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Lockheed Martin awarded USD 1.28 billion contract for sustainment of global F-35 fleet

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JAN 15<sup>Th</sup>, 2021

## VD Gulf's inflatable shelter conducts aircraft maintenance anywhere anytime



VD Gulf has introduced an inflatable shelter that could be set up very quickly, allowing maintenance on aircraft in adverse weather conditions

or when hangar space is not readily available.

This modern weather proof & securely protected shelter allows VD Gulf to

manage both planned and unplanned maintenance and works such as engine changes, mechanical/ electrical works, or troubleshooting of reported problems outside hangars. The shelter creates a clean environmentally controlled hangar-like space for staff to work comfortably outside hangars. The equipment is portable, versatile, transportable, and could be relocated to any part of the world.

The system effectively allows fast recovery of aircraft-on-ground (AOG) situations avoiding long wait for hangar slots as well as decreasing aircraft out of service period.

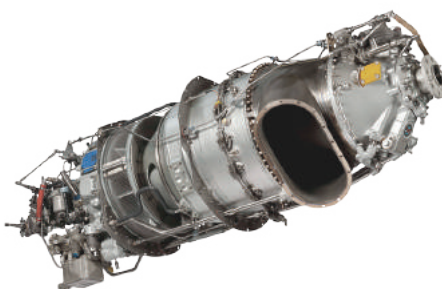
VD Gulf strives to benefit from technological advancements from any industry sector and provides an out-of-the-box solution to pre-empt aviation problems and please Customers and Partners.

## Pratt & Whitney introduces 'Platinum' engine maintenance for the PT6-E engine

Pratt & Whitney has introduced a comprehensive level of pay-per-hour engine maintenance coverage called Platinum for its new PT6 E Series engines powering the Pilatus PC-12 NGX aircraft. This coverage is offered through the Eagle Service Plan.

Nicholas Kanellias, vice-president, general aviation at Pratt & Whitney said, "As the first turboprop engine in general aviation to offer a dual-channel integrated electronic propeller and engine control system, the PT6 E-Series engine has taken aviation to the next level for our customers. The industry has been moving towards a more comprehensive level of engine maintenance coverage and the Platinum solution for this engine certainly addresses that market-driven trend."

Pilatus PC-12 NGX owners will discover



that Platinum coverage includes all standard items covered by ESP Gold. Beyond that, it offers Foreign Object Damage (FOD) and environment-induced damage, including engine removal, installation and rental, a first in general aviation.

"Since we are now covering FOD, we are working with major underwriters in the industry to improve the premium rates for hull coverage as we

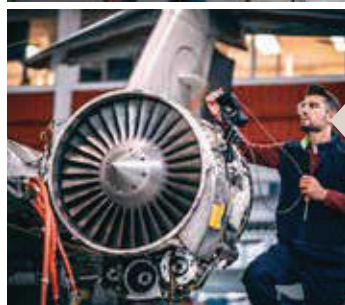
understand how premiums have been trending over the last few years," said Kanellias. "Additionally, ESP Platinum customers receive a suite of Proactive Services managed by a team of Pratt & Whitney engineers and analysts who examine engine data proactively to schedule maintenance activities ahead of time and to improve engine availability."

By supporting the move towards a 100 per cent planned maintenance environment, Proactive Services help customers eliminate unwelcomed surprises and reduce their costs by minimizing issues or averting them entirely. Pratt & Whitney's ESP engine maintenance coverage comes with no annual minimums (you only pay when you fly) and is fully transferrable upon the sale of the aircraft.



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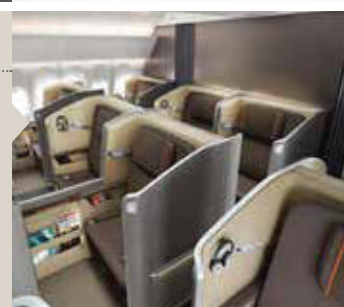
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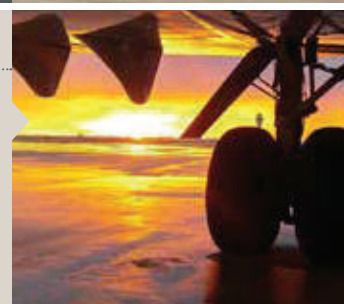
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## ST Engineering appointed as licensed MRO service provider for Honeywell components in Asia Pacific



Honeywell has awarded ST engineering with a decade long contract to provide MRO services for Honeywell components installed on LEAP series engines for Asia Pacific operators. This contract will help leverage ST Engineering's role as they plan to set up MRO

capabilities for the LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engine.

With the signing of this contract ST Engineering becomes the only licensed MRO service provider for Honeywell components installed on LEAP engines used in Airbus A320neo family, Boeing

737 MAX and COMAC C919.

Jeffrey Lam, President/Head, Commercial Aerospace of ST Engineering said, "ST Engineering takes pride in providing reliable and best-in-class MRO support, and we are able to do this by forming long-term and strategic cooperation with OEMs such as Honeywell. Being entrusted as Honeywell's licensed repair center for their LEAP-series engine components in Asia Pacific attests to our ability to deliver. We will continue to live up to our strong value proposition of enhanced fleet maintenance solutions by leveraging OEM support and resources."

ST Engineering and Honeywell will build on their existing working relationship through the new repair licensing agreement to deliver the highest possible levels of product support to Asia Pacific operators, who can now turn to ST Engineering's highly-customisable component repair and overhaul services or its hallmark Maintenance-By-the-Hour programmes to take care of their Honeywell LEAP-series engine component MRO needs.

## Bombardier Challenger 350 beats the charter market with longest-in-class maintenance intervals

Bombardier Challenger 350 continues to lead the charter market as the best-selling super-midsize business jet for six consecutive years. With The proven reliability, longest-in-class maintenance intervals and impressive all-weather performance they have accounted for 60 per cent super mid-size deliveries from 2017 till date. Bombardier recently delivered a brand-new Challenger 350 business jet to Latitude 33 Aviation.

Peter Likoray, Senior Vice President, Sales and Marketing, New Aircraft, Bombardier Business Aircraft said, "The Challenger 350 business jet provides a spacious, comfortable and productive alternative to commercial travel, especially as passengers seek to avoid crowds. The iconic, market-leading Challenger 350 aircraft is a top choice among the most discerning travelers."

Latitude 33 Aviation plans to use Chal-

lenger 350 for charter out of the US West Coast. The aircraft has a range of 3,200 nautical miles at full fuel with eight passengers and can travel to New York or Honolulu, nonstop. Besides it also boasts an unparalleled cabin, a smooth ride and the lowest direct operating costs in its category.

Solomon Short, Director of Operations at Latitude 33 Aviation said, "From day one, our company's mission has always been to deliver a premium level of aircraft management service not found anywhere else. We are pleased to have provided another exceptional acceptance experience for our client and are privileged to have this extraordinary aircraft join our growing fleet of super-midsize aircraft."



Latitude 33 Aviation manages one of the newest and largest fleets of light, midsize and super-midsize aircraft in North America and they will manage the Challenger 350 business jet for charter out of San Diego on behalf of the aircraft owner starting this month.

Thus with long maintenance intervals, Challenger 350 continues to remain the aircraft of choice for luxury travel experience across the globe.

## Sichuan Airlines sign five-year historic deal with Honeywell for auxiliary power units



Sichuan Airlines have signed a five-year historic deal with Honeywell to provide 131-9A auxiliary power units (APUs) for their A320 fleet of aircraft. The 93 new A320 aircraft will enter service by 2025. The airline will also replace the APUs on its 141 existing A320 aircraft with the same Honeywell APU. This is the largest APU retrofit deal in Honeywell's history. The 131-9A APU will help Sichuan Airlines reduce flight delays and cancellations, creating a more pleasant flying experience for passengers.

"We are pleased to collaborate with Honeywell. We hope that the outstanding performance of its legendary APUs will help us improve operational efficiency," said Li Yue, executive vice president of Sichuan Airlines. "With the aviation industry being significantly impacted by COVID-19, reliable and innovative products and solutions are highly demanded for airlines' recovery and future development. We look forward to working with our partners for the bright future of the industry."

An APU is a critical piece of aircraft equipment that provides electrical power and air conditioning while the plane is on the ground. It helps ensure passenger comfort and supplies the air source before a pilot is ready to start the main engines. The 131-9A is known for its reliability and

lower maintenance costs over the course of its entire life cycle, resulting in significant fuel savings each year.

"It is a great pleasure to collaborate with Sichuan Airlines, which sets a significant milestone in enhancing our partnership with airline customers in China," said Steven Lien, Honeywell Aerospace Asia Pacific President. "We see a strong recovery and large potential for China's aviation industry, as well as local airlines' growing competitiveness worldwide. Honeywell is committed to supporting this market, providing customers with exceptional solutions and equipping local support teams to help them create value and improve efficiency."

Honeywell's first APU took to the skies in 1950, and the company has built more than 100,000 since then. More than 36,000 APUs are in service today across more than 150 regional, executive and commercial applications, including both fixed wing and rotary wing.

In 2009, the Honeywell 131-9A APU on an Airbus A320 played a critical role in the emergency landing of US Airways Flight 1549 in New York's Hudson River, in which all 155 passengers and crew survived. Honeywell has shipped more than 15,000 131-9A APUs since introducing this model in 1995.

## Jet Parts Engineering acquires AeroSpares

Jet Parts Engineering recently announced the acquisition of AeroSpares. The transaction was overseen by Vance Street Capital LLC.

"I'm excited to team up with Jet Parts Engineering. AeroSpares has focused our efforts on providing improved reliability with our products. Combined with the customer service, technical capabilities, and sales reach of Jet Parts, it will benefit everyone in the aviation aftermarket," said Tom Webb of AeroSpares.

"Jet Parts Engineering is looking forward to partnering with Tom and AeroSpares. Tom is a true innovator in the aerospace business. Each of the parts Tom has designed imbeds technology that significantly improves the performance and reliability compared to the originally designed parts," said Anu Goel, President of Jet Parts Engineering.

AeroSpares was founded in 1993 to provide airlines with alternate means of customer support, and focuses on reducing aircraft and engine direct and indirect costs with FAA approved replacement parts for a variety of large commercial aircraft.

"Tom and his team are leaders in the PMA development of pressure sensors and pressure switches. JPE is excited to offer these parts to our customers. Additionally, we look forward to having Tom work with our engineers to develop more PMAs in the pressure sensor and switch categories," Goel added.

Vance Street Capital LLC is a middle-market private equity firm focused on investing in highly engineered solutions businesses across the aerospace and defense, industrial, and medical markets. JPE is a Vance Street Capital portfolio company.

# Bombardier gains full ownership of aircraft service centre in Berlin



Bombardier recently announced the completion of the previously announced acquisition of all the issued and outstanding shares of the aircraft service centre in Berlin that it did not own. Bombardier purchased the shares from Lufthansa Technik AG and ExecuJet Aviation Group AG, thereby allowing Bombardier to establish a wholly-owned service centre in Berlin and further expand its worldwide customer support footprint.

"We welcome the highly talented

employees of the Berlin Service Centre to the Bombardier service network," said Chris Debergh, Vice President, OEM Parts and Services, Bombardier. "We value their expertise and customer focus – as part of the Bombardier team, they will continue to provide best-in-class aircraft maintenance services to our valued operators of Bombardier business aircraft."

Strategically located at Berlin Brandenburg Airport, the service centre has been providing exceptional MRO services to Bombardier business aircraft customers

since 1997. With more than 160,000 sq. ft. (15,000 sq. metres) of service capacity and 240 highly-skilled employees on site, the service centre provides customers with the highest-level maintenance and support for Bombardier's growing fleet of Learjet, Challenger and Global business jets based in Europe, Russia, Africa and the Middle East.

The service centre has received several awards for its technical excellence and customer satisfaction, thanks largely to an experienced and dedicated workforce. Among its many milestones, it was the first in Europe to perform maintenance on Bombardier's flagship Global 7500 aircraft. The state-of-the-art service centre recently modernized and transformed its shop floor to maximize efficiencies and streamline processes, providing customers with an unsurpassed service experience.



## Jet Maintenance Solutions expands MRO service portfolio by adding ERJ, Legacy aircraft

Jet Maintenance Solutions have received approval to conduct MRO services on Embraer ERJ135, Embraer ERJ145, Embraer Legacy 600 and Embraer Legacy 650. This is a part of service portfolio expansion by the company as per customer needs.

"It is a momentous achievement for all of us at JET MS. Upon receiving the approval, which in turn expands our service range for Embraer aircraft, our company takes yet another step to become a leading MRO provider for business and regional aviation. Since the implementation of our new and revised business plan in 2020, every step JET MS has taken has been marked with great success. By continuing to focus on client needs, sustainability, long-term viability and expanding our services portfolio, Jet Maintenance Solutions is on track to become a global and renowned brand for all business and regional aircraft MRO matters," said the CEO of Jet Maintenance Solutions Vytis Zalimas.

By adding the ERJ and Legacy aircraft families, Jet Maintenance Solutions have strengthened the position in the market as a leading maintenance, repair and overhaul provider with strong prospects to gain a new class of clients operating more than 1,200 aircraft built to date.



# | Teardown For Sustainability



Commercial aircraft disassembly, dismantling, and recycling are various services that are conducted when a commercial aircraft is retired from service or decommissioned. KG Aircraft Rotables are one such company who manage the teardown of retired aircraft, and return the second hand, recertified parts to the market. The recycling of aircraft materials has come into greater focus in recent years, due in large part to the increase in the number of aircraft which are reaching the end of their working life. Aircraft manufacturers estimate that up to 44 percent of the global fleet will reach end-of-life in the next two decades, amounting to more than 13,000 commercial, military and private aircraft. Until a few years ago, end-of-life aircraft were abandoned to landfills around the globe.

KG Aircraft Rotables takes the approach of "Smart Dismantling" in order to minimise the environmental impact and lessen the amount going to landfill, and also ensure that sufficient amounts

of components are returned to the supply chain to keep existing fleets flying.

The impact of aircraft upon the environment does not stop when the aircraft is no longer operational, most modern airframes are filled with materials which simply will not decompose when sent to landfill; from carbon fibre to heat treated super alloys – this is why the recycling of airframes and engines is more important than ever.

Another aspect of sustainability of current fleets is the supporting supply chain. As fleets grow in age they become replaced by newer machines – take for example the A320neo & Boeing 737MAX. These aircraft are replacing two of the most popular airliners ever manufactured, and one could scarcely imagine those aircraft coming out of service – yet here we are. Without a reliable supply of quality, airworthy second hand recovered material some of these aircraft would not be able to continue operations. In some cases where manufacturing of certain components

has stopped, the cost to return these to the manufacturing environment would simply raise the cost of flights on that particular family of aircraft out of the reach of the average holiday family.

Counterfeit parts is an aspect of the Used Serviceable Material (USM) market which is regularly overlooked. With the teardown and recycling of USM, trace & back – to – birth paperwork is a major part of the pre-purchase checks which KG Aircraft Rotables carries out. These rigorous checks ensure that the parts are all bonafide, with good pedigree all the way back to their original entry into service.

KG Aircraft Rotables, a subsidiary of Kanematsu (Japan), has a robust program of aircraft teardown and recycling of USM into the market via their team of FAA, EASA & UK CAA Approved repair facilities. In 2019 & 2020 KGAR successfully recovered USM from 5 737NG aircraft, helping to bolster the supply chain of their customer airlines with rotatable components for the foreseeable future.

**KGAR**  
KG Aircraft Rotables

[www.kgar.com](http://www.kgar.com)

Specialists In The Supply Of Aviation Rotables

# Pratt & Whitney's milestone achievement of 50,000th PT6 turboprop engine production

Pratt & Whitney in a recent milestone rolled off its 50,000th PT6 turboprop engine off the production line. Currently the new PT6 E-Series engine is in full production which powers the Pilatus PC-12 NGX.

Irene Makris, vice president, sales and marketing at Pratt & Whitney Canada said, "From the first application more than 50 years ago, the now iconic PT6 engine turns possibilities into realities for our customers around the world on more than 130 different applications today. With each new model of engine developed and designed for a mission, platform, and customer in mind, our employees continue to build a more efficient, smarter engine with a shrinking environmental footprint— and they

continue to rise to the challenge every day."

The PT6 turboprop engine is the proven choice for demanding, high-cycle/ high-power applications in single- and twin-engine aircraft for all kinds of missions and applications. The engine fleet's current flying population is more than 25,000 units and it has accumulated more than 410 million flight hours and counting—that's more flying time than anyone else in this segment.

"This production milestone is unmatched in the industry. It offers us another opportunity to celebrate the engine's on-going success as we continue exploring new horizons for even more flying possibilities," Makris further added, "The achievement sits as the col-

lective cornerstone of Pratt & Whitney in General Aviation. With the PT6 E-Series engine now at the forefront, we remain committed to pushing innovation as we've been doing since the very beginning."

Makris sees the 50,000-engine marker as the opportunity to pause and thank customers and employees for this remarkable accomplishment. It is a testament to the on-going success of the engine and the innovation behind its on-going evolution. The most recent example of this being the launch of the PT6 E-Series engine, the first the first turbine engine in the general aviation market to offer a dual-channel integrated electronic propeller and engine control.

# GE Aviation to provide T408 turboshaft engines for Sikorsky CH-53 king Stallion



power enables the CH-53K to carry a 27,000-pound external load over a mission radius of 110 nautical miles in high/ hot weather conditions, tripling the lift capability of the US Marine Corps' legacy heavy lift helicopter. The T408 has nearly 11,000 hours of engine operating time on the aircraft to date.

Compared to the T64, the T408 also offers 18 per cent better specific fuel consumption that will deliver significant savings over the life of each engine. The T408 also has 63 per cent fewer parts and a more rugged compressor with split casing and erosion coating, allowing for improved reliability and maintainability. An engine mounted FADEC with prognostics and health management will improve performance while helping to reduce maintenance cost.

In addition to GE Aviation's Lynn, Mass., plant, GE Aviation facilities in Hooksett, N.H.; Rutland, Vt.; Madisonville, Ky.; Dayton, Ohio, and Jacksonville, Fla., will provide parts for this contract. MTU Aero Engines is a program participant responsible for the development and production of the power turbine.

NAVAIR recently awarded GE Aviation with a USD 119 million contract for the fourth lot T408 engines to power the US Marine Corps' most advanced heavy-lift helicopter, the Sikorsky CH-53K King Stallion. This latest contract of Low Rate Initial Production (LRIP) engines follows three previous LRIP contracts for this program, the most recent being in August 2019. GE Aviation's Lynn, Mass., plant will perform final assembly for the Lot 4 engines.

"This most recent contract represents another big step forward for the T408

program," said Linda Smith, the T408 Program Director at GE Aviation. "The engine has more than 2,500 flight hours powering the CH-53K in hot and cold environments and through a variety of challenging flight tests. We're continuing to work closely with NAVAIR and Sikorsky as we approach Initial Operational Test and Evaluation in 2021."

GE Aviation's T408 is the most advanced rotorcraft engine in its class. The engine offers 7,500 shaft horsepower, which is 57 percent more power than its predecessor, the GE T64. This enhanced

# Ramco Systems to manage the largest number of civilian Chinook versions in US

Ramco Systems will implement its Aviation M&E MRO Suite v5.8 for America's leading Heli Operator and Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) player, Construction Helicopters CHI Aviation. Ramco's business partner, ROTA technology played a key role in this win and will be program managing the implementation activities on behalf of CHI.

After this win, Ramco will help manage the largest numbers of the civilian version of Chinooks (CH-47s), in the US.

Christopher Turner, President, Construction Helicopters Inc., said, "We are pleased to have chosen Ramco because of its exceptional track record in the heli and defence space followed by its ability to provide complete operational visibility in real-time. We are confident that this software will keep up with our rapid expansion plan and address our business challenges by significantly improving our operational efficiency."

CHI Aviation and its operating companies provide services such as fire fighting, heavy lifting, helicopter emergency medical services (EMS), search and rescue, Department of defence (DoD), utility work, HVAC, construction, fire helicopter, aircraft, military, defence, ski lift and long-line. Ramco's Aviation Suite will provide in-depth process to enhance CHI Aviation's handling of complex helicopter



operations for commercial and defence as well as manufacturing and MRO operations.

James Cornelius, President, ROTA Technology, Inc, said, "We assessed a multitude of systems on behalf of CHI in an unprecedented time and ultimately RAMCO met all the requirements. ROTA continues to provide value to small and large operators across the world by leading and facilitating major implementations, upgrades, and support."

Ramco will implement its complete Aviation software including modules for maintenance, supply chain management, safety & quality, flight operations, MRO sales, manufacturing, and finance. In addition, CHI Aviation will benefit from unified dashboards, mobility and offline capability giving real-time updates across multiple locations to all the users while ensuring holistic view of the activities.

Virender Aggarwal, CEO, Ramco Systems, said, "We are elated to secure

yet another order win in the Heli segment in the US, underscoring our track record in this space. Our Aviation ERP, infused with the latest artificial intelligence and machine learning capabilities, has created great value for the leading companies in this segment. This deal has also opened yet another burgeoning segment – Drones and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) for Ramco which is gaining traction in both the commercial and defense spaces."

Ramco's modern integrated software is backed by next-gen technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning which will provide CHI Aviation with end-to-end visibility across entire operations while ensuring security and regulatory compliance across all organizational units. The software will also facilitate the use of electronic signatures with dual authentication to achieve paperless operations.

# Magnetic MRO signs CAMO service agreement with REX Airlines

Magnetic MRO has recently signed a CAMO service agreement with the Australian operator REX Airlines (RAL) which will be in operation in the first quarter in 2021.

"This is one more great example of Magnetic MRO and the aviation industry in general connecting across different continents. We are interwoven with REX CAMO and operations, however, we are doing this from across 8 time zones, over about 15,000km. This

is made possible by the great match of REX and Magnetic MRO company DNAs, as we both are flexible and strive for efficiency but not at the expense of safety and quality. I am sure I speak for all the Magnetic MRO CAMO personnel when I say we are extremely excited to enter into such a close partnership with a company that shares our high standards and strive for excellence in doing our part in keeping the skies safe," said Talvar Tari, Senior Airworthi-

ness Engineer at Magnetic MRO.

"We are equally excited to be able to work closely with Magnetic MRO on our domestic jet operations. Magnetic MRO is undoubtedly one of the reputable independent Part 42 service providers for many of the big airlines in Europe and other parts of the world. We are looking forward to tap their vast experiences to enhance our in-house capabilities," said REX Continuous Airworthiness Manager, Richard Taylor.



## Congo Airways expand their horizons with two E2 variants



Congo Airways has ambitious plans of venturing into newer markets by incorporating the latest and fuel efficient E2 variants in its fleet. Congo Airways signed a contract with Embraer in December 2019 for another two E195-E2 aircraft. Prior to this they had ordered another couple of E190-E2. The deliveries of these aircraft

will commence in 2022. The biggest advantage of having E2 variants is low fuel burn and longer maintenance intervals which will lead to maximum saving for the airlines.

Balazire Bantu, CEO, Congo Airways said, "We intend to deploy the E2s to high-demand destinations such as Abidjan, Cotonou, Johannesburg and Cape

Town. We see an opportunity in our market and the crisis we are all facing for Congo Airways to emerge stronger. With two E-Jet models we will have the flexibility and the right-sized, most efficient aircraft as the market returns."

With 12 business and 108 Economy class seats, the Embraer E195-E2 had 25 per cent more capacity than its sister variant, E190-E2. A common cockpit across all E2s gives the airlines operating flexibility as the pilots can seamlessly transition between the larger and smaller E2s. Besides this the on board maintenance system allows for simple and intuitive troubleshooting thereby leading to longer maintenance intervals.

All this makes it the E2 variant an ideal choice for operators like Congo Airways wanting to enter new markets and take advantage of new opportunities.

## JetBlue to replace the 60 Embraer 190 by Airbus A220-300



JetBlue recently took delivery of its first Airbus A220-300 aircraft. The new fleet of Airbus will be replacing JetBlue's existing fleet of 60 Embraer 190 aircraft. This is the first of 70 A220 aircraft placed on order.

"The A220 is a next-generation aircraft our customers and crewmembers will love, featuring impressive range and superior economics to support critical financial and operating priorities along

with new network planning flexibility," said Robin Hayes, chief executive officer, JetBlue. "And as we evolve our fleet for the future, the A220's significant reduction in per-seat emissions supports our on-going commitment to carbon neutrality for all our domestic flights, and moves us closer to achieving our pledge of net zero carbon emissions across all operations by 2040."

The A220 boasts a nearly 30 per cent

lower direct operating cost per seat than the current E190. Lower seat costs come from both fuel and non-fuel savings. The A220 fleet will also help to further reset JetBlue's maintenance costs well into the decade. The airline anticipates the A220 fleet, with improved reliability and longer maintenance intervals, will have a maintenance cost per seat that is more than 40 per cent lower than E190s. With a range of up to 3,350 nautical miles and a 40 per cent lower fuel burn per seat than JetBlue's E190 aircraft, the favourable economics open the door to new markets and routes that would have been unprofitable with JetBlue's existing fleet. The A220 covers a wide mix of new and existing market possibilities with excellent economics on short, medium and even potentially transcontinental markets. This will allow for better overall aircraft utilization and provide a competitive advantage for JetBlue in short haul markets.

“JetBlue has revolutionized air travel, and we at Airbus are proud that our 20-year relationship has played a role in the airline’s many successes,” said C. Jeffrey Knittel, Chairman & CEO Airbus Americas, Inc. “This first A220-300 delivery creates new route possibilities for JetBlue, and raises their passenger experience to even higher standards.”

The A220 is powered exclusively by Pratt & Whitney GTF engines, which deliver double-digit improvements in fuel and carbon emissions. Optimizing fuel burn is an important first step in JetBlue’s cost-conscious sustainability strategy, and prioritizing fuel-efficient aircraft and engines aligns with JetBlue’s approach to reducing emissions. Earlier this year, JetBlue became the first major U.S. airline to achieve carbon

neutrality for all domestic flights, and later announced its plans to achieve net zero carbon emissions across all operations by 2040. The A220’s significant reduction in per-seat emissions will help JetBlue meet and maintain its sustainability commitments.

“This delivery marks another big milestone for JetBlue and Pratt & Whitney,” said Rick Deurloo, chief commercial officer and senior vice president at Pratt & Whitney. “We are honoured that JetBlue has operated Pratt & Whitney-powered aircraft since the very beginning – and that JetBlue has selected GTF-powered aircraft for the airline’s next-generation fleets. We look forward to supporting JetBlue’s expansion and their commitment to sustainable aviation.”

The interior of JetBlue’s A220 will be

as impressive as the operating capabilities of the aircraft. Customers will also enjoy an elevated inflight experience with wider seats, spacious overhead bins and extra-large windows. JetBlue’s fleet features the most legroom in coach and free Fly-Fi, the fastest broadband internet in the sky. JetBlue will reveal details of its custom-designed A220 cabin – featuring thoughtful, customer-friendly touches throughout – in January 2021.

JetBlue continues to navigate the new travel environment with a steady hand and a long-term view on recovery. The investment in the A220 allows the airline to continue to execute its low cost business model, and enables JetBlue to continue to offer low fares to more customers.

## Qatar Airways took delivery of its 53rd A350 becoming the largest operator

Qatar Airways recently took delivery of its 53rd Airbus A350 aircraft thereby becoming the largest operator of Airbus A350 and reaffirming its position as the ideal choice for environmentally conscious long-haul passengers. The A350-1000 is fitted with the airline’s multi award-winning Business Class seat, Qsuite, and will operate on strategic routes to and from Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe. With this delivery, the airline will operate 34 A350-900 and 19 A350-1000 with an average age of 2.7 years.

Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Al Baker, said: “Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we continue to invest in our fleet, operating the youngest, most fuel-efficient and technologically advanced aircraft in the skies. This strategic investment in sustainable twin-engine aircraft has enabled us to continue flying during the most challenging year in aviation’s history, helping take over 3.1 million people home since the start of the pandemic. As global travel recovers, our passengers can rely on us to fly greener and smarter with more flights to more destinations via the Best Airport in the Middle East, Hamad International Airport.”

Qatar Airways is fully utilizing its

fleet of 53 A350 aircraft to more than 45 destinations in the airline’s network, including Johannesburg, London, Melbourne, New York, Paris, Sao Paulo and Singapore.

Passengers travelling on-board Qatar Airways’ state-of-the-art Airbus A350-1000 can enjoy:

- The widest cabin body of any class with larger windows creating an extra spacious feel
- The widest seats of any aircraft in its category with generous room in all classes
- Advanced air system technology including HEPA filters, which deliver optimal cabin air quality, renewing air every two to three minutes for more comfort and less fatigue
- LED mood lighting which mimic a natural sunrise and sunset to help reduce the effects of jet lag
- The quietest cabin of any twin-aisle aircraft that includes a draft-free air circulation system resulting in a low ambient cabin noise level for a more peaceful journey

Environmentally conscious passengers can travel with the reassurance that Qatar Airways continuously monitors the market to assess both passenger and cargo demand to ensure it operates

the most efficient aircraft on each route. Rather than being forced to fly oversized aircraft due to limited aircraft options, reducing the flexibility for passengers to travel when they want, Qatar Airways has a variety of sustainable aircraft it can choose from to offer more flights with the right capacity in each market.

Due to COVID-19’s impact on travel demand, the airline has grounded its fleet of Airbus A380 as it is not environmentally justifiable to operate such a large, four-engine aircraft in the current market. The airline’s internal benchmark compared the A380 to the A350 on routes from Doha to Guangzhou, Frankfurt, London, Melbourne, New York, Paris and Sydney. On a typical one-way flight, the airline found the A350 aircraft saved a minimum of 16 tonnes of carbon dioxide per block hour compared to the A380. The analysis found that the A380 emitted over 80 per cent more CO<sub>2</sub> per block hour than the A350 on each of these routes. In the cases of Melbourne and New York, the A380 emitted 95 per cent more CO<sub>2</sub> per block hour with the A350 saving around 20 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per block hour. Until passenger demand recovers to appropriate levels, Qatar Airways will continue to keep its A380 aircraft grounded, ensuring it only operates commercially and environmentally responsible aircraft.



## Resumption of 737 MAX deliveries in December, a key milestone for Boeing



The Boeing Company announced today major program deliveries across its commercial and defence operations for the fourth quarter of 2020.

Greg Smith, Boeing executive vice president of Enterprise Operations and chief financial officer said, "Through the global

pandemic, we took meaningful steps to adapt to our new market, transform our business and deliver for our commercial, defence, space and services customers in 2020. The resumption of 737 MAX deliveries in December was a key milestone as we strengthen safety and quality

across our enterprise. We also continued comprehensive inspections of our 787 airplanes to ensure they meet our highest quality standards prior to delivery. While limiting our 787 deliveries for the quarter, these comprehensive inspections represent our focus on safety, quality and transparency, and we're confident that we're taking the right steps for our customers and for the long term health of the 787 program. As we continue navigating through the pandemic, we're working closely with our global customers and monitoring the slow international traffic recovery to align supply with market demand across our widebody programs. In 2021, we'll continue taking the right actions to enhance our safety culture, preserve liquidity and transform our business for the future."

## BBAM receives first P2F A321 from ST Engineering, Airbus and EFW

ST Engineering, Airbus and Elbe Flugzeugwerke announced the redelivery of first A321 passenger-to-freighter (P2F) aircraft to BBAM Limited Partnership with several more units to come. This first BBAM A321 converted freighter will be leased to British charter airline, Titan Airways.

Steve Zissis, President and Chief Executive Officer of BBAM said, "ST Engineering, Airbus and EFW's A321P2F programme delivers strongly in the areas of innovativeness and value enhancement. We are pleased to partner with them and our customer, Titan Airways on a solution that fully meets our customer's requirements and drives value for our investors."

Alastair Willson, Managing Director of Titan Airways said, "We are delighted to take delivery of our first A321P2F from BBAM and EFW. Titan Airways has over 32 years of successful freight and passenger operations, and has been an Airbus operator since 2013. The A321P2F will enable us to utilise all the benefits of this type into our air freight activities including best-in-class economics,

reduced noise, a lower carbon footprint and real time health monitoring, ensuring the highest levels of reliability."

The A321P2F is the first in its size category to offer containerized loading in both the main (up to 14 full container positions) and lower deck (up to 10 container positions). EFW's A321P2F solution has a generous and proven gross payload of over 28 metric tons, with further upside potential in future conversions. The solution, which comes with optimized weight distribution to enable empty flights and random loading, accords high flexibility for operators, in particular express carriers. The fact that EFW's programme is the only OEM solution for A321P2F in the market also ensures lifecycle value, given its superiority in quality, reliability and ease of maintenance.

"We want to thank our customer, BBAM and operator of this freighter, Titan Airways for entrusting us with growing their freighter fleet with a new member of the Airbus freighter family," said Andreas Sperl, Chief Executive Officer of EFW. "As our A321P2F programme



steadily gains traction with more redeliveries, we will, together with our parent companies ST Engineering and Airbus, double down on delivering this innovative solution to the market and capturing more narrowbody freighter market share."

To meet the rising demand for A321P2F, ST Engineering, along with EFW, plans to set up additional conversion sites in China, the US and Germany which will ramp up its global conversion capacity to 25 slots per year by 2023.

BBAM Limited Partnership (BBAM) is a leading aircraft lease management company with over USD 29b of assets under management and some 150 professionals located in offices around the world.

## Etihad Airways close 2020 on a positive note with flexible loyalty programmes and CSRs



**E**tihad Guest, the award-winning loyalty programme of Etihad Airways, concluded 2020 with a positive outlook following a series of corporate social responsibility activations and member initiatives. During 2020, the programme and its members donated 48 million miles to support relief campaigns for COVID-19, Australia's bushfires and the explosion in Beirut. In addition to this, multiple projects were launched to support and reward loyalty members globally.

Etihad Guest and its members donated 23 million miles to buy ventilators, masks and soaps for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, 22 million miles supported Australia's bushfires which equated to feeding over 1,100 koalas for one year, and 3 million miles were used to support home renovations following the Beirut explosion, in addition to food, medical and hygiene supplies.

Throughout 2020, Etihad Guest continued its transformation journey to enhance its customer experience and as a result of the pandemic, evolved with the changing landscape. To recognize members who were unable to travel, Etihad Guest gifted monthly bonus Tier Miles to ensure guest statuses were not downgraded, reduced the tier requirements and provided various Tier Miles promotions. Expired miles were also reinstated, transferring to friends and family enabled and the GuestSeat change fee was removed.

The loyalty programme of the airline also relaxed its mileage expiration policy – miles only expire after 18 months of inactivity and can be kept active by buying, earning, redeeming,

or transferring miles.

Etihad Guest launched a mobile app allowing members to earn Etihad Guest Miles and Tier Miles with lifestyle partners. As a world first for airline frequent flyer programmes, members can also redeem their miles in real time when they shop with over 650+ partners within Yas Mall, World Trade Centre Mall, Al Jimi Mall or at any of the theme parks or attractions on Yas Island.

Kim Hardaker, Head of Loyalty & Partnerships, Etihad Aviation Group, said, "Last year, Etihad Guest focused on delivering the greatest flexibility and support for members around the globe. The programme expanded customer choice, connectivity, and convenience by growing its partnerships with Aldar, Miral, Majid Al Futtaim and ADNOC. This year, Etihad Guest will continue to leverage those partnerships and form new collaborations to provide our members with more benefits both on the ground and in the air."

In June 2020, Etihad Guest asked members to nominate a friend to receive a gift through the 'Moments of Thoughtfulness' campaign. Over 8,000 members participated, and tailored gifts based on guests' interests, Etihad Guest Miles, Tier and upgrade vouchers were distributed to over 3,000 'Your Special Guests'.

With over 7.2 million members and 150 partners including restaurants, hotels, car rental and retailers, Etihad Guest also won 'Best Frequent-Flyer Programme' at the Business Traveler Middle East Awards 2020, cementing the quality and reliability of the airline's loyalty programme.

## Airbus delivered 566 commercial aircraft to 87 customers in line with adaptation plan



**A**irbus delivered 566 commercial aircraft to 87 customers in 2020, in line with the production adaptation plan set out in April 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to overcome international travel restrictions, the Airbus team developed an innovative e-delivery solution which represented more than 25 per cent of the 2020 deliveries, allowing customers to receive their aircraft while minimizing the need for their teams to travel.

"Working hand-in-hand with our customers allowed us to navigate a difficult year. The Airbus teams, customers and suppliers truly pulled together in the face of adversity to deliver this result. We also thank our partners and governments for their strong support to the sector," said Guillaume Faury, Airbus Chief Executive Officer. "Based on our 2020 deliveries we are cautiously optimistic as we look into 2021, although challenges and uncertainties remain high in the short term."

In 2020, Airbus recorded a total of 383 new orders, 268 net orders, showing continued customer endorsements in all market segments. The A220 won 64 new orders, confirming it as the leading aircraft in its category. The A320 Family won 296 new orders including 37 A321XLR. In the widebody segment, Airbus won 23 new orders including two A330s and 21 A350s. After 115 cancellations by the end of 2020, Airbus' backlog stood at 7,184 aircraft.



# SIA extends their loyalty programmes and memberships as a mark of customer loyalty

Singapore Airlines (SIA) is automatically extending all existing PPS Club and KrisFlyer Elite statuses, for memberships that will expire between March 2021 and February 2022, by another year. This is in appreciation of the loyalty and support that members have shown over the last year, and to allay any concerns that they may have about membership renewal during this time.

For PPS Club members, any Reserve Value that expires between March 2021 and February 2023 will also have its validity extended to between March 2023 and February 2024. This will provide them with more flexibility in utilising their Reserve Value for subsequent membership renewal.

For KrisFlyer Elite members, any Elite miles earned in the 12 months prior to the latest extension will be automatically credited back into their accounts after the membership is extended between

March 2021 and February 2022. Several new features have also been introduced to enhance the KrisFlyer and PPS Club programmes as part of SIA's commitment to its members.

JoAnn Tan, Acting Senior Vice President Marketing Planning, Singapore Airlines said: "We are very grateful to our PPS Club and KrisFlyer members for their continued loyalty to Singapore Airlines. Our complimentary membership extension and support measures are our way of recognizing their unwavering support. We have simultaneously expanded and enhanced our programme offerings to create even more value for our members as we look forward to the recovery of air travel."

KrisFlyer has launched KrisFlyer Milestone Rewards, a new initiative which rewards members for Elite miles earned on SIA, SilkAir and Scoot flights. KrisFlyer members can claim rewards such as

KrisPay miles and cabin-class Advance Upgrades on board SIA and SilkAir flights at various milestones of their miles accrual journey, starting from just 5,000 Elite miles earned.

With effect from 1 January 2021, KrisFlyer members will also earn Elite miles on Scoot flights. This will count towards KrisFlyer Elite membership status renewal or upgrade, and redemption for KrisFlyer Milestone Rewards.

PPS Club members will also enjoy additional benefits on Scoot flights from February 2021. These include priority check-in and boarding, an additional allowance of 5kg with any baggage purchase, a one-time complimentary booking change, and complimentary standard seat s

Singapore Airlines will continue to review its loyalty programmes and membership offerings to bring greater value to its members.

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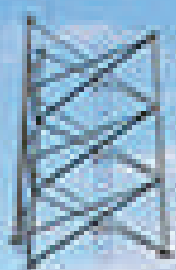
# Kaman Air Vehicles K-MAX helicopter achieves Type Certificate in Brazil

**K**aman Air Vehicles achieved the Type Certificate for the Kaman K-1200 K-MAX helicopter from Agencia Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) in Brazil. Kaman has been marketing the K-MAX helicopter to various Brazilian operators, power line, oil and gas firms, and engineering companies over the past two years, and this certification clears the path for K-MAX operations in Brazil.

Roger Wassmuth, Senior Director of Business Development said, "The K-MAX is ideally suited for operations throughout the country of Brazil. We believe the K-MAX offers a cost-effective value proposition for infrastructure building of much needed power lines."

Darlene Smith, Vice President and General Manager of the Kaman Air Vehicles division said, "Kaman's engineering team, working in conjunction with the FAA Boston Office and the ANAC offices, worked diligently to provide technical and operational information on the K-MAX, and we are pleased that this important milestone has been realized."

The K-MAX is a rugged, low-maintenance aircraft that features a counter-rotating rotor system and is optimized for repetitive external load operations. The aircraft can lift up to 6,000 pounds (2,722 kg) with unmatched performance in hot and high conditions.

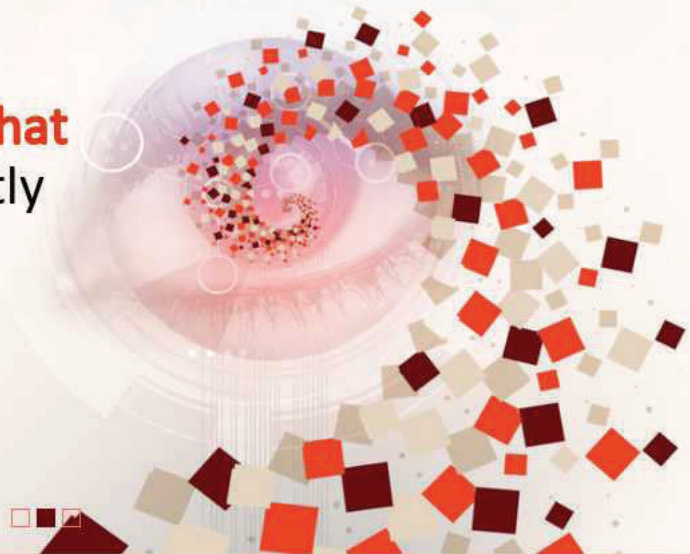




# Stelae Technologies offer Khemeia software to umlaut for effective digital transformation


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Stelae Technologies have offered umlaut an end-to-end Digital and Remote maintenance solution called Khemeia. This software transforms documents (PDF, Word, RTF..) into structured, searchable, analyzable and reusable outputs, compliant with Aerospace standards like S1000D for Technical Documents, S2000M for Materials Management, DITA, Json and customer defined Data Schemas. The documents types cover the entire spectrum from Task Cards, Panel Lists SRM, SB, AMM, CMM and Illustrated Product Catalogues.

KhemeiaTM will be integrated into umlaut's Digital Transformation solutions which finds extensive business applications for Aerospace and Defense OEMs and MRO service providers.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ashish

Mishra, CEO, umlaut Pvt. Ltd. said "umlaut is enabling global OEMs accelerate their digital transformation, we have built a suite of digitalization products and solutions to improve the operational efficiency and deliver positive business impact. Bringing KhemeiaTM as part of our solution will significantly benefit our customers in MRO sector."

Currently a manual or semi-automated process using scripts like Python, KhemeiaTM can bring scale and efficiency to this process.

Aruna Schwarz, CEO & Co-Founder of Stelae Technologies added that "we been one of the pioneers in this space, working with companies since 2012 in the Avionics and Defense sector, to transform technical publications to S1000D- creating an automated,

scalable and cost-effective solution to transform large data volumes. This is the essential first step in order to create Digital Maintenance solutions for the Aerospace and Defense MROs"

Covid-19 has highlighted the short-term crucial need to significantly reduce paper based work-flows to increase productivity and turn-around times due to reduction in maintenance crews and some of them working on shifts to maintain distancing norms. MROs need to accelerate their digitalization solutions for the longer term by implementing Predictive Maintenance and Analytics solutions to speed up their MRO processes. Stelae Technologies' software Khemeia is one of the possible solutions to this problem.

## Michael Haskins appointed as the Head of Global Sales at B&H Worldwide

Michael Haskins is appointed as the Head of Global Sales at B&H Worldwide effective 4th January 2021. Haskins has joined B&H Worldwide with over two decades of experience in leading multinational operations in aerospace time critical logistics. He was most recently with Tala (The Aerospace Logistics Alliance), where he served as Managing Director responsible for developing brand and global sales. While with Tala, Michael transformed the company's global presence, and network.

Gary Wilson, group managing director of B&H Worldwide said, "Michael is an excellent addition to our talented team, and will bring both strategic vision and industry experience to build on our considerable market strengths. This appointment is part of an ongoing development programme that has seen the company expand substantially over the last four years."

Prior to Tala, Haskins held senior leadership roles with Kuehne and Nagel within its aerospace division. His positions with them included Vice President Western Europe where he had 21 countries under his remit. He has a background in business development and specialises in identifying and developing new market opportunities.

B&H Worldwide is a leading global provider of aerospace time critical logistics solutions.



## SR Technics announce new leadership appointments

SR Technics have recently announced new appointments of Top Business Development and Commercial Executives, reporting directly to the Senior Vice President Caroline Vandedrinck.

Jean-Marc Lenz, Chief Executive Officer at SR Technics said, "As part of consolidating a robust position on the MRO market, Caroline is building an all-star team that strives to increase the added value for customers. As David and Jay have extensive experience in aviation industry business development and commercial activities and are very familiar with their respective regions, we are confident they will help drive growth in our core area of engine maintenance, repair

and overhaul activities. I wish them all the best in their endeavors and welcome David and Jay to the SR Technics team."

David Settergren started with SR Technics as Vice President Asia mid November 2020. A seasoned aviation professional, Mr. Settergren has over 25 years of experience in the Asia Pacific/Oceania region and had demonstrated success in both commercial and business jet sectors. While honing his expertise in areas like marketing, sales, contract negotiation, business development and customer management, he held a range of posts at GE Aviation, GECAS, AerSale Inc. and Global Jet Capital before found-

ing and serving as CEO of DS Aviation Consulting.

Jay Aiken, commenced his duties as Vice President Americas in January 2021, brings 30 years of experience in aircraft and engine aftermarket commercial MRO sales, leasing and maintenance. Before joining SR Technics, he held numerous roles of increasing responsibilities with Aero Capital Solutions, where he was responsible for sales and leasing in the Americas, and StandardAero, where he led the Americas engine MRO sales team. Prior to that, he held a range of posts at Delta Airlines including TechOps MRO sales, maintenance supervision, project management, flight operations and supply chain.



## Northrop Grumman to provide enhanced capabilities for F-35 program

Northrop Grumman Corporation has received a contract award from Lockheed Martin Corporation to enable new functionality to protect the 5th Generation F-35 Lightning II multi-role fighter. As part of a collaborative arrangement between Northrop Grumman, BAE Systems and Lockheed Martin, the three companies will integrate Northrop Grumman's AN/ASQ-242 Integrated Communications, Navigation and Identification (ICNI) and BAE Systems' AN/ASQ-239 Electronic Warfare/Countermeasures (EW/CM) system for optimal operational utility.

"This arrangement allows us to collectively provide enhanced capabilities without compromising the size, weight or power of the aircraft," said Howard Lurie, vice president, F-35 programs, Northrop Grumman. "We are proud to be a primary partner of the F-35 team, providing our U.S. and allied warfighters

superior combat effectiveness."

Northrop Grumman's ICNI system provides F-35 pilots with more than 27 fully integrated operational functions. Using its industry-leading software-defined radio technology, Northrop Grumman's design allows the simultaneous operation of multiple critical functions while greatly reducing size, weight and power demands on the advanced F-35 fighter. These functions include Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), automatic acquisition of fly-to points, and various voice and data communications such as the Multi-function Advanced Data Link (MADL).

The BAE Systems' AN/ASQ-239 system is an advanced, proven electronic warfare suite that provides fully integrated radar warning, targeting support, and self-protection to detect and defeat threats and enable the F-35 to reach well-defended targets.

"As Lockheed Martin's electronic

warfare integrator for all F-35 aircraft, we're committed to equipping our customers with advanced capabilities that help them conduct their missions," said Deborah Norton, vice president of F-35 Solutions at BAE Systems. "Under this collaborative agreement, we will work closely with Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman to enhance the capability of our fully integrated EW system – heightening pilots' situational awareness and helping them evade, engage and defeat modern threats."

As the provider for F-35's ICNI continuously since low rate initial production (LRIP) Lot 1, Northrop Grumman has delivered more than 750 shipsets to date. Components of the new functionality are planned to begin incorporation starting in 2025 (Lot 17) and will include upgraded electronics and software.

Northrop Grumman plays a key role in the development, modernization, sustainment and production of the F-35.



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## CAE USA to provide T-44C Pegasus training to US Navy



US Navy has awarded CAE USA a contract to provide comprehensive T-44C Pegasus aircrew training services at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi in Texas. Valued over USD 70 million, the contract is for base one-year with

additional one year options through mid-2027. CAE USA provides T-44C aircrew training services to the Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA) under a contractor-owned, contractor-operated training program. The T-44C is the Navy's variant

of the King Air aircraft used for intermediate and advanced multi-engine pilot training.

"We started delivering T-44C aircrew training to the Navy in 2013 and are honored the Navy has selected CAE USA to continue providing the essential training services for CNATRA's multi-engine training pipeline," said Ray Duquette, President and General Manager, CAE USA.

CAE USA provides qualified instructors who deliver all the required T-44C classroom and simulator training at NAS Corpus Christi. CAE owns, operates and maintains a suite of T-44C training devices that are used extensively as part of the T-44C training syllabus. CAE is also introducing new virtual reality trainers based on the Microsoft HoloLens that will be used for T-44C familiarization and procedural training tasks. This will enable more student throughput by freeing the T-44C training devices and aircraft for more advanced training. In total, more than 400 US Navy, Marine Corps, and international students train annually on the T-44C at NAS Corpus Christi.

"The Navy T-44C aircrew training program is a great example of how CAE partners with our military customers to introduce digital innovations such as virtual reality technologies that help contribute to more efficient and effective training," said Dan Gelston, Group President, Defense & Security, CAE.

The T-44C aircrew training program falls under the responsibility of CNATRA, which oversees the Naval Air Training Command and the training of all naval aviators and naval flight officers.

## Lockheed Martin awards CAE contract to design, manufacture C-130J training device

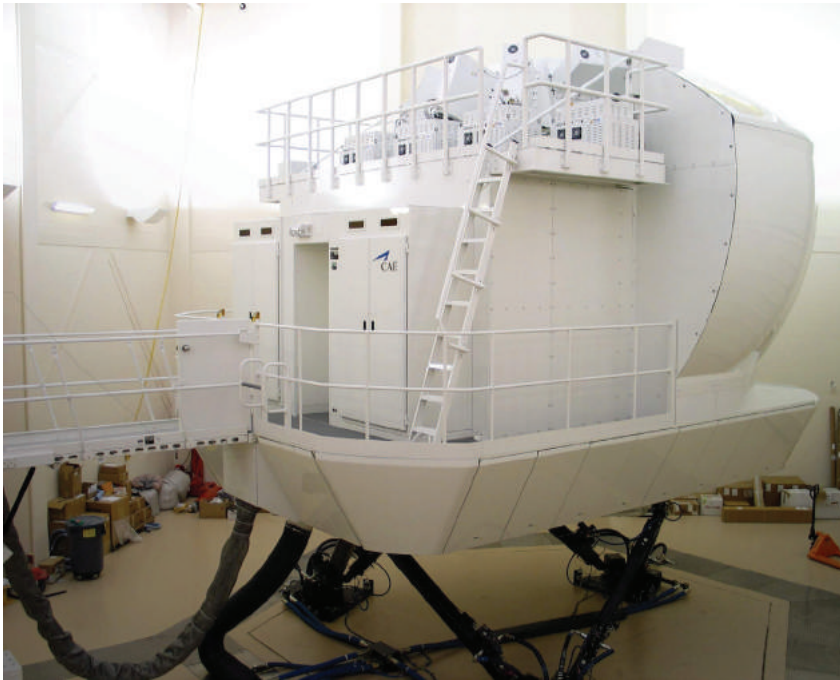
CAE has been awarded a subcontract from Lockheed Martin to support the design, development and manufacture of a suite of C-130J training devices for the binational French and German C-130J training facility to be located at Evreux-Fauville Air Base in Normandy, France.

Under terms of the subcontract, CAE will manufacture a C-130J full-mission simulator capable of reconfiguring between the C-130J-30 airlifter and

KC-130J tanker aircraft. CAE will also provide a C-130J fuselage trainer to be used for training loadmasters. The training devices will be delivered in 2023, ahead of the planned opening of the new training facility where French and German aircrews and maintainers will begin training in 2024. As the prime contractor, Lockheed Martin has overall responsibility for delivery of the training devices, the learning management system, courseware

and options for five years of training services.

"This award continues the longstanding relationship between Lockheed Martin and CAE on the design and development of training systems for all variants of the C-130J Super Hercules," said Dan Gelston, Group President, Defence & Security, CAE. "CAE is honoured to support Lockheed Martin in welcoming both France and Germany to the long list of global operators who train their aircrew



on CAE-built C-130J simulators and training devices.”

The French and German binational C-130J squadron consists of a combined 10 Super Hercules aircraft, including C-130J-30 airlifters and KC-130J tankers. France and Germany operate the fleet under a unique partnership where the countries share the aircraft, which are used for aerial refuelling, air drop and cargo missions.

Lockheed Martin and CAE have designed and developed a range of C-130J training systems for global militaries, including all branches of the United States Air Force, the US Marine Corps, Royal Air Force, Italian Air Force, Indian Air Force, Royal Australian Air Force, Kuwait Air Force and Royal Canadian Air Force. In addition, CAE built the C-130J/LM-100J full-mission simulator used at Lockheed Martin’s own Hercules Training Center (HTC) located in Marietta, Georgia.

## Elbit Systems awarded USD 1.68 billion from Hellenic Government



As a part of an agreement between the Israeli Ministry of Defence and Hellenic Ministry of National Defence, Elbit Systems is selected to establish and operate the International Flight Training Centre of the Hellenic Air Force.

Bezhalet (Butzi) Machlis, President and CEO of Elbit Systems said, “We are honoured to have been selected to provide such an important capability to the Hellenic Air Force, which we believe will contribute to the further strengthening

of the bi-lateral relationship between Israel and Greece. This selection attests to the leading position we hold in the area of training, providing tested know-how and proven technologies that improve readiness while reducing costs.”

The Hellenic Government approved the establishment and operation of the Flight Training Centre by the IMOD and Elbit Systems for an amount of approximately USD 1.68 billion for a period of approximately 20 years.

The anticipated contract award is contingent on completion of commercial negotiations with the Hellenic Ministry of National Defence.

The program calls for Elbit Systems to deliver training aircraft fleets equipped with the Company’s unique avionics and embedded training solutions, supply the Company’s flight simulators and training aids and provide through-life logistical support.



# Lockheed Martin awarded USD 1.28 billion contract for sustainment of global F-35 fleet



collaborate, realizing even more long-term benefits.”

The UCA provides initial critical sustainment activities for a worldwide fleet while negotiations continue on a long-term contract to build enterprise capacity and affordability to support the future fleet of more than 3,000 F-35 aircraft. The UCA funds industry sustainment experts supporting operations worldwide, individual bases, depot maintenance, pilot and maintainer training, and sustainment engineering across the globe. It also covers fleet-wide data analytics and supply chain management for part repair and replenishment to enhance overall supply availability.

The F-35 Joint Program Office, together with each US Service, international operators and the F-35 industry team, leads F-35 sustainment and the Global Support Solution.

Lockheed Martin and industry teammates BAE Systems and Northrop Grumman provide critical sustainment support for over 600 aircraft in key areas such as training, base operations, repairs, global supply, and sustainment support to F-35 customers. While many think of sustainment as all of the activity after aircraft delivery, it actually begins the moment a requirement is written and design starts. The fifth generation F-35 is designed and produced with mission readiness and the warfighter’s success in mind.

To further improve readiness and cost stability, the enterprise is conducting supply chain competitions and building supply capacity, synchronizing spare buys, improving parts reliability and maintainability, implementing advanced analytics tools, accelerating modifications of earlier aircraft, and supporting the stand-up of government-led regional warehouses and repair depots.

More than 600 F-35 aircraft have been delivered and are operating from 26 bases around the globe. More than 1,200 pilots and 10,000 maintainers have been trained, and the F-35 fleet has surpassed more than 345,000 cumulative flight hours.

Lockheed Martin was recently awarded a USD 1.28 billion Undefinited Contract Action (UCA) to support operations and sustainment of the global F-35 fleet through June 30, 2021.

“This contract ensures F-35s remain ready to fly and accomplish the war-

fighter’s mission,” said Bill Brotherton, Lockheed Martin F-35 program acting vice president and general manager. “We continue to see improvements in readiness and cost, and as the fleet grows, so does the opportunity for the joint government and industry team to



## BAE Systems awarded DMSMS contract by US Air Force



The US Air Force has awarded BAE Systems a five year USD 66.6 million contract to provide Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) support to the Air Force supply chain. Through the contract with the 429th Supply Chain Management Squadron at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma, BAE Systems will deliver its Advanced Component Obsolescence Management (AVCOM) suite of tools and services which will enable the US Air Force to proactively reduce impacts on mission capability throughout the lifecycles of weapons systems and other

platforms.

"In this next iteration of the DMSMS program, BAE Systems will be implementing an innovative cloud-based technology suite to enhance predictive analytics to the US Air Force," said Pete Trainer, Vice President and General Manager of Air Force Solutions at BAE Systems. "Delivering this enhanced AVCOM technology roadmap demonstrates our continued commitment to the Air Force's digital transformation."

AVCOM's database accesses more than 100 million parts and its customized web-enabled obsolescence

management tool helps users forecast when a part will become obsolete or too expensive to procure. The solution also helps users identify suitable replacements and allows for the sharing of case information across the U.S. Department of Defence. BAE Systems is proactively migrating AVCOM to the AWS GovCloud (US), thereby empowering the US Air Force to easily and quickly scale their user base, optimize performance, and protect organizational assets.

The Air Force has awarded this contract to BAE Systems 10 consecutive times since 1991 and this contract is the largest valued award to date. The programs AVCOM supports have routinely garnered the industry's DMSMS top honors, and the U.S. Air Force has recognized AVCOM as its 'DMSMS Tool of Choice' annually since 2001.

Work on the latest award will be performed at BAE Systems facilities in Florida, Georgia, and Utah. Additional work will be performed at Hill Air Force Base, Utah; Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma; Robins Air Force Base, Georgia; and Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The contract will also support US Air Force operations worldwide.

## Saab receives follow-on contract with UAE for sale of two GlobalEye for USD 1.018 billion for 5 years

Saab received a follow on contract with the UAE regarding the sale of two GlobalEye systems, Saab's advanced airborne surveillance system. The order value is USD 1.018 billion and the contract period is 2020-2025. The original contract with the United Arab Emirates for GlobalEye was signed in 2015. This contract is an amendment to that signed in 2015.

"We are proud that the United Arab Emirates continues to show great trust in Saab and our solutions. It shows that Saab remains on the cutting edge regarding advanced technology. The GlobalEye program is running according to plan and we

have an efficient cooperation with the customer", says Micael Johansson, President and CEO Saab.

The work will be carried out in Gothenburg, Linköping, Arboga, Järfälla and Luleå in Sweden and in Centurion, South Africa. The contract was signed by the customer on the 30th of December 2020, hence the order was booked during the fourth quarter 2020.

GlobalEye provides simultaneous air, maritime and ground surveillance. It combines sophisticated radar technology with the ultra-long range Global 6000 aircraft from Bombardier.



## Australian Air Force to add two P-8A Poseidon surveillance and response aircraft



"These additional aircraft will enhance Air Force's flexibility to support multiple operations and will play an important role in ensuring Australia's maritime region is secure for generations to come. The Morrison Government's continued investment in the Poseidon program is also creating more Australian jobs and opportunities for Australian small businesses. Several Australian companies are already completing work for Boeing Defence Australia, and industry investment including facilities works is over USD 1 billion," Minister Reynolds added.

Defence is committed to this cooperative approach; together we are striving to develop this military technology to the highest standards.

The Poseidon is a highly versatile, long endurance platform capable of a range of mission types including Maritime Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance and striking targets above and below the ocean's surface.

The planned integration of the Long Range Anti-ship Missile (LRASM) into Air Force capability will also allow it to strike adversary surface vessels at significantly increased ranges.

Australian Air Force maritime patrol capability will be boosted with two more P-8A Poseidon surveillance and response aircraft, bringing the total fleet size to 14. The Government has approved sustainment funding for the current approved fleet of three MQ-4C Triton aircraft.

Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds CSC said, "This announcement is part of the Morrison Government's unprecedented USD 270 billion investment in defence capability over the next decade. Together, the

Poseidon and the Triton will provide Australia with one of the most advanced maritime patrol and response capabilities in the world. The Poseidon is a proven capability that will conduct tasks including anti-submarine warfare, maritime and overland intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and support to search and rescue missions."

The additional Poseidon aircraft are to be purchased through the existing Cooperative Program with the United States Navy.

## Boeing's Apache FSR team to support US Army for another five years

Boeing recently marked their 35 years of field support for the US Army's AH-64 Apache. Not just that, the US Army has extended the project for another five years. Under the projected five-year, USD 83.3 million max indefinite deliveries, indefinite quantity agreement, 15 Boeing field service representatives will be dedicated to the US Army's Apache fleet.

Boeing has provided field service representatives (FSR) for the US Apache since 1985. Working side by side with Apache operators and maintainers, FSRs are located across the US and deployed with Army units at international locations. The contract includes a base award and four option years.

"Our field reps continue to be the direct, on-site technical expertise for Apache operators," said John Chicoli, director of US Army, Special Operations and Vertical Lift Services for Boeing. "Side by side with the customer, they bring access to the entire Boeing network for troubleshooting, complex maintenance support and training the warfighter."

Boeing's Apache FSR team includes 100 per cent veterans of the US military, with 90 per cent having supported Apaches during their military career. FSRs are a direct link to the latest Boeing proprietary



technical documents and have instant access to Boeing engineering to supplement technical and maintenance manuals. Boeing FSRs provide critical technical support, innovation, training and cost savings as they work shoulder to shoulder with their United States government counterparts.

## ‘COVID-19 lockdown and air travel’ IATA issues statement to governments

Alexandre de Juniac, Director, IATA and Chief Economist Brian Pearce focused on showing the latest impact of the renewed lockdowns on the prospects for air travel. IATA renewed the industry’s call for governments to deploy more flexible policies to safely reopen borders by using testing rather than rely on quarantines.

Following is the statement issued by IATA on COVID-19 lockdown and airtravel –

“We are working tirelessly with governments to keep flying safe and reduce the risk of COVID-19 importation via travel with the implementation of the ICAO CART recommendations proposals to replace quarantine with COVID-19 testing. But, as Brian pointed out, the industry’s situation is still perilous,” said Alexandre de Juniac

He further added, “In fact, it got worse over the year-end holiday period.

While we still see airlines turning cash positive within the year, the near-term picture is bleak. Instead of a boost from the year-end holiday period, we got even more restrictions. Governments tightened borders in a knee-jerk response to

a virus mutation. Canada, UK, Germany, Japan and others added testing to their COVID-19 measures without removing quarantine requirements. In other words, they have chosen policy measures that will shut down travel.

This approach tells us that these governments are not interested in managing a balanced approach to the risks of COVID-19. They appear to be aiming for a zero-COVID world. This is an impossible task that comes with severe consequences—the full extent of which it would be impossible to calculate. But, with this approach, we know for sure that:

- The travel and tourism economy will not recover.
- Jobs will continue to disappear.
- And the lockdown’s toll on people’s mental health will continue to grow—particularly on those who are separated from loved ones.

A more balanced public policy approach is needed—one that is based on testing as a replacement for quarantines so that we can begin addressing the severe side-effects of COVID-19 policies. Science tells us that travelers will not be

a significant factor in community transmission if testing is used effectively. But most governments have tunnel-vision on quarantine and are not at all focused on finding ways to safely re-open borders—or alleviate the self-imposed economic and mental health hardships of the lockdowns.

There was some good news over the holidays. We continued to prepare for the day that governments are ready to open borders—with testing or with vaccinations. The first pilot of the IATA Travel Pass app was launched in partnership with Singapore Airlines on routes to Kuala Lumpur and to Jakarta. We are still on track for a full rollout of the app during the first quarter of this year.

I will conclude by repeating a quote from the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres. He emphasized the urgent need to re-start flying by saying that:

“Aviation is an important engine of our world and will play a critical role in lifting the world to recovery from COVID-19. Let us ensure it receives the support it needs to keep the world’s nations connected and united.”

## airBaltic becomes first airline to achieve highest COVID-19 safety rating

airBaltic has become the first airline to achieve the highest COVID-19 Safety Rating after performing a thorough audit in December 2020 by Skytrax.

Martin Gauss, Chief Executive Officer of airBaltic said, “The health and safety of our passengers and employees stand above all. Already since spring we have aligned our operations, introducing dozens of new hygiene and safety procedures to provide reliable and safe services. The audit shows that we have been doing our job very well. We will continue to adjust our procedures and services wherever it may be needed.”

Edward Plaisted of Skytrax said, “We are delighted to see airBaltic achieve the highest 5-Star COVID-19 Safety Rating and become the first airline to be certified at this level. They have achieved an excellent

standard of health and hygiene safety measures to keep customers and staff safe during the coronavirus pandemic, and this is being applied with a high level of consistency.”

Skytrax is an international air transport rating organisation that launched the COVID-19 Safety Ratings program back in August 2020, covering airlines and airports across the world. The audit focuses solely on the COVID-19 cleanliness, hygiene and safety procedures.

Latvian airline airBaltic has been named as one of the Top twenty airlines for COVID-19 compliance by the safety, product, and COVID-19 rating agency. airBaltic has complied with all the criteria thus receiving 7 out of 7 stars.

The safety and health of passengers is airBaltic’s top priority. airBaltic has introduced strong health measures and the flight operations follow the recommendations issued by authorities.





# Holiday period boosts passenger numbers at MIA



**M**iami International Airport served more than 1.1 million passengers during the 17-day winter holiday travel period from 21st December 2020 to January 6, 2021. On Sunday January 3, MIA welcomed nearly 90,000 travelers, making it the busiest travel day the airport has seen since the pandemic began.

In December, MIA averaged 278 daily departures and 44,818 daily seats, with hub carrier American Airlines handling 68 per cent of that capacity, followed by Delta Air Lines and United Airlines.

The upward trend toward pre-pandemic levels at MIA is expected to continue, thanks to several airlines launching Miami service and existing carriers expanding service.

"MIA's on-going success in safely building back our passenger numbers has been a team effort between our

airline partners, federal agencies and service providers. Passenger confidence in air travel continues to grow, and the strength of the Miami travel market has weathered the storm of the pandemic." Lester Sola, MIA Director and CEO

On November 15, low-cost carrier Southwest Airlines launched its first-ever daily flights at MIA to four destinations: Baltimore; Chicago (Midway Airport); Houston (Hobby Airport); and Tampa. Southwest's flights to Baltimore four times daily and Tampa three times daily have increased MIA's existing service to those cities, while its four daily flights to Houston Hobby and daily flight to Chicago Midway provide new Miami service to those airports.

On December 15, low-fare carrier Frontier Airlines announced that it will be expanding its route network at MIA

to a total of 27 destinations in 2021 with six additional routes, including its first flights from Miami to four international destinations: Cancun, Mexico (March, four weekly); Guatemala City, Guatemala (April, three weekly); San Salvador, El Salvador (April, four weekly); and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (December 2020, three weekly). Frontier will also begin daily service to Orlando in February and four weekly flights in April to Ontario – an entirely new route for MIA.

Low-cost carrier JetBlue Airways will launch its first-ever flights at MIA on February 11 with service to four US cities: Boston (up to four times daily); Los Angeles (up to twice daily); New York-JFK (up to four times daily); and Newark (up to four times daily).

# International CALENDAR

## 2021

**16-18  
FEB**

**Saudi International Airshow**  
Thumamah Airport, Riyadh,  
Saudi Arabia

**03-05  
JUN**

**France Air Expo**  
Lyon Bron Airport – LFLY

**22-23  
JUN**

**Aviation Festival Asia 2020**  
Suntec Convention Centre,  
Singapore

**15-16  
SEP**

**16th Annual MRO Russia & CIS 2021  
conference and exhibition**  
Moscow World Trade Center

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