleet with Boeing 777 Freighters to meet growing global demand.

Boeing and Turkish Airlines have announced an order for four 777 Freighters, enhancing the airline's global air cargo market presence. Furthermore, this acquisition will increase Turkish Airlines' fleet of 777 Freighters to a total of 12 aircraft. Additionally, its acquisition of additional 777 Freighters addresses rising freight service demand, fueled by e-commerce expansion and global transportation needs. Moreover, these new aircraft will enhance operational efficiency, cut costs, and ensure timely delivery of goods worldwide.

Turkish Airlines Chief Cargo Officer Ali Türk, said, "This new investment in expanding our cargo fleet underscores our commitment to meeting the growing global demand for air freight services. The addition of these Boeing 777 Freighters will not only enhance our operational capabilities, but also serve as another step in our strategic vision to reach the top of air cargo sector worldwide while maintaining our leading position with our unparalleled service and efficiency for our customers across the globe."

The Boeing 777 Freighter stands as the most capable twin-engine freighter globally, boasting a maximum payload capacity of 102 metric tons (112 tons). It

offers an impressive range of 9,200 kilometers (4,970 nautical miles), making it highly versatile for long-haul cargo transportation.

Paul Righi, vice president of Boeing Commercial Sales for Eurasia, said, "We are proud to continue our long-standing partnership with Turkish Airlines and support its expansion of cargo operations with the addition of Boeing 777 Freighters. The 777 Freighter's payload capacity, range and flexibility will enable Turkish Airlines to deliver exceptional customer service while maximizing operational efficiency."

The 777 Freighter has achieved over 265 deliveries, establishing it as Boeing's top-selling freighter aircraft. Boeing holds a commanding position in the cargo airplane market, providing more than 90% of global dedicated freighter capacity. This includes both newly manufactured aircraft and those converted for freight operations. Turkish Airlines manages a fleet of Boeing aircraft, comprising the 777-300ER (Extended Range), Next-Generation 737, 737 MAX, and 787 Dreamliner. In addition to freighters, these models support the airline's diverse operational requirements across various global routes ■

Alaska Airlines Honors Military with New Tributes



Alaska Airlines has unveiled two new tributes to service members, introducing the fourth “Honoring Those Who Serve” aircraft and the 16th Fallen Soldier Cart. These initiatives coincide with Independence Day, prompting reflection on freedoms and honoring military sacrifices. Alaska Airlines remains steadfast in its commitment to honoring heroes and supporting military guests with every flight.

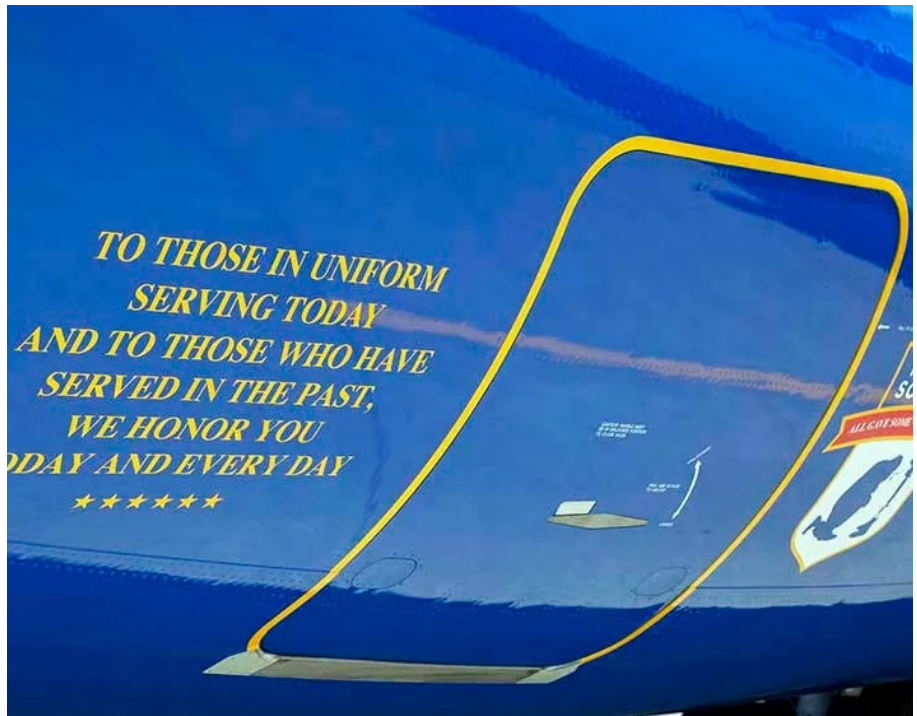
Alaska Airlines introduces two new tributes to service members: the fourth “Honoring Those Who Serve” aircraft and the 16th Fallen Soldier Cart. Independence Day serves as a reminder to reflect on freedoms and recognize the sacrifices made by military members. Alaska Airlines remains dedicated to honoring these heroes and their families in meaningful ways. The airline takes its responsibility to care for military guests seriously and prioritizes their needs with every flight. Alaska Airlines proudly unveils its

specialty designed “Honoring Those Who Serve” aircraft, featuring a new patriotic paint scheme. This design, almost identical to three other jets, includes symbolic imagery representing all six branches of the US Armed Forces: Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Space Force. From its star-spangled design to the heartfelt message on its side, this aircraft serves as a flying tribute to the courage and dedication of current and past service members.

Each time this aircraft takes to the skies, it serves as a poignant reminder

of the sacrifices made by US military personnel. Alaska Airlines aims for guests, employees, and aviation enthusiasts to feel a sense of pride and appreciation when they see this aircraft. Its presence in the air and on the tarmac is intended to evoke these sentiments.

Alaska Airlines recently delivered its 16th Fallen Soldier Cart to Nashville International Airport (BNA) on June 26. These dedicated carts, designed by Alaska’s Maintenance and Engineering department, serve as a solemn and respectful symbol. They



transport the remains of fallen service members, ensuring the utmost dignity and respect.

The special cart dedicated by Alaska Airlines to BNA is available for shared use among all airlines, symbolizing respect and remembrance. During its inaugural mission, it transported the cremated remains of US Navy Vietnam veteran Aviation Boatswain's Mate Roy Campbell.

Introduced in 2011, the Fallen Soldier Program by Alaska Airlines ensures adherence to military protocols. It oversees the handling of remains of fallen

service members flown to their final resting place. The cart plays a crucial role in dignified ceremonies, facilitating the respectful loading and unloading of soldiers' remains onto aircraft.

Carlos Zendejas, Horizon VP of flight operations and Air Force veteran, said, "This cart begins its most important duty today—doing what is on the side of our beautiful liveries—honoring those who serve, transporting our fallen heroes home to their final resting place with honor and dignity. Our hope is that this cart will also bring comfort to the family, friends

and loved ones during that very difficult time."

Alaska Airlines carts, adorned with the American flag and symbols representing the six military branches, stand as a sincere tribute to courageous servicemen and women. As communities unite for Fourth of July festivities, marked by vibrant fireworks displays, an invitation is extended to honor military heroes. Alaska Airlines maintains a steadfast dedication to recognizing and respecting those who serve, ensuring they are honored with utmost respect and gratitude ■

Menzies Aviation enhances services at Budapest Airport



Partnership with AS Budapest expands Menzies Aviation's ground handling and lounge services at Budapest Airport.

Menzies Aviation, a leading service partner for global airports and airlines, has announced its partnership with Airport Services Budapest Zrt. (AS Budapest). This collaboration aims to extend ground handling, cargo, and lounge services at Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport (BUD) in Hungary. AS Budapest provides ground handling for major airlines at Hungary's largest commercial airport. Additionally, it offers a range of ground and air cargo services. The company also ensures aviation security and lounge services. This includes the popular Skycourt Lounge, which is the largest business lounge at Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport.

Miguel Gomez Sjunnesson, EVP Europe, said, "Joining forces with AS Budapest not only extends our footprint at BUD airport, but marks the next step in our European growth journey. AS Budapest has a long track record and strong client base, and we look forward to combining this with our international expertise and extensive reach at more than 297 airports in 65 countries. Together, we are committed to enhancing the experience for our airline customers, airport partners and passengers traveling to Budapest, ensuring high quality services and operational excellence."

As part of the new agreement, which is subject to regulatory approvals, AS Budapest will transfer all existing contracts to Menzies Aviation Hungary Kft. Additionally, Menzies Aviation Hungary Kft will receive all transferred assets. Furthermore, Menzies Aviation Hungary Kft will offer employment agreements to AS Budapest employees as their new employer.

Since 1833, Menzies Aviation has driven its operations with core values of people, passion, and pride. Over the years, it has evolved into a crucial partner in the global aviation industry, providing time-critical logistics services at over 250 locations across more than 60 countries and six continents. Central to Menzies Aviation's success is its dedicated workforce, whose agility and commitment are evident in their service, whether landside or airside, above or below the wing ■

Hanwha partners with Acumen Aviation for fleet management

Hanwha aims to optimize operational workflows, improve decision-making capabilities, and uphold adherence to industry regulations.

Acumen Aviation (Acumen) has signed an agreement with Hanwha Aviation, the newly established commercial aircraft engine leasing platform and subsidiary of Hanwha Group. Hanwha has selected Acumen's flagship platform, SPARTA, to manage its entire fleet of aviation assets on lease. This strategic decision underscores Hanwha's commitment to leveraging digital advancements for efficient and effective asset management.

Lok Anand, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer – Acumen Aviation, said, "We are proud to support Hanwha Aviation in their journey to establish a strong foothold in the aviation leasing industry. Our SPARTA platform is designed to empower organizations of all sizes with the applications they need to succeed in today's dynamic market. By leveraging SPARTA's capabilities, Hanwha Aviation can effectively manage their assets, mitigate operational challenges, and capitalize on emerging opportunities."

Acumen's SPARTA platform provides Hanwha with an integrated suite of applications such as lease management, project management, and records management modules. Through SPARTA, Hanwha aims to optimize operational workflows, improve decision-making capabilities, and uphold adherence to industry regulations.

Jeff Lewis, Chief Executive Officer – Hanwha Aviation, said, "We're thrilled to collaborate with Acumen Aviation, and SPARTA as our software partner, empowering our asset management team. Launching this business from scratch is a privilege, and the SPARTA platform lays the groundwork for us to adeptly oversee our engine and aircraft assets, enhancing decision-making efficiency and optimizing investment returns. SPARTA affords us a comprehensive view in navigating technical asset management."

SPARTA introduces a pioneering method to aviation asset management, enabling entities like Hanwha to enhance efficiency in leasing operations, mitigate risks, and optimize investment returns. Through digital transformation and centralized workflows, SPARTA supports continuous real-time monitoring and analysis, promoting data-driven decision-making and ensuring transparency throughout the leasing lifecycle ■

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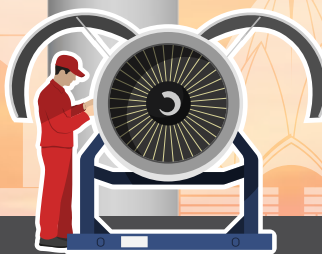
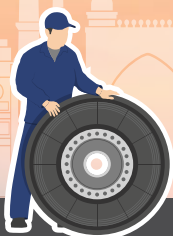
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Aero Gear expands Windsor Facility

The expansion adds approximately 100,000 square feet to Aero Gear's facilities, allowing accommodation for its 175 employees.

CT DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith and Aero Gear founder Doug Rose have unveiled a 24,000 sq ft addition to Aero Gear's manufacturing facility in Windsor. Doug Rose emphasized the strategic significance of the expansion to address the increasing global demand for new commercial and military aircraft. Aero Gear specializes in the production and continual refinement of precision gearboxes crucial to aircraft manufacturing. These gearboxes are utilized by leading aerospace companies such as Avio Aero, Pratt & Whitney, Sikorsky, Boeing, General Electric Rolls Royce, and UTAS.

The expansion adds approximately 100,000 square feet to Aero Gear's facilities, allowing accommodation for its 175 employees. It includes new amenities such as a lobby, conference room, offices, and expanded manufacturing space dedicated to multiple new programs.

Catherine Smith, CT DECD Commissioner, said, "I am so excited to see Doug's hard work pay off and celebrate the effort he has taken up to stay in this great state. With all the other great industry leaders here, Connecticut has proven

itself to be one of the pioneers in innovation and success for the aerospace industry."

Smith acknowledged Aero Gear's dedication to Connecticut over its 35+ years since its establishment in 1982. Since 2011, she has collaborated closely with Doug Rose to elevate productivity and enhance business standards in the state.

Doug Rose, Aero Gear founder, said, "We've come a long way from the small company we once were. Our growth would not be possible without the support of so many parties in the state, and most importantly our great employees. We are motivated and ready to take on the new challenges that this expansion will allow."

Aero Gear is a prominent manufacturer specializing in precision gearboxes for jet engines. Located in Windsor, Connecticut, the company has established a reputation for excellence in aerospace manufacturing. Over its more than 35 years of operation, Aero Gear has demonstrated a strong commitment to the state, contributing to local economic development and collaborating with government officials to enhance productivity and business standards ■

SNC secures \$170 million contract for RAPCON-X Aircraft

RAPCON-X seamlessly performs all traditional missions while delivering superior capability, interoperability, and upgradability for the next three decades.

SNC has secured a contract valued at \$170 million with the Finnish Border Guard to supply two RAPCON-X aircraft under the "MVX" program. The RAPCON-X series, currently under development, represents SNC's latest integrated airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (A-ISR) solution.

RAPCON-X offers high reliability, extended range, enhanced endurance, and improved survivability, maximizing operational efficiency and coverage. In its MVX configuration, RAPCON-X seamlessly performs all traditional missions while delivering superior capability, interoperability, and upgradability for the next three decades.

Tim Owings, executive vice president of SNC's Mission Solutions and Technologies business area said, "SNC is honored to be a trusted partner to the Finnish Border Guard at this critical time in Europe. The rapidly configurable nature of RAPCON-X increases interoperability across Finland's national security infrastructure – as well as NATO – and sets the Finnish Border Guard up for mission success now and in the future."

The current fleet of the Finnish Border Guard conducts surveillance of borders and territorial waters, aids in maritime rescue operations, identifies environmental emergencies at sea, and assists in cleanup operations. The in-

roduction of advanced multi-purpose aircraft will greatly enhance Finland's border security capabilities and bolster the monitoring of territorial integrity, with a particular focus on the eastern border.

Josh Walsh, vice president of MVX programs, said, "RAPCON-X is uniquely suited for Finland's immense maritime and border patrol challenges. We are humbled and honored to work alongside the Finnish Border Guard to bring this new capability to their forces. As a new NATO ally, Finland plays a vital role in European security. SNC is proud to enhance their efforts."

The RAPCON-X aircraft solution is developed using model-based systems engineering (MBSE), enabling rapid engineering of modifications. It employs an open architecture for mission systems, substantially cutting integration times for new systems and capabilities. This flexibility supports smooth future upgrades throughout the program's lifespan ■

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Elevate MRO opens new Denver MRO Center

Elevate MRO expands its footprint with a new 17,000-square-foot facility in Denver, enhancing aircraft maintenance, management, and avionics services.



Elevate MRO, a division of Elevate Aviation Group (EAG), has announced the opening of a new maintenance center. The facility is located at Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (KBJC) in Denver. Furthermore, This expansion includes an increase in staff and maintenance teams to support the existing client base. Additionally, it aims to enhance aircraft maintenance service availability. This expansion also supports Elevate Jet’s management, charter, and aircraft sales capabilities.

Jim Slack, President of Elevate MRO, said, “In addition to expanding our MRO footprint, this new facility will provide Elevate clients a home for owners who are looking for aircraft management services. With its savage client-centric approach, Elevate MRO maintains a wide array of current airframes representing 43 unique aircraft models across 11 manufacturers. This expansion underscores our commitment to delivering top-tier services

and innovative solutions to the private jet community.”

The 17,000-square-foot facility provides essential hangar and office space, enabling Elevate to expand its MRO services. Moreover, This expansion includes aircraft maintenance and management. Notably, the MRO will introduce critical avionics services. These services include custom installations and maintenance. Additionally, The company was recently selected by SpaceX as an approved dealer. They are also an installer of Starlink for business aircraft.

With other companies closing their Denver operations, Elevate aims to leverage the region’s talented aviation technicians. This strategy offers aircraft owners a new local management option. Additionally, Elevate has a mobile AOG team capable of quickly restoring aircraft to service. This team supports the Denver metropolitan area and surrounding resort airports ■

Airbus signs Agreement with Spirit AeroSystems

Airbus and Spirit AeroSystems deal covers Airbus A350 and A220 production sites, with \$559 million compensation from Spirit AeroSystems.


Airbus SE has entered a binding term sheet agreement with Spirit AeroSystems. This agreement concerns a potential acquisition of significant Airbus-related activities. Specifically, it includes the production of A350 fuselage sections in Kinston, North Carolina, and St. Nazaire, France. Additionally, the production of A220 wings and mid-fuselage in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Casablanca, Morocco, is included. Moreover, the A220 pylons production in Wichita, Kansas, U.S., is part of this potential acquisition.

Airbus aims to ensure supply stability for its commercial aircraft programs with this agreement. It seeks a more sustainable approach, both operationally and financially, for the various Airbus work packages managed by Spirit AeroSystems today.

Airbus will acquire these activities through the transaction. Airbus will receive \$559 million from Spirit AeroSystems for a nominal consideration of \$1.00. Adjustments, including those based on the final transaction perimeter, may apply.

Entering into definitive agreements is subject to a due diligence process. There is no guarantee that a transaction will be concluded. However, all parties are willing and interested to work in good faith. They aim to progress and complete this process as timely as possible ■








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PteroDynamics and Overwatch partner to expand Transwing VTOL

PteroDynamics and Overwatch partner to expand Transwing VTOL globally, focusing on UK, UAE, and KSA Markets for Defense and Commercial Use.



■ PteroDynamics's Transwing is a pioneering VTOL aircraft that merges fixed-wing speed, range, and endurance with superior VTOL performance.

PteroDynamics Inc. and Overwatch Group have signed a distribution agreement and established a long-term strategic relationship. This collaboration aims to introduce the innovative dual-use autonomous Transwing (VTOL) aircraft outside the United States. Under the agreement, Overwatch will exclusively represent PteroDynamics Transwing unmanned aerial systems (UAS) in the United Kingdom (UK) for non-commercial sales.

Additionally, Overwatch will handle prospective commercial and defense sales in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Moreover, Overwatch has made a strategic investment in PteroDynamics to further solidify their partnership.

Overwatch, as the inaugural distributor of this technology, aims to promote the adoption of the Transwing aircraft platform globally, beginning with the UK, UAE, and KSA. Overwatch leverages its engineering expertise in unmanned systems and payloads to address the

needs of potential customers in these regions. This strategic approach aims to effectively cater to market demands and enhance operational capabilities.

PteroDynamics' Transwing represents a groundbreaking VTOL aircraft system. It combines the speed, range, and endurance of fixed-wing aircraft with exceptional VTOL capabilities in an efficient, highly automated platform. Moreover, this innovation addresses inherent limitations in other VTOL designs. The aircraft seamlessly transitions between vertical and winged horizontal flight by folding its wings. Furthermore, this innovative design eliminates the need for extra launch and recovery infrastructure. Additionally, it occupies a minimal footprint and allows for immediate VTOL operations.

Matthew Graczyk, CEO at PteroDynamics, said, "PteroDynamics ability to build successful working strategic relationships with leaders in our industry enables us to accelerate innovation and build the solutions that solve the

critical unmet needs of our customers. Not only does Overwatch have deep domain experience in avionics and aero-mechanical engineering, but their ties with commercial and defence customers in the UK, KSA, and UAE will prove to be a game-changing advantage for both companies. We are excited to work closely with Overwatch and look forward to growing this important strategic relationship."

These unique performance characteristics offer defense and commercial operators a cost-effective, autonomous alternative for critical logistics resupply and remote missions. Currently, these tasks rely on crewed aircraft, boats, or less practical means.

Drew Michael, CEO at Overwatch Group, said, "We are extremely proud to have secured our long-term strategic relationship with PteroDynamics. Both companies are dynamic engineering enterprises that design and manufacture unique, patented technology from the ground up. Our R&D of cutting-edge payload technologies continues to gather pace as we develop our next generation of drones, and we now wish to extend our expertise into wider markets. Having assessed the market, the Transwing stood out as transformational dual-use technology, and the whole of Overwatch is excited by how we will enhance it."

Prototypes of the Transwing are presently being evaluated by the U.S. Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAVAIR NAWCAD). Additionally, this evaluation forms part of the Blue Water Maritime Logistics UAS (BWUAS) program, which aims to automate long-range maritime resupply missions. The program focuses on enhancing efficiency and reliability in maritime logistics operations.

Automating maritime logistics and resupply presents a significant opportunity for commercial operators. Offshore oil and gas production experiences average losses of U.S. \$49M annually per producer due to unplanned downtime. Moreover, these vessels, totaling nearly 100,000 and each over 100 gross tons, make 4.4 million ports of call annually. This necessitates costly and challenging delivery scheduling before reaching the port ■

American Airlines partners with ZeroAvia for Hydrogen Engines

American Airlines expands partnership with ZeroAvia for Hydrogen-Electric Engines, setting course for Sustainable Aviation future.

American Airlines recently announced a conditional purchase agreement with clean aviation innovator ZeroAvia. The agreement is for 100 hydrogen-electric engines designed to power regional jet aircraft, emitting only water vapor. Additionally, American has increased its investment in ZeroAvia, having initially invested in 2022 and participated in the company's Series C financing round. This engine agreement follows a Memorandum of Understanding between the companies announced in 2022.

ZeroAvia is developing hydrogen-electric engines for commercial aircraft, aiming for nearly zero inflight emissions. The company is currently flight testing a prototype for a 20-seat plane and designing engines for larger aircraft like the Bombardier CRJ700, used by American on specific regional routes.

Robert Isom, CEO of American Airlines, said, "Advancing the transition of commercial aviation to a low-carbon future requires investments in promising technologies, including alternate forms of propulsion. This announcement will help accelerate the development of technologies needed to power our industry and uphold our commitment to make American a sustainable airline so we can continue to deliver for customers for decades to come."

American's investment in novel engine technology supports its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. Furthermore, the airline's extensive fleet renewal effort has resulted in the youngest mainline fleet among U.S. carriers, boosting fuel efficiency. Additionally, American has invested in sustainable aviation fuel with Infinium and carbon removal technology with Graphyte.

Val Miftakhov, ZeroAvia Founder and CEO, said, "In signing this purchase agreement and furthering its investment, American is supporting our mission of innovation for clean aircraft propulsion and it is a good signal that ZeroAvia is delivering on our technology roadmap. The solutions that can serve the largest airlines are within reach, and the clean future of flight is coming."

ZeroAvia's hydrogen-electric engines utilize hydrogen in fuel cells to generate electricity. Additionally, this electricity powers electric motors that drive the aircraft's propellers. The only emission during flight is low-temperature water vapor. Moreover, the streamlined electrical systems have the potential to provide substantial cost savings ■


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Ansett Aviation training partners with Airbus for Dubai expansion

Expansion of Ansett Aviation training's global presence with Airbus partnership in Dubai.

Ansett Aviation Training (AAT), headquartered in Australia since the mid-1980s, has announced a partnership with Airbus Africa and Middle East FZE. Additionally, Airbus can now utilize AAT's new Airbus A320 full flight simulator at its Dubai training center. Furthermore, Ansett Aviation Training expanded its global footprint with the inauguration of its Middle East training center by the end of 2023. Moreover, The center complements existing pilot training facilities in Australia, Italy, and Taiwan.

Mark Delany, CEO of Ansett Aviation Training Group, said, "It is a pleasure to support Airbus with its pilot training activities through access to our training infrastructure. Ansett Aviation Training always strives to deliver the highest standards to our customers and associating ourselves with Airbus was a logical move as we are both companies that put quality first. We look forward to supporting Airbus with any requirement

it might have in terms of pilot training infrastructure."

Strategically located near Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, the center offers Airbus and airlines accessible training infrastructure. Additionally, it already hosts a certified ATR72-600 full flight simulator accredited by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

Mark Delany, CEO of Ansett Aviation Training Group, added, "We have a strong commitment to the development of our Dubai Training Center operation including making any necessary investments into expanding our pilot training infrastructure as required by our clients. The United Arab Emirates is continuously enhancing its position as a global pilot training destination and provides the growing number of Airbus operators in the region with superb connectivity and access."

Ansett Aviation Training (AAT) operates as a global provider of pilot

training solutions, managing more than 28 full flight simulators. Moreover, its headquarters are situated at Tullamarine International Airport in Melbourne, Australia. Additionally, AAT operates two training centers in Australia and international facilities in Milan, Italy, Taipei, Taiwan, and Dubai. The Dubai facility serves as AAT's Middle East Training Center.

Laurent Negre, Vice President Customer Services, Africa & Middle East, said, "We are very pleased to collaborate with ANSETT, providing our Airbus A320 operators in the region with access to best in class training facilities. This collaboration ensures smooth and seamless pilot training operations, benefiting our entire regional aviation network."

Ansett Aviation Training Dubai will install its new Airbus A320 full flight simulator in the coming months. Furthermore, It is scheduled to commence training operations by the third quarter of 2024 ■

Icelandair and CAE partner for advanced flight training

New Airbus A320 Full-Flight Simulator to enhance training for Icelandair's A321 fleet entry.

Icelandair and CAE have announced an agreement to acquire a state-of-the-art Airbus A320-family full-flight simulator (FFS). The new FFS, supporting Icelandair's Airbus A321 fleet in 2025, will be installed at CAE Reykjavík – Icelandair Flight Training Centre. Moreover, it is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2025.

Sylvia Kristin Olafsdottir, COO of Icelandair, said, "We are thrilled to announce our new contract with CAE and to continue fostering our fruitful partnership. The new simulator will allow us to continue providing world-class train-

ing in Iceland, giving us the flexibility and agility needed to expand our route network, introduce new destinations, and grow our pilot group accordingly. As an island nation, Iceland heavily relies on air transport and as the leading airline, we recognize the importance of having such facilities within the country, ensuring top-notch training opportunities for pilots."

The latest generation FFS replicates Airbus A320 flight characteristics and systems accurately. It features high-fidelity visuals, an immersive cockpit environment, and realistic flight dynam-

ics, serving as a crucial training tool for pilots. Moreover, this ensures thorough preparation for safe and efficient operation of the new aircraft.

Michel Azar-Hmouda, CAE's Division President, Commercial Aviation, said, "The acquisition of this Airbus A320-family full-flight simulator is a significant milestone in our partnership with Icelandair, and we look forward to supporting their pilot training in anticipation of the arrival of the A321 into their fleet. The advanced technology in this new FFS will give pilots the skill and confidence to safely fly the A321 and provide the customer experience for which Icelandair is also renowned."

The FFS will serve for initial training and type rating, and additionally, for twice-annual recurrent training for pilots. Consequently, this ensures they maintain proficiency and stay current with their skills and knowledge ■



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Air India launches South Asia's largest FTO in Maharashtra

Air India establishes South Asia's largest FTO in Amravati to transform Pilot Training.

Air India is partnering with Maharashtra Airport Development Company to establish South Asia's largest Flying Training Organisation in Amravati, Maharashtra. This initiative aims to enhance pilot training capacity and bolster India's aviation sector. This FTO will bolster the airline's transformation journey and enhance pilot training capacity in India. Scheduled to be operational in Q1 FY26, the facility will feature 31 single-engine and three twin-engine aircraft for training. Consequently, the organisation aims to graduate 180 commercial pilots annually, significantly advancing the nation's aviation sector.

Campbell Wilson, MD & CEO, Air India, said, "The FTO at Amravati will be a significant step towards making Indian aviation more self-reliant and offering more opportunities to the youth in India to fulfill their ambitions of flying as pilots. The young pilots coming out of this FTO will fuel Air India's ambition of becoming a world-class airline, as it moves ahead in its transformation journey."

The DGCA-licensed FTO at Amravati's Belora airport will be operational by Q1 FY26, aiming to graduate 180 com-

mercial pilots annually. Air India, the first Indian airline to establish an FTO in the country, will have 31 single-engine aircraft and three twin-engine aircraft for training. Air India won a tender from MADC to operate the FTO in Amravati for 30 years.

Sunil Bhaskaran, Director, Aviation Academy, Air India, said, "The FTO will be operational by Q1 FY26 and offer aspiring pilots an opportunity to undergo training with world-class curricula at par with best-in-class global schools. We are delighted to be playing a part in building the aviation infrastructure India needs as one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets and to support the government's vision for an Atmanirbhar Bharat."

At the FTO in Amravati, Air India will develop a state-of-the-art training institute spanning 10 acres. This facility will include digitally enabled classrooms and hostels meeting global academy standards. Additionally, a digitized operations center and an on-site maintenance facility will enhance operational efficiency. Curated to deliver the highest safety standards, the FTO aims to provide best-in-class training.

Swati Pandey, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, Maharashtra Airport Development Company, said, "This collaborative initiative between MADC and Air India will not only boost the economy of Maharashtra by focusing on over 3,000 new employment opportunities within the aviation sector, but also create employment in multifarious allied activities in skilling, technical and small entrepreneurial ventures culminating in an impressive contribution of over Rs 1,000 crore to the state's GDP over the next decade. The establishment of South Asia's largest FTO will certainly encourage students in Maharashtra to pursue careers in aviation which would further instill a deep sense of inspiration and pride for the state of Maharashtra and the Indian citizenry."

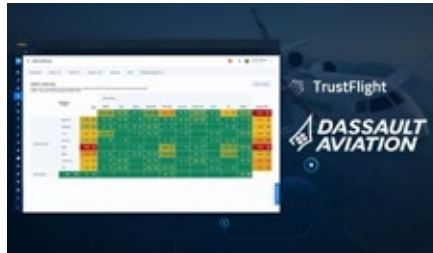
Air India, as part of its commitment to aviation training, announced a new Training Academy in Gurugram earlier this year. Spanning 600,000 sq ft, it is the largest in South Asia. Additionally, the new FTO in Amravati will complement Air India's efforts to enhance India's aviation ecosystem. This commitment aims to support and advance the aviation industry in the coming years ■

DABS enhances MRO efficiency with Centrik 5

DABS Enhances MRO Operations and Safety with TrustFlight's Centrik 5 Software for Real-Time Management and Compliance.

Dassault Aviation Business Services (DABS), a prominent Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facility globally, has chosen TrustFlight Ltd.'s Centrik 5 software. This decision aims to streamline Safety (SMS) and Quality Management System (QMS) for real-time operational management across their base and line stations. DABS intends to deploy Centrik's Safety, Compliance, Risk, Training, Workflows, and Regulations modules to oversee its growing MRO operations.

These tools are designed to bolster safety, operational efficiency, and regulatory compliance throughout the orga-



nization. Additionally, the Regulations and Workflows modules will notify DABS personnel promptly of regulatory updates and automate task assignments as necessary.

DABS was particularly impressed by TrustFlight's robust and flexible

architecture when evaluating solutions. Centrik 5 offers real-time notifications of regulatory amendments, facilitating proactive safety and compliance management across global facilities.

Karl Steeves, CEO, TrustFlight, said, "TrustFlight's Centrik is an industry-leader in Safety, Quality, and Risk management. Centrik is used in nearly every sector of aviation, and we're proud to share that a leading entity like the Dassault Aviation group of companies has recognized the value that our system brings."

Dassault Aviation Business Services has continuously pursued operational improvements with innovative solutions for enhanced reliability and passenger safety. By adopting TrustFlight's Centrik 5 and eliminating outdated paper-based processes, DABS enhances operational efficiency and safety. This approach allows for proactive risk assessment, maintaining the high standards of the Dassault Aviation brand ■



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Viasat expands Airbus partnership for C295

SATCOM *Viasat enhances Spanish C295 fleet with advanced Ku- and Ka-band satellite technology.*

Viasat Inc., a global leader in satellite communications, announced an expansion of its collaboration with Airbus Defence and Space. The company will provide secure, flexible broadband Ku- and Ka-band airborne technology for the Airbus C295 Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA). These aircraft have been acquired by the Spanish Ministry of Defence (MoD). Furthermore, Viasat and Airbus Defence and Space will collaborate on integrating Viasat's dual-band (Ku/Ka) broadband terminal, the GAT-5530, into the Spanish C295 MPA fleet. Moreover, This integration will provide a highly flexible, multi-band and multi-orbit broadband SATCOM capability. Additionally, It will support missions utilizing the next-generation SpainSat NG satellites, enhancing communication capabilities.

Viasat's integrated GAT-5530 terminal will provide secure and reliable satellite connectivity to the Airbus C295 MPA aircraft. This enhancement aims

to strengthen the Spanish military's capabilities with robust broadband SATCOM, specifically supporting sovereign national security missions. Additionally, it will facilitate expanded applications in command and control (C2) as well as intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR).

Victor Farah, Senior Vice President, Viasat Government, said, "We are excited to expand our work with Airbus to support the Spanish Ministry of Defence with our highly flexible, multi-band terminal on the C295 Maritime Patrol Aircraft. Our connectivity solutions are designed to support modern military operation requirements with advanced, secure and resilient satellite communications. This includes enabling seamless roaming between sovereign and commercial networks to provide superior resilience beyond the capabilities of traditional single-band or single-network access solutions. This selection by the Spanish MoD underscores the

trust and confidence in our ability to deliver enhanced mission connectivity solutions and to help global government customers significantly improve reliability and continuity across a range of operational environments."

The Airbus C295 excels as a highly reliable tactical airlifter known for its versatile multirole and multi-mission capabilities. Currently, it is operational in 37 countries globally, reaching a milestone of 300 orders earlier this year.

GAT-5530 enhances operational capability by supporting the entire ITU Ku- and Ka-bands, including 3.5GHz of commercial and military Ka-band. Furthermore, This versatile terminal provides substantial operational flexibility for the Spanish MoD and other military clients. Additionally, It enables increased resilience through multi-frequency (Ku/Mil-Ka/Commercial-Ka) and multi-orbit (GEO, MEO, HEO) communication architectures ■

Boeing enhances CH-47F Block II for Army modernization

Boeing delivers CH-47F Block II Chinook enhances lift capacity and operational efficiency for U.S. Army missions.

Boeing has delivered the first CH-47F Block II Chinook as part of ongoing U.S. Army modernization efforts. The new configuration incorporates enhancements to the drivetrain, airframe reinforcement, and fuel system. As a result, it enables an increased maximum gross weight of 4,000 pounds and extends the mission radius for various payloads. These upgrades position the aircraft for long-term modernization and sustainment, while also accommodating future technology advancements.

Heather McBryan, vice president and program manager, Cargo Programs,

said, "The CH-47F Block II provides capability improvements allowing the U.S. Army to lift more, fly farther and maintain their aircraft better than ever before. This modernization program enables the battle-tested Chinook to play a key role in multi-domain operations going forward."

Furthermore, Boeing's Block II program enhances aircraft sustainment. Additionally, the upgraded rotor system enhances reliability, minimizing unscheduled maintenance. Additionally, the simplified fuel system improves efficiency, reducing maintenance burden and overall costs.

Viva Kelly, U.S. Army Cargo Helicopters acting project manager, said, "As the Army's Heavy Lift platform of tomorrow, the CH-47F Block II provides increased capability while continuing support of the Army's requirement to remain strategically responsive across the full spectrum of operations."

Boeing, a prominent aerospace firm on the global stage, engages in the development, manufacturing, and servicing of commercial airplanes, defense products, and space systems across over 150 countries. Boeing, recognized as a leading U.S. exporter, leverages a diverse global supplier network to foster economic growth, sustainability, and community welfare. Moreover, the company's diverse workforce is committed to pioneering innovations while prioritizing sustainability and upholding a corporate culture rooted in core values of safety, quality, and integrity ■

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■ This improvement will increase the operational readiness of defense partners, enabling joint force and coalition simulations.

BISim releases Latest 24.1 upgrades to VBS4 and VBS Blue IG

BISim's 24.1 upgrades for VBS4 and VBS Blue IG include 800 new capabilities and additional features aimed at bolstering multi-domain simulation

Bohemia Interactive Simulations (BISim) has unveiled version 24.1 upgrades for its flagship products, VBS4 and VBS Blue IG. This update includes more than 800 new capabilities and additional features aimed at bolstering multi-domain simulation capabilities and optimizing training efficacy for global defense forces.

Rahul Thakkar, president of BISim, said, "We've packed more than 800 new capabilities into the 24.1 releases. Developed by working backward from the needs cited by our customers globally, VBS4 24.1 and VBS Blue IG 24.1 bring more multi-domain simulation capabilities to our partner defense forces, enabling joint force and coalition simulations."

This improvement will increase the operational readiness of defense partners, enabling joint force and coalition simulations. ensuring effective and

accurate synthetic training to consumers, and that modern battlefields are modeled sufficiently to meet the ever-changing frontlines of combat.

The latest updates to VBS4 and VBS Blue IG address the following needs of defense training and simulation.

- ✦ VBS Builder Edition: Offering a cost-effective solution at \$300 per seat per year, this edition enables rapid development and deployment of simulation solutions for developer partners.
- ✦ Enhanced AI Capabilities: BISim's Control AI is now the default system, improving AI behaviors across various domains. This enhancement reduces administrative workloads and enhances training realism.
- ✦ Improvised Drone Munitions: New capabilities include the integration of drone munitions, featuring a First-Person View (FPV) drone with

realistic flight model scenarios.

- ✦ Built-in Benchmark Tool: Automated stress tests and hardware configuration data capture facilitate performance analysis and optimization.
 - ✦ Geo Terrain Editing: Users can now create customizable bridges and buildings, enhancing realism and flexibility in training environments.
 - ✦ Global Airfields Download: Adds 8,951 procedurally generated airfields with realistic features like line markings, lighting systems, and runway markers.
 - ✦ Configuration Patch Builder (CPB) Export: Enables batch export and modification of configuration parameters, facilitating custom VBS4 configurations.
 - ✦ Missile and Rocket Trails: New particle effects accurately depict rocket and missile launches, enhancing visual fidelity.
 - ✦ Simulation of BONUS Rounds: Introduces simulations of smart artillery munitions capable of autonomously targeting and engaging armor.
 - ✦ Performance Improvements to VBS Blue IG: Over 30 enhancements to the core IG engine improve rendering and ensure visual consistency between VBS4 and VBS Blue IG. These upgrades enhance integration into simulators utilizing VBS4 as a host and VBS Blue IG as an image generator.
- Bohemia Interactive Simulations (BISim) is a global leader in developing advanced simulation and training software, catering primarily to defense and security organizations worldwide. The company specializes in creating realistic and immersive virtual environments that aid in training, mission planning, and decision-making processes ■

Aero secures authorization for L-39NG Aircraft delivery

Aero receives authorization for L-39NG aircraft delivery to Hungarian Air Force, demonstrates competence in design and production.

Aero, the largest aerospace manufacturer in the Czech Republic, has obtained official Authorization. This allows them to develop, manufacture, maintain, and repair Hungarian state-registered aircraft, parts, and equipment.

The Authorization specifically covers the L-39NG aircraft intended for delivery to the Hungarian Air Force. Furthermore, it formally acknowledges the competence of Aero's design, manufacturing, and repair organizations.

Colonel Alexandra Tóth Halászná, Director of the Military Aviation Authority of the Republic of Hungary, personally handed over the official certificate. Petr Jinda, Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer at Aero, received the authorization to develop, manufacture, maintain, and conduct repairs from her hands.

Petr Jinda, Executive Vice President & Chief Development Officer at Aero, said, "Obtaining this certificate is a key step for us and a confirmation of our quality and credibility. We are ready to fully support the Hungarian Air Force in the certification process of the L-39NG. T1 version and in the development of further mutual cooperation."

Colonel Alexandra Tóth Halászná visited Aero Vodochody. She was

accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Sándor Simon, Head of the Airworthiness Supervision Department, and Lieutenant Colonels Martin Fučík and Václav Svoboda from the Military Aviation Supervision Department. Additionally, they toured Aero's production halls and development hangar, observing L-39NG aircraft being produced and prepared for flight testing.

Colonel Alexandra Tóth Halászná, of Hungary's Military Aviation Authority, highlighted Aero's expertise in manufacturing jet trainers. She underscored Aero's legacy in the field during her remarks. Moreover, She underscored the global acclaim of the L-39 Albatros and its modern successor, the L-39NG. Furthermore, The company stated the audit confirmed Aero's compliance with all authorization requirements, recognizing its design and production capabilities.

Moreover, This comprises eight trainer versions and four for reconnaissance, plus a ground simulation system and support services ■

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Emirates Group appoints Ahmed Safa as Head of Engineering and MRO

Emirates Group's Ahmed Safa leads Engineering and MRO efforts among recent UAE national appointments.

Emirates Group Chairman and Chief Executive, His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, has announced recent senior appointments. These appointments aim to bolster the organization's expansion efforts and enhance its leadership capabilities. The recent promotions and senior appointments feature 7 UAE nationals including 'Ahmed Safa' as Head of Engineering and MRO, several others have advanced within the Emirates Group across various roles. They play pivotal roles in driving the organization's ongoing success.

HH Sheikh Ahmed, said, "These appointments reflect the expanded scale, breadth, and ambition of our business. I'm heartened that we have been able to fill these roles with internal talent, including UAE nationals. The Emirates Group will continue to invest in being an employer of choice for the best talent in the industry, to deliver world-

leading products and services, and reflect Dubai's vision to be number one in everything we do."

Emirates has achieved recognition as a globally acclaimed airline, operating a network that encompasses over 150 destinations across six continents. Boasting a fleet exceeding 270 aircraft, Emirates holds the distinction of operating the world's largest fleet of Boeing 777s and Airbus A380s ■



Christopher Jones appointed Head of ATR Americas

Christopher Jones brings extensive Aviation sales expertise to ATR Americas leadership.

ATR, the leading regional aircraft manufacturer globally, has appointed Christopher Jones as Head of Region Americas, effective July 1, 2024. Additionally, he will serve as Managing Director & President of ATR Americas, Inc., starting August 1, 2024. In his new position, Christopher Jones reports directly to Alexis Vidal, Senior Vice President Commercial, and will be based at ATR's facilities in Miami, Florida.

Christopher brings over 30 years of commercial aircraft sales experience, having held senior roles at Airbus, Bombardier, and British Aerospace. Previously, he served as Chief Commercial Officer at Aero Design Labs in Texas, where he led revenue growth and secured a key partnership with Delta Air Lines.

Before joining Aero Design Labs, Christopher served as Senior Vice President Customers for Airbus North America. In

this role, he oversaw sales and commercial strategy for major airlines in the region, handling aircraft like the A330neo, A350, A321neo/LR/XLR, and A220. His tenure at Airbus spanned two decades, emphasizing extensive experience in aviation sales and strategy.

During his tenure at Bombardier, Christopher directed North American sales campaigns for the C-Series (A220). These efforts secured commitments from JetBlue and Breeze, along with additional sales of the CRJ-900 to Delta Air Lines and American Airlines. Additionally, his experience at British Aerospace and Bombardier has provided him with a deep understanding of the regional airline industry.

Christopher has cultivated enduring relationships with airline customers, suppliers, lessors, and consultants, characterized by high integrity. Moreover, he excels in building customer-centric

teams and nurturing talent in aerospace careers. Having arrived in the USA in 1990 as a commercial apprentice with British Aerospace in Hatfield, England, he holds a degree in Business and Finance from the University of Hertfordshire.

In his roles as Head of Region Americas and Managing Director & President of ATR Americas, Inc., Christopher will play a crucial role in advancing ATR's presence in the region, particularly in the US, and supporting the company's clientele ■



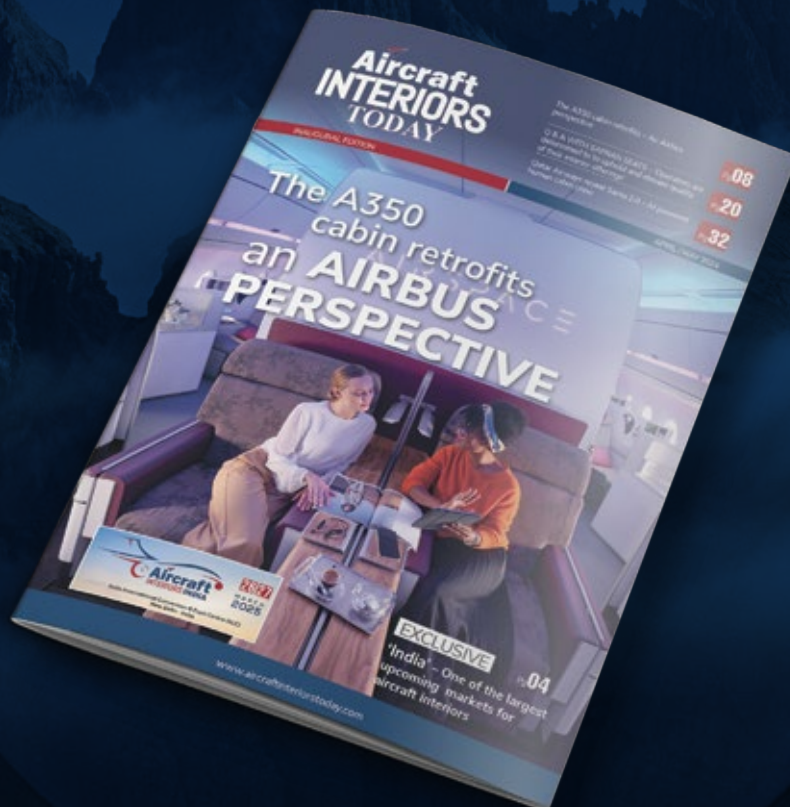
2024-2025

International CALENDAR

Date	Event	Venue
08 – 09 August 2024	Airport Modernization Summit 2024	New Delhi, India
03 – 05 Sept 2024	Egypt International Airshow 2024	Egypt
10 – 11 Sept 2024	AeroEngines Europe	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
08 – 10 Oct 2024	World Aviation Festival 2024	RAI, Amsterdam
04 – 06 Sept 2024	Inter Airport China	Beijing, China
23 – 26 Sept 2024	Customer Experience Summit	Atlanta, USA
24 – 26 Sept 2024	MRO Asia-Pacific	Singapore
30 Sept – 01 Oct 2024	CAPA India Digital Aviation Summit 2024	New Delhi, India
22 – 24 Oct 2024	MRO Europe	Barcelona, Spain
28 – 30 Oct 2024	FTE Global 2024	California
05 – 07 Nov 2024	77th Annual Intl Aviation Safety Summit	Rio De Janerio
12 – 14 Nov 2024	TIACA Air Cargo Forum	Miami, FL
13 – 14 Nov 2024	MRO Australia	Brisbane, Australia
19 – 20 Nov 2024	Aerospace Tech Week Americas	Atlanta, USA
19 – 20 Nov 2024	FTE APEX Asia Expo	Singapore
19 – 21 Nov 2024	Air Expo Abu Dhabi 2024	Abu Dhabi, UAE
10 – 12 Dec 2024	MEBAA SHOW 2024	DWC, Dubai
10 – 11 Feb 2025	MRO Middle East 2025	Dubai, UAE
25 – 27 March 2025	INTER AIRPORT SOUTHEAST ASIA (IASEA)	Singapore
26 – 27 March 2025	MRO XPO INDIA 2025	New Delhi, India
26 – 27 March 2025	AIRCRAFT INTERIORS INDIA 2025	New Delhi, India
26 – 27 March 2025	MRO South Asia Summit 2025	New Delhi, India

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