MRO BUSINESS TODAY

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NAC completes sale of four CF34-10E engines to DASI

Nordic Aviation Capital has finalized a sale agreement for four General Electric CF34-10E engines with DASI, LLC underscoring its commitment to facilitating efficient transactions in the aviation aftermarket.

Nordic Aviation Capital (NAC), a key player in the aviation leasing industry, has successfully finalized a sale agreement for four General Electric CF34-10E engines with DASI, LLC. DASI, a leading global provider of inventory solutions for airlines and maintenance and repair organizations, is set to benefit from this strategic deal. The agreement underscores NAC's commitment to facilitating efficient transactions in the aviation aftermarket. CF34-10E engines, known for their reliability and performance, are widely used in regional jet applications, contributing to the overall efficiency and operational capabilities of aircraft.

By partnering with DASI, NAC aligns with a company that has a strong track record in providing inventory solutions for the aviation industry. This collaboration is expected to enhance both companies' positions in the market, leveraging NAC's expertise in aviation leasing and DASI's proficiency in inventory management.

The sale of these CF34-10E engines represents a strategic move by NAC to optimize its portfolio and meet the evolving needs of the aviation sector. DASI, as the recipient of these engines, gains access to quality assets that align with its commitment to delivering comprehensive inventory solutions for its clients.

NAC's role as a lessor involves not just

the leasing of aircraft but also actively managing its portfolio, which includes transactions like sales and acquisitions. The successful execution of this sale agreement highlights NAC's ability to navigate the complexities of the aviation aftermarket, contributing to its reputation as a reliable partner in the industry.

For DASI, this deal represents an opportunity to further strengthen its inventory and support capabilities. As airlines and maintenance organizations seek efficient solutions to manage their assets, partnerships with entities like DASI become crucial. The acquisition of these CF34-10E engines positions DASI to meet the demand for quality components in the aviation aftermarket.

In the dynamic and evolving aviation industry, collaborations and transactions play a pivotal role in ensuring operational efficiency and the availability of quality assets. NAC's collaboration with DASI exemplifies the industry's commitment to strategic partnerships that drive innovation and deliver value across the aviation ecosystem.

As both NAC and DASI navigate the complexities of the aviation aftermarket, this deal sets the stage for future collaborations and underscores the importance of a robust and responsive ecosystem to meet the demands of the global aviation market ■

Dassault Falcon 6X engine receives Transport Canada approval

Dassault Aviation's new jet is nearing its entry into service as Pratt & Whitney Canada secures Transport Canada's approval for its PW812D engine with high-efficiency powering Dassault's new extra-widebody Falcon 6X.

Dassault Aviation's Falcon 6X is nearing its entry into service as Pratt & Whitney Canada secures Transport Canada's approval for its PW812D engine, a member of the PW800 family known for high-efficiency. This engine has been selected to power Dassault's new extra-widebody Falcon 6X. The PW812D engine is currently propelling all three Falcon 6X aircraft involved in flight-testing. The ongoing test campaign has accumulated over 500 flight test hours and 150 flights, with test pilots expressing commendation for the aircraft's smooth handling. The program is steadily progressing towards its anticipated type certification, scheduled for late 2022.

To further validate the aircraft's capabilities, an initial production aircraft with a fully outfitted cabin will soon join the development program. This aircraft will embark on a global tour, evaluating its performance in real-world business aviation scenarios, including operations in remote locations and challenging environments.

"Pratt & Whitney Canada's PW812D engine is a major step forward in fuel efficiency, maintainability and performance, and will help make the 6X a truly outstanding aircraft," said EricTrappier, Chairman and CEO, Dassault Aviation.

In December 2023, a notable milestone was achieved when a Falcon 6X flight test aircraft successfully landed at Paris-Le Bourget Airport. During this event, it became one of the pioneering aircraft to refuel in the field using a sustainable aviation fuel blend provided by TotalEnergies. Dassault Aviation remains committed to incorporating sustainable aviation fuel in the test program as part of its ongoing efforts to minimize the company's carbon footprint.

The PW812D engine, boasting a thrust of 13,500 lbs, equips the Falcon 6X with an impressive range of up to 5,500 nautical miles (10,200 km) and a top speed of Mach 0.90. These specifications underscore the aircraft's capabilities, positioning it as a high-performing and efficient option in the business aviation sector.

As the Falcon 6X progresses through its development and testing phases, the collaboration between Dassault Aviation and Pratt & Whitney Canada remains pivotal. The approval from Transport Canada adds a significant endorsement to the project, setting the stage for the Falcon 6X to make a noteworthy impact upon entering service. The emphasis on sustainability, demonstrated by the use of sustainable aviation fuel, reflects the industry's broader commitment to environmental responsibility, aligning with evolving standards and expectations in the aviation sector ■


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New facility inaugurated at HAL's Aero Engine Research and Development Centre in India

The AERDC is involved in the development of new engines the HTFE of 25 kN thrust and HTSE of 1200 kN thrust for powering light and medium weight helicopters.

Aero Engine Research and Development Centre (AERDC) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Bengaluru, Karnataka recently witnessed the inauguration of a new facility at the hands of India's Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane. The new state-of-the-art facility covers an area of 10,000 sq. meters.

The new facility houses the following

- Special machines
- Advanced setups leveraging on computational tools
- In-house fabrication facility
- Two test beds for testing HTFE-25
- One testbed for testing HTSE-1200
- Another testbed for testing IMRH to be co-developed by Safran & HAL
- Set-ups for testing Air producer of Jaguar Gas Turbine Starter Unit (GTSU) - 110 M2 and 127E of Light Combat Aircraft
- Auxiliary Power Units of Indian

The Centre, established in the 1960s, holds the unique distinction of being the only design house that has developed test beds for engines of both Western and Russian origin.

Multi-Role Helicopter and Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft

- Gas Turbine Electrical Generator (GTEG)-60 for An-32 aircraft
- Set-ups to carry out various critical tests for engine components and Line Replacement Units (LRUs)

Hailing the work being done by HAL, the Defence Secretary stated that the government trusts the capability of the Defence PSU to deliver and make the country self-reliant. "Manufacturing sector is the future of the country and in the coming decades, the HAL should focus on mastering technologies for all types of aircraft. Think ahead as the entire paradigm of warfare is changing," he said.

Highlighting the role of unmanned aircraft in future warfare, the defence secretary encouraged the HAL to collaborate with other private companies to develop new platforms. He inspected the manufacturing range of various engines and test beds and also paid a visit to HAL's Aerospace Division.

Praising HAL for this remarkable achievement, chairman and managing director, HAL, CB Ananthakrishnan said: "The development of this facility marks a key milestone in HAL's growth trajectory. It is a testimony of our commitment towards achieving 'Aatmanirbharta' in aero-engine design and development."

The AERDC is currently involved in the design and development of several new engines including two strategic engines - Hindustan Turbo Fan Engine (HTFE) of 25 kN thrust for powering trainers, UAV's, twin engine small fighter aircraft or regional jets and Hindustan Turbo Shaft Engine (HTSE) of 1200 kN thrust for powering light and medium weight helicopters (3.5 to 6.5 tonnes in single/twin engine configuration).

The Centre, established in the 1960s, holds the unique distinction of being the only design house that has developed test beds for engines of both Western and Russian origin. The Centre has successfully developed & certified PTAE-7 engine, the first indigenous turbojet engine of India powering Lakshya (Unmanned Aircraft), Gas Turbine Electrical Generator GTEG-60 for starting An-32 aircraft, Air starter ATS 37 & Air producer for starting Adour-Mk 804E/811 on Jaguar Aircraft and Shakti engine for powering ALH to support Ad804/811 engine of Jaguar aircraft ■

AAR strengthens flight-hour component support contract with ASL Aviation Holdings DAC

This strategic move involves an extension of AAR's existing component support agreement with ASL Airlines Belgium, now encompassing ASL Airlines France, ASL Airlines United Kingdom, and ASL Airlines Ireland.

AAR Corp., a prominent provider of aviation services, has solidified its collaboration with ASL Aviation Holdings DAC (ASL Airlines) through a multi-year contract extension and expansion for flight-hour component support services. This strategic move involves an extension of AAR's existing component support agreement with ASL Airlines Belgium, now encompassing ASL Airlines France, ASL Airlines United Kingdom, and ASL Airlines Ireland.

The contract signifies an expansion of AAR's role, where it currently supports 28 ASL aircraft, with expectations to increase this number to 65 under the new agreement. AAR's Integrated Solutions segment will provide round-the-clock component support services, focusing on the Boeing 737 fleets operated by these ASL airlines.

"For more than a decade, ASL has benefited from AAR's proven excellence in delivering flight-hour support services and associated cost efficiencies, which enable the on-time performance of ASL's operations," said James George, Head of Procurement, ASL Aviation Holdings. "We are delighted to expand our partnership with AAR to include additional ASL airlines," he further added.

ASL Aviation Holdings, a global aviation services company headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, has been a beneficiary of AAR's flight-hour support services for over a decade. The extension of this partnership reflects ASL's satisfaction with AAR's excellence in delivering these services and associated cost efficiencies, crucial for the smooth operations and on-time performance of ASL's fleet.

"AAR's strategically located warehouses and support teams expedite the delivery of components and reduce maintenance turnaround times for ASL," said Chris Fiddes, Vice President of Commercial Programs, AAR. "We look forward to the expansion of our relationship as ASL grows and modernizes its fleet," he further added.

AAR Corp., headquartered in the Chicago area, operates globally and provides aftermarket solutions for the aerospace and defense industry. Its services span parts supply, repair and engineering, integrated solutions, and expeditionary services.

ASL Aviation Holdings is a prominent player in global aviation services, with airlines based in Europe, South Africa, Australia, and Asia. Known for its expertise in ACMI airline operations and cargo/passenger services, ASL Aviation Holdings operates a diverse fleet of 160 aircraft, including various types from turbo props to the Boeing 747. The collaboration with AAR is pivotal as ASL continues to enhance its operational capabilities and fleet efficiency. The strengthened partnership between AAR Corp. and ASL Aviation Holdings underscores the significance of reliable flight-hour component support services in the aviation industry, contributing to the operational success and growth of major airlines globally ■

STS Aviation Group moves Component support facility to the UK

STS Aviation Group, a prominent player in the aviation services sector, has strategically relocated its 145 component/seat repair operations from Shannon, Ireland, to its expanded facility in Manchester, United Kingdom.

STS Aviation Group, a prominent player in the aviation services sector, has strategically relocated its 145 component/seat repair operations from Shannon, Ireland, to its expanded facility in Manchester, United Kingdom. This decision is part of the company's ongoing commitment to augment turnkey services for its expanding global customer base. The transition of the 145 component/seat repair capabilities is slated for completion in the first quarter of 2024. This relocation positions STS Aviation Group to better cater to the evolving needs of the aviation industry. The company's focus on delivering top-tier services remains a top priority, and this expansion serves as a testament to that commitment.

While the component/seat repair operations make the move to Manchester, the Shannon facility will continue to operate as an EASA/FAA 145 certified fuel repair shop. Additionally, it will offer passenger seat storage services at the company's New Market Fergus warehouse, ensuring ongoing support for clients relying on these services.

Ian Bartholomew, EVP & Managing Director of European Operations, STS Aviation Services said, "The relocation to Manchester represents a strategic expansion of our service capabilities in a key location. This move enables us to consolidate our operations, providing more efficient and comprehensive services to our clients. STS Aviation Group is grateful for the support our clients have shown towards our Shannon operations. We look forward to continuing to serve their needs from our Manchester location and are excited about the opportunities this move creates."

STS Aviation Group's decision to relocate its operations reflects its dedication to strategic growth and providing industry-leading aviation services on a global scale. This move aligns with the company's vision to streamline its operations, enhance efficiency, and deliver comprehensive services to meet the demands of an ever-evolving aviation landscape ■

Indian Airlines redefining luxury interiors with premium classes in upcoming fleet

Air India and IndiGo are leading a revolution in premium travel experiences with their upcoming fleets.

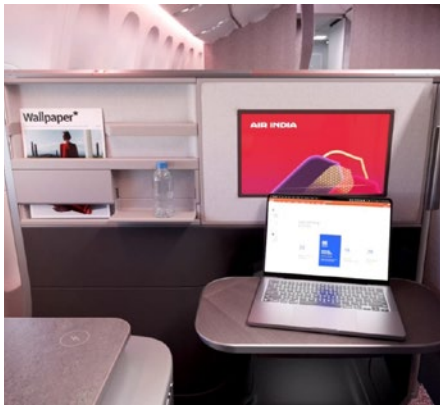
In the ever-growing era of air travel especially in developing countries, where traveler desires are taking off higher than ever, Indian carriers are adapting to rethink extravagance in their premium classes. As the flying industry experiences a worldview move, the center on improving the in-flight encounter for premium travelers has ended up a key need. The up-and-coming fleet of over 1000 jets on order, counting industry monsters like Air India and IndiGo, is set to reveal an unused chapter in extravagance, consolation, and personalized administrations for those flying at the apex of extravagance.

Air India and IndiGo are leading a revolution in premium travel experiences with their upcoming fleets. In the rapidly expanding landscape of air travel, especially in developing countries, the desires of travelers are reaching new heights. Both carriers, with an upcoming fleet of over 1000 jets on order, including industry giants like Air India and IndiGo, are poised to usher in a new chapter of luxury, comfort, and personalized services for those flying at the pinnacle of extravagance.

In this era of a global shift in the aviation industry, the focus on enhancing the in-flight experience for premium travelers has become a top priority. The upcoming fleets of Air India and IndiGo are set to introduce revamped seating arrangements, offering more spacious cabins, fully-flat beds, and an enhanced sense of privacy. The goal is to provide an environment that mirrors the exclusivity of high-end hotels, creating a space where travelers can work, rest, and indulge in luxury seamlessly.

Both Air India and IndiGo are at the forefront of redefining luxury by placing a premium on privacy. These carriers are introducing innovative cabin layouts that include private suites and dedicated spaces for each traveler. This trend aligns with the growing demand for exclusive and personalized services, with dedicated flight attendants catering to the needs of a limited number of passengers. The aim is to provide a subtle and bespoke travel experience.

The infusion of advanced technology is another hallmark of the reimagined luxury in premium classes. Travelers flying on Air India and IndiGo's upcoming premium classes can expect state-of-the-art in-flight entertainment systems with an extensive library of movies, TV shows, and interactive content. High-speed Wi-Fi connectivity ensures that business travelers can stay productive, holding meetings and conferences even at 30,000 feet. Moreover, technology is being used for personalized service delivery, allowing passengers to control their in-flight environment with the touch of a button.



In tandem with the global push towards sustainability, premium classes within the upcoming fleets of Air India and IndiGo are incorporating eco-friendly initiatives. From the use of sustainable materials in seat upholstery to reducing single-use plastics in amenities, both airlines are aligning premium travel with environmental responsibility. This dual commitment to luxury and sustainability reflects the evolving preferences of modern travelers who seek opulence without compromising on ethical values.

As the curtain rises on the era of the new-age premium classes in the Indian airline industry, passengers on the upcoming fleets of Air India and IndiGo can anticipate an unparalleled level of luxury, comfort, and personalized services. These carriers are not merely introducing new aircraft; they are ushering in an era of commitment to redefining shared travel for the elite. The fusion of luxury and innovation is poised to elevate the flying experience, making each journey a seamless blend of opulence and convenience. The skies are set to witness a new standard in premium travel, and the upcoming fleets of Air India and IndiGo are ready to play a leading role in this aviation revolution ■

Bombardier receives Orders for Twelve Challenger 3500 Jets

Bombardier has announced an order for twelve Challenger 3500 aircraft at list pricing for the firm order is US$326.4 million for the super-midsize jet.

Bombardier declared that it had secured a definite order for twelve Challenger 3500 aircraft. Based on list pricing, the transaction value for the firm order is US$326.4 million. The super-midsize industry leader's exceptional performance, elegant interior, and environmentally conscious features have won over the customer.

Éric Martel, President and CEO, Bombardier, said, "Bombardier is proud that the Challenger 3500 jet sparks such confidence as the aircraft of choice for a vast majority of operators around the world, and continues to meet and exceed the expectations of its discerning clientele. The Challenger 3500 jet is truly a force to be reckoned with, and this order is a clear demonstration that this platform offers the exceptional experience that clients are seeking."

Based on 2023 list prices, a customer placed a firm order for 12 Challenger 3500 aircraft, with deliveries starting in 2025. The deal is valued at US$326.4 million. The Challenger 3500 jet offers an unmatched in-flight experience to meet and exceed the expectations of the most discerning travellers.

The aircraft's flawless design provides an unparalleled cabin experience and elevates passengers' comfort with Bombardier's revolutionary Nuage seats and cutting-edge cabin technology.

With an industry-leading dispatch reliability of over 99.8%, as well as outstanding range and runway performance, the Challenger 3500 aircraft offers the ultimate package, with access to the most remote locations while delivering Bombardier's signature smooth ride from take-off to landing. The most discriminating passengers can expect and even surpass their expectations with the unparalleled in-flight experience provided by the Challenger 3500 jet.

Bombardier's groundbreaking Nuage seats and state-of-the-art cabin technology enhance passenger comfort, while the aircraft's faultless design offers an unmatched cabin experience. The Challenger 3500 aircraft offers the best of both worlds, with an industry-leading dispatch reliability of over 99.8%, exceptional range, and runway performance. It can reach even the most remote regions and delivers Bombardier's renowned smooth ride from takeoff to landing ■

SUSTAINABILITY IN MRO

The Reputation Institute says 40% of a company's market value is down to its ability to be ethical. To this end, Sustainability in MRO is a fine balance that providers must strive to maintain between their operational needs and sustainability goals (not just theirs) but of the entire aerospace industry. The 'sustainability' focus has assumed greater significance with net zero goals set in motion by the UN and further reinforced by the recent COP attendees. The aerospace industry finds itself under the spotlight for being responsible for nearly 12% of all carbon emissions in the transport sector.

MROs are gradually incorporating sustainability in their operational efficiencies while they serve a critical role that ensures the well-being of the airline industry and its high demands on TAT. MRO logistics' is an important area that needs to be managed with care for the environment, and meet the demands of the fast-paced sectoral growth at the same time. Airlines, OEMs, Regulators, and Customers are realigning their thoughts and actions toward sustainability in aerospace, and MROs are naturally having to fall in line, redefining MRO processes and activities.

Incorporation of Cleaner Technologies

MROs have worked out innovative ways of incorporating sustainability practices such as achieving waste reduction, recycling, and repurposing materials like parts refurbishing and materials recycling, for a start. This itself will contribute to the reduction of the MRO sector's carbon footprint.

Again, ensuring Time-critical logistics is another innovative way to bring in sustainability to MRO operations. A reliable and robust supply chain will ensure that refurbished parts reach their destinations early enough for reuse. This then negates the need to produce and transport newer parts. The benefits are substantial, where the carbon footprint caused by production and transportation processes and activities are arrested.

Sustainability in its facility/infrastructure can be incorporated by an MRO unit by curtailing and minimizing energy consumption and emissions during MRO activities. These then help save on operational costs and at the same time remain aligned to greater environmental responsibilities.

For example, leading global MRO

HAECO installed the largest single solar panel on their hangar roof to reduce their electricity needs during the summer. Here the aerospace industry can contribute towards sustainability and protect the environment at the same time – making the MRO/Aerospace sector responsible corporate citizen. Customers/flyers prefer to choose airline brands that are known for being sustainably responsible throughout the entire gamut of operations, and that includes the maintenance and repair part as well. Therefore, greening efforts can and do make commercial sense.

The MRO sector in this manner plays a critical role in steering the aerospace industry toward realizing its sustainability goals while being on an eco-responsible trajectory.

Image Courtesy :Lufthansa Technik

Adoption of Advanced Technologies

MRO service providers have realized and made investments in advanced technologies that help incorporate sustainable processes, like predictive and condition-based maintenance. With non-stop monitoring of the condition of components and parts that advanced systems offer, timely repairs, corrections, and replacements can be made before these parts cause major problems/damage to airline operations. The outcome is the reduction of wastage of materials with the increased shelf-life of the components. This is a 'smart' investment where advanced technologies can bring greater operational efficiency, and allow reuse of materials, curtail wastage and emission build up.

With Time-critical services and predictive maintenance capabilities incorporated into the MRO industry's DNA, Sustainability in MRO be delivered with complete adherence to regulatory requirements.

Time Critical Services- Planning Flights

Ensuring time-critical services should be a given. To this end, the strategy adopted by logistics providers Royale International to reduce the negative impact on the environment includes services like the Next Flight Out (NFO) and On-Board Courier (OBC). These are merely options that serve as green alternatives to ensure on-time delivery of critical components in a sustainable manner. This is achieved by utilizing existing flight capacities instead of dedicated charted services, which means additional air traffic, leading to reduced carbon emission operationally, and curtailing the logistics provider's carbon footprint per shipment.

According to studies conducted by Debagge, direct flights as opposed to connecting flights reduced carbon emissions by a whopping 100kg/person. Substantial benefits are accrued from direct flights and the logic of using scheduled commercial flights instead of charters/freighters. This is a show of commitment toward Sustainability in the MRO, from a logistics and supply chain perspective.

Sustainable MRO Material Management

"In a world where everything is connected, understanding the impact of

Image Courtesy :OptimizeMRO

our sourcing and buying decisions is critical," says the CIPS guide to Ethical and Sustainable Procurement.

Embracing Sustainability in MRO must touch upon every area in the entire aerospace MRO operations from initial planning right up to end-of-life disposal, and all activities in between including procurement, logistics, materials management, and importantly assessment and planning, and implementing sustainability goals.

Carefully assessing the impact on the environment caused due to MRO materials procurement, and sourcing practices, transportation, and disposal.

An important task then for any MRO outfit will be to identify and deal with suppliers and logistics providers who have weaved in sustainability in their organizations with conviction. Assurance and adherence to this would require constant monitoring, data collection, tracking, and reporting. The task does not quite end there. Components and products on reaching the end of their lifecycle must be repurposed or recycled, to lessen their harsh impact on the environment.

MROs and the aerospace sector realise that customers continue to patronise companies that are not divorced from their ethical standards and remain transparent while endeavouring to make profits.

According to David Loseby, Director of Procurement at Rolls-Royce. "You must make sure your KPIs are aligned to the policy so you can be sure that you deliver," he says.

Importantly, sharing experiences, and knowledge updates, and communicating openly and transparently are key to getting suppliers and key stakeholders on board for a robust run of Sustainability in MRO.

Global MROs and their Sustainability Efforts

Lufthansa Technik has introduced certain smart initiatives to conserve water and fuel and cut down on emissions. Their Cyclean® property saves up to 80t carbon emissions per year by washing aircraft engines say PW1100 regularly with Cyclean®. This also has a wastewater collection system for clean and safe removal of wastewater without environmental damage.

Image Courtesy :StandardAero

AeroSHARK

Lufthansa Technik's AeroSHARK is a nature-inspired riblet film jointly developed with BASF, using sharkskin technology, reduces the drag on an aircraft exterior, achieving better aerodynamics, and rendering them one percent more fuel-efficient. By now, 16 aircraft modified with the drag-reducing riblet film are roaming the skies. Boeing 777 aircraft fleet of Swiss International Air Lines and Lufthansa Cargo have benefitted from this better management of fuel economy.

Lufthansa Technik encourages and takes pride in their employees' sustainability drives in their local communities.

GreenERmro

StandardAero's GreenERmro endeavours to achieve sustainability and reduce the impact on the environment by design. Energy reduction methods include modification of usage, LED and use control systems, optimized compressed air systems/pressure reductions, process tank heating controls, etc. The GeenERmro added their areas of focus to include operations (energy, emissions, waste), engine testing (testing efficiency, Sustainable Aviation Fuels), green procurement (materials purchased and dispositioned) supporting the production life cycle, logistics (low and/or zero carbon transit) and ultimately, the products and services we provide. Users benefit from reductions in resource use, waste, energy, and carbon emissions.

Their greening efforts soon will expand to Europe, Asia and the United States, with plans to introduce decarbonization of electricity, solar power generation, battery energy storage systems, power purchasing agreements, and carbon offsetting ■

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Airbus begins deliveries from latest Toulouse Assembly Line with solo A321neo for Pegasus Airlines

Airbus has delivered its first Airbus A321neo assembled designated for Pegasus Airlines at its newest A320 FAL in Toulouse marking the inaugural delivery from Airbus' latest state-of-the-art production facility.

Airbus has achieved a significant milestone with the successful delivery of its first Airbus A321neo assembled at its newest A320 Family Final Assembly Line (FAL) in Toulouse. This A321neo, designated for Pegasus Airlines, a leading low-cost carrier in Türkiye, marks the inaugural delivery from Airbus' latest state-of-the-art production facility. Situated in the former A380 "Jean-Luc Lagardère" building, the new assembly line underscores Airbus' commitment to modernization to meet the increasing global demand for the A321neo, which currently represents nearly 65% of Airbus' A320 Family order backlog.

The A321neo stands as the largest member of the Airbus A320neo Family, renowned for its exceptional range and performance. Featuring new-generation engines and Sharklets, this aircraft delivers a 50% reduction in noise footprint and more than a 20% reduction in fuel burn and CO_2 emissions compared to previous-generation single-aisle aircraft. Simultaneously, it maximizes passenger comfort with the widest single-aisle cabin in the sky. Over 5,600 A321neos have been ordered by over 100 customers worldwide.

Pegasus Airlines, with a current Airbus fleet comprising 93 aircraft, including 6 A320ceo, 46 A320neo, and 41 A321neo, is a key player in the A320neo family's success. The airline has an additional 68 A321neos on order, highlighting its commitment to the A321neo as a crucial element of its fleet strategy.

The delivery of this A321neo to Pegasus Airlines signifies the initiation of the ramp-up phase for the new Toulouse Final Assembly Line. This facility, alongside other A320 Family Final Assembly Lines in Hamburg (Germany), Mobile (USA), and Tianjin (China), is integral to Airbus' goal of producing 75 A320 Family aircraft per month by 2026.

Airbus' emphasis on enhancing production capabilities aligns with the sustained demand for more fuel-efficient, quieter, and environmentally friendly single-aisle aircraft like the A321neo. As airlines worldwide seek to modernize their fleets with advanced and economically viable options, Airbus remains at the forefront of delivering innovative solutions to meet these evolving requirements. The successful delivery to Pegasus Airlines not only strengthens Airbus' position in the market but also underscores the ongoing global preference for the A321neo ■

ATR delivers first ATR 72-600 aircraft to Mandarin Airlines

ATR and Mandarin Airlines have announced the delivery of its first ATR 72-600 equipped with Pratt & Whitney PW127XT engines following the airline's order of six ATR 72-600 aircraft at the Paris Air Show in early 2023.

ATR and Mandarin Airlines have ushered in a new era in Taiwanese regional air travel with the delivery of its first ATR 72-600 equipped with Pratt & Whitney PW127XT engines. This significant event follows the airline's order of six ATR 72-600 aircraft at the Paris Air Show in early 2023, underscoring its commitment to providing efficient and low-emission air transport solutions. As Mandarin Airlines ushers in these new ATR 72-600 aircraft, it embarks on a promising future, connecting people, cultures, and economies across Taiwan and beyond. Passengers can anticipate enhanced travel experiences, seamless connectivity, and a responsible approach to air transportation. This delivery is a testament to the airline's commitment to sustainability and innovation in regional air travel.

The PW127XT engines on the ATR 72-600 bring about a remarkable 20% reduction in maintenance costs and at least 3% block fuel savings. These engines are setting new standards for fuel consumption, carbon emissions, NOx emissions, and operating economics in the realm of regional aviation. Aligned with Mandarin Airlines' dedication to low-emission air travel, the first leg of the aircraft's ferry flight from the ATR delivery center in Toulouse to Taipei will utilize a 30% Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) blend in the engines, which are already certified for up to 50% SAF operations.

With this latest addition, Mandarin Airlines, with its main base at Taipei Songshan Airport, cements its status as a key player in the Taiwanese market. Currently operating a fleet of nine ATR 72-600 aircraft, the airline serves a domestic network, providing essential connectivity to eight destinations, including the captivating islands of Kinmen, Magong, and Matsu. Moreover, Mandarin Airlines conducts regional flights to various destinations across Asia and China.

The introduction of the new batch of ATR 72-600 aircraft is not just about enhancing Mandarin Airlines' operational capabilities but also about adding capacity to existing routes. This move is poised to strengthen convenient services, stimulate economic growth, and promote tourism across Taiwan, all while delivering unparalleled passenger experiences ■

BOC Aviation to acquire six Airbus A320NEO jets for lease to Condor

BOC Aviation Limited to acquire four new Airbus A321NEO and two new Airbus A320NEO aircraft slated for long-term leases to Condor Flugdienst GmbH and are expected to be delivered in 2027 and 2028.

BOC Aviation Limited has finalized an agreement to acquire four new Airbus A321NEO and two new Airbus A320NEO aircraft from Airbus S.A.S. These aircraft are slated for long-term leases to Condor Flugdienst GmbH ("Condor") and are expected to be delivered in 2027 and 2028. Condor, as Germany's leading leisure airline, has been serving passengers since 1956, connecting major airports in Germany and Zurich in Switzerland to approximately 90 destinations across Europe, Africa, the Indian Ocean, North America, and the Caribbean. With a fleet of over 50 aircraft, Condor maintains its planes through its in-house maintenance operation, Condor Technik GmbH.

"We are delighted to be working with Condor once again, supporting its fleet growth and renewal with these six latest technology aircraft," said Steven Townend, Deputy Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer, BOC Aviation. "This transaction adds to our delivery pipeline of the world's most advanced aircraft models, which will enable our Company to continue on its path of long-term sustainable growth," he further added.

BOC Aviation, as a leading global aircraft operating leasing company, manages a fleet of 681 aircraft owned, managed, and on order. As of September 30, 2023, its owned and managed fleet was leased to 93 airlines in 44 countries and regions worldwide. This strategic agreement with Condor contributes to BOC Aviation's position as a key player in the aviation leasing industry, facilitating the continuous modernization of airline fleets and promoting sustainable growth in the aviation sector.

"The successful deal with BOC Aviation Limited is another important step to become the operator of one of the most modern and efficient fleets in Europe. The partnership is extremely important for us and we are grateful for the continuous support and trustful cooperation with our new partner", said Björn Walther, Chief Financial Officer, Condor.

The Airbus A321neo is a single-aisle airliner created by Airbus. The A321neo is developed from the Airbus A321 and Airbus A320neo family. It is the longest-stretched fuselage of Airbus's A320 series, and the newest version of the A321, with the original A321ceo entering service in 1994 with Lufthansa ■

India's Domestic carriers added 133 aircraft to its fleet in 2023

In the regulatory release on 4th January 2024, the DGCA disclosed that scheduled operators introduced 112 aircraft in 2023, a substantial uptick from the 81 aircraft added in 2022, reflecting a remarkable 38% increase.

In 2023, Indian domestic airlines witnessed a substantial surge in aircraft induction, marking a 51% annual increase with a total of 133 planes. This expansion, fueled by the airlines' efforts to meet the growing passenger demand, is indicative of a robust aviation sector. Among these additions, 21 aircraft were acquired through wet lease arrangements. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), recognizing the momentum in aircraft inductions, has affirmed its commitment to enhancing regulatory capacities to expedite approvals. This strategic move aligns with the anticipation of continued growth in aircraft induction throughout 2024.

In the regulatory release on 4th January 2024, the DGCA disclosed that scheduled operators introduced 112 aircraft in 2023, a substantial uptick from the 81 aircraft added in 2022, reflecting a remarkable 38% increase. When factoring in the 21 wet/damp lease aircraft, the total induction rose to 133, a significant 51% surge compared to the preceding year. This surge underscores a strategic capacity enhancement in response to the burgeoning aviation market.

The heightened induction of planes has yielded dual benefits: an expanded network coverage contributing to enhanced connectivity and, notably, lower fares during peak travel seasons. This development aligns with India's status as one of the world's fastest-growing civil aviation markets.

Air India and IndiGo, in a forward-looking move last year, collectively placed orders for 970 planes, indicating a sustained commitment to fleet expansion. As of December 31, 2023, the DGCA reported a total of 16 Air Operator Certificate (AOC) holders with endorsements for 771 aircraft, further underlining the vibrancy of the aviation sector.

Simultaneously, the DGCA's proactive surveillance activities throughout 2023, totaling 5,745, underscore a commitment to safety and compliance. These activities encompassed 4,039 planned surveillance initiatives, 1,706 spot checks, and night surveillance. The outcomes of these efforts translated into 542 enforcement actions, emphasizing the regulator's dedication to upholding standards.

This surge in aircraft inductions not only reflects the robust growth of the Indian aviation sector but also holds promising implications for the Indian Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) market. As airlines expand their fleets, the demand for MRO services is expected to rise, presenting opportunities for the development and growth of this crucial sector in the aviation industry. The simultaneous focus on regulatory enhancements positions India's aviation sector for sustained and efficient growth in the coming years ■

Changing dynamics of aircraft inspection technology

Technology coupled with innovation can work wonders for various aircraft maintenance operations. As engineering technics seamlessly blend with digital technology a newer, more efficient, innovative and easy-to-use product emerges saving useful man-hours as well as cost. Recognising this, 8tree's inspection engines are set to join hands with Avinxt's automatic robots.

As the inspection engines seamlessly merge with automatic robotic system, a product that is faster, more environmentally friendly and more cost-effective than traditional methods will emerge. The product is expected to be a game-changer in the aircraft inspection industry.

Features of the new technology

• The Avinxt automation cell offers an extremely high level of automation. The robot has an automatic tool change for aircraft washing, de-icing and inspecting.

• Operatable at night.

• The robot uses 3D models (digital twins).

• The robot always keeps a safety distance to protect the aircraft.

• The product is designed to provide unparalleled speed and efficiency when it comes to aircraft inspections. With the use of robots carrying inspection cameras, there is no need for rigging of safety equipment, which greatly reduces downtime and increases aircraft operational availability.

• The inspection product provides fast and accurate inspection results, helping to streamline the inspection process and reduce the time required for maintenance checks.

• By eliminating the need for rigging and other time-consuming preparation, the product can significantly reduce aircraft downtime, allowing for faster return to service.

Avinxt claims that their state-of-the-art robots are equipped with high-quality inspection cameras, allowing them to provide detailed and accurate assessments of aircraft components and structures. The entire inspection process becomes highly efficient, precise, and non-invasive, minimizing downtime and maximizing aircraft availability.

While explaining the working of 8tree integration with Avinxt robotics technology, Avinxt asserts that the technology can provide real-time analysis of inspection data, allowing for immediate identification of any areas of concern. This further leads to quick decision-making and helps to minimize downtime, ensuring that your aircraft can get back in the air as soon as possible.

When asked about how is this technology different from the others in the race, 8tree's Leonard Buck says: "When talking about automation, drones are the industry buzzword-

number one currently. At 8tree we keep our eyes open for other technologies as well. The Avinxt robotic automation cell is a beautiful example of an automation vision of the future without drones."

"The Avinxt vision is unique because it combines many different use-cases in one automation cell, leveraging ROI calculations and minimizing aircraft down-times," Buck adds.

Excited to work with Avinxt on this novel robotics inspection platform, chief executive and chief technical officer, 8tree, Erik Klaas adds: "Never before was it possible to automate aircraft inspection to this degree. We see a big potential not only in the case of hail damage assessment on the entire aircraft but also in cases where the aircraft changes ownership. This has always been an area with lots of debate which now can be resolved with an objective and quick process."

Uses

The automatic robotics system can be used for

- De-icing
- Washing and engine wash

The robot will be built and its debut operations will be conducted at Avinor Oslo Airport (OSL).

The robot, which replaces the current manual and time-consuming processes, is faster, more environmentally friendly and more cost-effective than traditional methods.

"By integrating 8tree's technology with our robotics system, we can scan aircraft for damage. The system performs aircraft surface inspections with extreme precision within a few hours, compared to manual processes that take several weeks," adds Ove Troen, chief executive, Avinxt. "We believe this service will be in high demand from airlines and leasing companies as it will significantly reduce costs."

With this partnership, 8tree and Avinxt aims to provide real-time analysis of inspection data, allowing for immediate identification of any areas of concern. This feature allows for quick decision-making and helps to minimize down-time, ensuring that your aircraft can get back in the air as soon as possible.

While talking to industry contacts and potential customers, the 8tree founding partners Erik Klaas and Arun Chhabra learned early on that traditional dent-mapping is highly time-consuming and error-prone. This learning curve was the birth of the dentCHECK vision that is the reality today – '1-click 3D dent-mapping' that unleashes up to 90% time-saving while delivering 25x more consistent measurement results.

8tree's 3D inspection engines can be found in the hands of human operators, mounted on drones, and integrated into robotic automation cells. The dentCHECK platform is the world's only handheld-portable, completely wireless 3D scanner tool with integrated AR that is purpose-built for the aviation maintenance industry and recognized by all major aerospace OEMs.

By leveraging the expertise of both companies, the new technology will be able to offer a highly efficient and effective inspection solution that can rapidly detect and assess damage on aircraft surfaces ■

SMBC Aviation Capital placed an order for sixty A320neo Family aircraft

SMBC Aviation Capital has made a further order for 60 A320neo Family aircraft, the overall number of aircraft ordered by the type to around 340 aircraft purchased directly from Airbus.

SMBC Aviation Capital will have a steady supply stream well into the next ten years on top of its current orders for the A320neo Family, this new order reinforces the long-standing strategic cooperation between Airbus and SMBC Aviation Capital on the A320neo Family programme.

Peter Barrett, CEO of SMBC Aviation Capital, said, "This transaction is further testament of sustained global demand for technologically advanced, fuel-efficient aircraft, and comes amidst the continuing strong recovery in air travel worldwide. With sustainability and operational efficiency remaining key priorities for our customers, we anticipate even greater demand for aircraft such as the A320neo and the A321neo in the years ahead. We look forward to strengthening our valued partnership with Airbus as we help our customers navigate these priorities."

Due to its unmatched seat mile cost, the A320neo Family allows airlines to expand their networks by using wide-body cabin items on new, longer-haul routes that were previously impractical with a single-aisle aircraft.

Christian Scherer, Chief Commercial Officer and Head of Airbus International, said, "SMBC Aviation Capital's latest decision to reinvest for the long term in the A320neo Family shows a great confidence and commitment to what is, and is continuing to be, the most successful aircraft programme ever. As one of the world's leading aircraft lessors, SMBC Aviation Capital is committing to its sustainable aviation roadmap through the world's most efficient single aisle products. We very much appreciate our working relationship with SMBC and thank them sincerely for their continued confidence."

The A320neo family of vehicles features cutting-edge technologies such as new generation engines, cabin efficiency enablers, and Sharklets, which when combined result in 20% fuel savings. The A320neo Family is the most popular aircraft in the world, having received over 9,700 orders from over 130 clients since its inception in 2010 ■

AGREEMENT

SIA Engineering Company signs MoU for hangar facility in Malaysia

The signing of this contract is a major accomplishment for SIAEC since it creates its third base maintenance hub in the Asia-Pacific area.

SIA Engineering Company Limited announced Memorandum of Understanding to potentially lease two hangars at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport, Selangor, Malaysia, from Impeccable Vintage Properties Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Malaysia's sovereign wealth fund Khazanah Nasional Berhad.

The signing of this contract is a major accomplishment for SIAEC since it creates its third base maintenance hub in the Asia-Pacific area. With the construction of the Subang Hangars, which can each hold two wide-body aircraft, SIAEC will be better equipped to provide complete maintenance, repair, and overhaul services for both current and next-generation aircraft to its growing list of airline clients.

Mr Chin Yau Seng, Chief Executive Officer of SIAEC said, "We believe that our investment in the Subang hangars complements our component and line maintenance joint ventures in Malaysia, allowing us to augment our extensive MRO offerings to our customers globally. With the expansion of our MRO network, this will further solidify our position as a leading provider of MRO services."

Mr Fuad Sharuji, Chief Executive Officer of IVP said, "With a proven track record in MRO business, SIAEC's establishment in Subang, Malaysia, will further bolster the thriving growth of Malaysia's aerospace industry in support of the Government of Malaysia's aspirations to position Malaysia as a leading aerospace hub in Southeast Asia and also in line with the Selangor Aerospace Action Plan 2020-2030, Malaysian Aerospace Industry Blueprint 2030 and 12th Malaysia Plan. The lease of the two wide-body hangars to SIAEC will further serve to benefit the local MRO industry and contribute to the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) program of the local aviation institutions."

Datuk Wira Arham Abdul Rahman, Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Investment Development Authority, said, "The formalisation of this lease agreement between SIAEC and IVP underscores a robust commitment from a prominent global aerospace MRO company like SIAEC to establish roots in Malaysia. It stands as a testament to the nation's competitive edge in the aerospace ecosystem. SIAEC's reputation in delivering comprehensive MRO solutions will contribute to bolstering Malaysia's aerospace sector, establishing the nation as an ideal investment hub for aerospace companies seeking expansion within ASEAN and beyond."

For the fiscal year that ends on March 31, 2024, the SIAEC Group's net tangible assets per share and earnings per share are not anticipated to be materially impacted by the transaction ■

Hi Fly expands its Airbus A330-200s Fleet

Hi Fly, a well-known jet leasing expert and global charter airline, adds two new Airbus A330-200 aircraft to its fleet registered as 9H-HFJ and 9H-HFK,accommodating 269 passengers.

Hi Fly, a well-known jet leasing expert and global charter airline, adds two new Airbus A330-200 aircraft to its fleet. These up-to-date and dependable acquisitions, registered as 9H-HFJ and 9H-HFK, will bolster the company's standing as an airline's first choice when they want extra capacity. Both A330-200 aeroplanes have the same features and can accommodate 269 passengers in luxurious seats. With 18 roomy Business Class seats and 251 Economy Class seats, the cabin configuration is intended to accommodate a wide variety of travellers.

A comfortable journey is guaranteed with the Business Class double seat, which has a flat bed that reclines and plenty of 78 inches of legroom. Seatpans, legrests, headrests, and backrests can all be motorizedly adjusted in this class. With five electrically controlled zones, each with two motors, it features lumbar control, a lap safety belt, mechanical and electrical adjustability, and electrical massage. As long as there is room, guests in Economy Class can also enjoy a comfortable 32-inch pitch.

Antonios Efthymiou, CEO of Hi Fly, said,"We are delighted to add these two new Airbus A330-200 to our existing fleet. They are the perfect complement to our portfolio and will allow us to offer an even wider range of options to meet the growing demand for our services from around the world."

The A330-200 series, which has a maximum range of 15,500 km, is renowned for its dependability and 99.4% operational efficiency. For airlines trying to cut expenses and enhance their environmental performance, this makes it a great option. Following the pandemic, Fly started up its expansion again, and as of right now, it is scheduled to continue adding new planes at this rate through the end of 2024 ■

CDB Aviation to deliver Two Airbus A330-300 jets on lease to Thai Airways

Scheduled for delivery in September and October 2024, the two CDB Aviation Airbus A330-300s are poised to augment Thai Airways' capabilities, particularly in key intra-Asian markets.

CDB Aviation, a prominent Irish subsidiary of China Development Bank Financial Leasing, has recently concluded a significant lease agreement for two Airbus A330-300 widebody aircraft with Thai Airways, Thailand's national airline. The agreement, which comes amid a surge in demand for aircraft, particularly in response to heightened travel requirements, highlights the pivotal role that leasing companies like CDB Aviation play in supporting airlines' fleet needs. Scheduled for delivery in September and October 2024, these Airbus A330-300s are poised to augment Thai Airways' capabilities, particularly in key intra-Asian markets. As global travel demand experiences a notable uptick, airlines are seeking flexible and efficient solutions to meet these requirements, and leasing agreements offer a strategic avenue for such expansion.

This leasing arrangement underscores the ongoing challenges and opportunities in the aviation industry. The demand for both new and used aircraft is surging, with airlines striving to adapt to the evolving dynamics of passenger volumes and seasonal variations. In this context, leasing companies like CDB Aviation are playing a crucial role in comprehending and addressing the diverse needs of their airline partners.

Jie Chen, Chief Executive Officer, CDB Aviation said, "We are delighted to be welcoming Thai Airways to our growing Asian Pacific customer base. The increased widebody fleet will strengthen the carrier's position across its key intra-Asian markets, providing the extra capacity needed to meet the high season and rising travel demand in many regions. We're continuing to see the heightened demand from airlines amidst a tight supply of new and used aircraft, driven primarily by the need to meet growing passenger volumes. Our commercial team remains focused on comprehending and fulfilling the diverse needs of our customers, assisting them in addressing both immediate and longer-term fleet challenges that necessitate resolution," he further added.

The aircraft delivery timeline aligns strategically with the anticipated rise in travel demand during the latter part of 2024. Airlines worldwide are grappling with the need for additional capacity to manage peak seasons, and leasing agreements for used aircraft provide a viable solution. This approach allows carriers to optimize their fleet composition by incorporating suitable aircraft types precisely when needed.

CDB Aviation, with its solid financial backing and an investment-grade rating from Moody's, S&P Global, and Fitch, is well-positioned to facilitate such leasing transactions. The company's commitment to understanding the unique requirements of its customers and offering solutions for immediate and long-term fleet challenges is evident in this agreement with Thai Airways.

As the aviation industry navigates the complexities of recovery and growth, leasing arrangements for used aircraft have become a valuable tool for airlines. The flexibility provided by leasing allows carriers to adapt their fleets dynamically, responding to changing market conditions and ensuring an efficient match between capacity and demand.

In conclusion, CDB Aviation's lease agreement with Thai Airways marks not just a transaction but a strategic collaboration. It highlights the symbiotic relationship between lessors and airlines, with leasing companies playing a pivotal role in facilitating fleet expansion, addressing seasonal demands, and contributing to the overall resilience of the aviation ecosystem ■

NAC to lease three ATR 72-600 aircraft to Air Serbia

Nordic Aviation Capital has leased three ATR72-600 aircraft to Air Serbia significantly contributing to a diverse network of over 80 destinations, spanning Europe, the Mediterranean, North America, Asia, and Africa.

Nordic Aviation Capital (NAC), a prominent aircraft leasing company, has solidified its collaboration with Air Serbia through a lease agreement for three ATR72-600s. This strategic move underscores NAC's commitment to supporting the operational growth and efficiency of Air Serbia, the flagship carrier headquartered in Belgrade. The lease agreement is poised to significantly contribute to Air Serbia's operational capacity and route flexibility. As a vital player in the European aviation landscape, Air Serbia serves a diverse network of over 80 destinations, spanning Europe, the Mediterranean, North America, Asia, and Africa. The addition of ATR72-600s to its fleet aligns with the airline's mission to enhance connectivity and offer seamless travel experiences across a broad range of regions.

The ATR72-600, a twin-engine turboprop aircraft, is celebrated for its fuel efficiency, versatility, and suitability for regional and short-haul routes. The aircraft's modern design and advanced technology contribute to operational reliability and passenger comfort, making it a preferred choice for airlines aiming to optimize their regional networks.

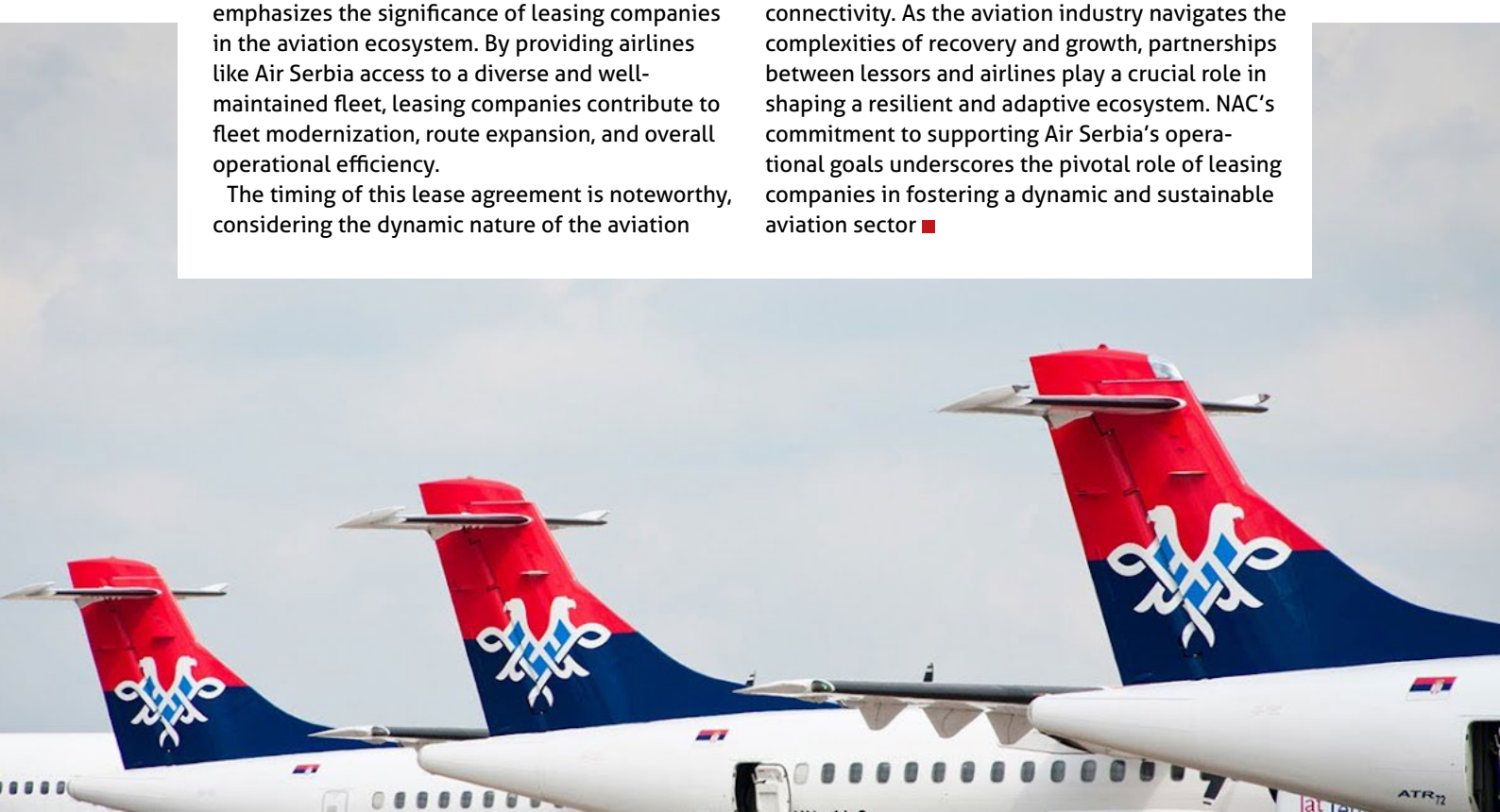
NAC's role in facilitating this lease agreement emphasizes the significance of leasing companies in the aviation ecosystem. By providing airlines like Air Serbia access to a diverse and well-maintained fleet, leasing companies contribute to fleet modernization, route expansion, and overall operational efficiency.

The timing of this lease agreement is noteworthy, considering the dynamic nature of the aviation industry's recovery post-pandemic. Airlines are strategically evaluating their fleet composition to align with evolving travel demands, and leasing arrangements offer a flexible and pragmatic solution. For Air Serbia, this partnership with NAC enables the airline to introduce the ATR72-600s seamlessly into its operations, responding effectively to changing market dynamics.

This collaboration reflects NAC's understanding of the unique needs of its airline partners and its commitment to providing tailored solutions. As an industry-leading lessor, NAC's global presence and extensive portfolio of regional and narrow-body aircraft position it as a key enabler of fleet strategies for airlines worldwide.

Air Serbia's decision to lease ATR72-600s signifies a focus on operational efficiency, environmental sustainability, and an enhanced passenger experience. The ATR72-600's fuel-efficient engines and reduced environmental footprint align with the broader industry trend toward more sustainable aviation practices.

In conclusion, the lease agreement between NAC and Air Serbia is not merely a transaction; it symbolizes a collaborative effort to elevate regional air connectivity. As the aviation industry navigates the complexities of recovery and growth, partnerships between lessors and airlines play a crucial role in shaping a resilient and adaptive ecosystem. NAC's commitment to supporting Air Serbia's operational goals underscores the pivotal role of leasing companies in fostering a dynamic and sustainable aviation sector ■



Navigating the Green Skies with Sustainability in Aviation MRO

The MRO segment, traditionally seen as the behind-the-scenes hero ensuring aircraft safety and efficiency, is now becoming a vital player in the industry's sustainability narrative.

The aviation industry is soaring towards a greener future, and at the center of this transformation lies Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO). As concerns about climate change intensify and environmental consciousness becomes a driving force across sectors, aviation is under increasing pressure to minimize its ecological footprint. The MRO segment, traditionally seen as the behind-the-scenes hero ensuring aircraft safety and efficiency, is now becoming a vital player in the industry's sustainability narrative.

Challenges in Aviation Sustainability

Aviation is a significant contributor to carbon emissions, accounting for approximately 2-3% of the global total. While the aviation sector has made strides in enhancing fuel efficiency and exploring alternative fuels for flight operations, the MRO sector is emerging as a pivotal area for sustainable innovation. Several challenges stand in the way of achieving a more sustainable MRO sector.

1. Waste Management: MRO operations generate substantial waste, including hazardous materials like oils, solvents, and heavy metals. Ensuring responsible waste management and recycling practices is a primary concern.

2. Energy Consumption: The energy-intensive nature of MRO activities, such as painting, welding, and testing, demands a shift towards cleaner energy sources to reduce the carbon footprint.

3. Supply Chain Sustainability: Sustainable MRO extends beyond the hangar. It involves fostering eco-friendly practices throughout the supply chain, from sourcing components to disposal.

Cleaner Skies: Sustainable Practices in MRO

1.Green Hangars: – Solar Energy Integration: MRO facilities are increasingly turning to solar power to meet their energy needs. Solar panels on hangar roofs not only generate clean energy but also contribute to cost savings over time.

– Energy-Efficient Infrastructure: Modernizing MRO infrastructure with energy-efficient technologies, such as LED lighting and smart systems, reduces overall energy consumption.

2.Waste Reduction and Recycling:

– Circular Economy Initiatives: Implementing circular economy principles involves reusing and recycling materials. Components that can be refurbished are given a new lease on life, reducing the demand for new manufacturing.

3.Eco-Friendly Materials:

– Sustainable Aviation Parts: MRO pro-

viders are exploring the use of sustainable materials for aircraft components. This includes lightweight, durable, and recyclable materials that contribute to fuel efficiency.

4.Digitization and Data-Driven Efficiency: – Predictive Maintenance: By leveraging advanced analytics and artificial intelligence, MRO providers can move from reactive to predictive maintenance. This not only improves safety and efficiency but also reduces unnecessary maintenance cycles, saving resources.

5.Biofuels in Aviation: – Alternative Fuels: MRO providers play a crucial role in the integration of biofuels. These sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs) significantly reduce the carbon footprint of flights. MRO facilities need to adapt to handle aircraft running on these alternative fuels.

Sustainable Aviation Success Stories: Leading the Change

1. Lufthansa Technik:- Recycling Innovation: Lufthansa Technik has been at the forefront of sustainable MRO. Their recycling innovation involves turning waste materials, like old aircraft trolleys, into new tools or components.

2.Rolls-Royce: – Circular Economy Approach: Rolls-Royce has embraced a circular economy approach in its MRO operations. This involves extending the lifespan of components through repairs and refurbishments.

3.Boeing Global Services: – Renewable Energy: Boeing Global Services is investing in renewable energy sources for its MRO activities. Solar and wind projects are becoming integral parts of their strategy to reduce environmental impact.

While strides are being made, challenges persist. The aviation industry, including MRO, requires significant investment in research and development for sustainable technologies. Additionally, regulatory frameworks need to evolve to incentivize and mandate sustainable practices.

The future trajectory of sustainable MRO involves a multi-faceted approach. Integration of innovative technologies, collaboration across the industry, and a commitment to environmental responsibility will define the success of sustainable practices in aviation MRO.

Sustainability in aviation MRO is not just an environmental necessity; it's a strategic imperative. As the industry charts its course towards a more sustainable future, MRO providers will play a pivotal role. The commitment to sustainability is not just a responsibility but a unique opportunity to reshape the aviation landscape, ensuring that the skies remain both blue and sustainable for generations to come ■

Jet Aviation joins World Fuel Services for SAF supply

Jet Aviation and World Fuel Services have struck an agreement for Jet Aviation to procure and provide Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) on-site at its FBOs in Bozeman, Montana, and Scottsdale, Arizona.

World Fuel Services has sold Jet Aviation a long-term supply of Sustainable Aviation Fuel for uplift at its FBOs in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Bozeman, Montana as per the agreement. Moreover, the business offers SAF at Jet Aviation's FBO in Van Nuys, California. SAF is a Jet A/A-1 fuel that is completely compatible and has all the same features and requirements as regular jet fuel.

Richard Layson, Vice President Regional FBO Operations said, "I am delighted to be able to offer customers travelling to Bozeman, Scottsdale, and Van Nuys the choice to fuel with SAF on-site. As two of the newest additions to our FBO network, Bozeman and Scottsdale represent our continued efforts to offer our customers a range of services. We will continue to partner to increase SAF access and availability across our network in areas where our supplies are easily accessible."

Since 2019, Jet Aviation has provided SAF at Van Nuys as a component of a blended fuel supply. Customers will now be able to buy from a dedicated SAF inventory at the California site, as well as in-person in Bozeman and Scottsdale, thanks to this collaboration.

David Best, vice president regional operations and general manager Americas said, "Jet Aviation is committed to supporting sustainable aviation and contributing towards our industry's efforts to reduce carbon emissions. We all have a role to play in this global effort and collaboration is key to success. We are very excited to partner with World Fuel Services to bring even more sustainable choices to our US customers."

Additionally, Jet Aviation provides physical SAF on-site at FBO facilities in Singapore and Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Through its global Book and Claim service, the firm has been providing clients with the option to receive the benefits of SAF in regions where there isn't currently a physical supply since 2021.

Brad Hurwitz, senior vice president, fuel supply & trading at World Fuel Services said, "We are proud to partner with Jet Aviation in enabling increased access to SAF supply across their FBO network. Through actions such as these, we are collectively showing the power of collaboration in helping achieve the aviation industry's 2050 net zero goals. At World Fuel Services, we are focused on broadening the availability of lower carbon alternatives and we see SAF as a key enabler for taking immediate action to support the decarbonization of air travel."

Jet Aviation, a fully owned subsidiary of General Dynamics, employs over 4,000 people across 50 locations globally. Aircraft management, sales, charter, completions, defence, FBO, maintenance, and staffing are among the services provided by Jet Aviation ■

Avion Express integrates ETL System on full fleet

Avion Express has integrated an ETL system across its fleet positioning itself as the first airline in Lithuania to entirely replace traditional paper logbooks with a cutting-edge electronic system.

Avion Express, the world's largest narrow-body aircraft ACMI (Aircraft, Crew, Maintenance, and Insurance) operator, has taken a significant leap into the future of aviation by successfully integrating an Electronic Technical Log (ETL) system across its fleet. This noteworthy development positions Avion Express as the first airline in Lithuania to entirely replace traditional paper logbooks with a cutting-edge electronic system, reflecting the company's commitment to innovation, efficiency, and sustainability.

The decision to adopt the ETL system was made strategically by Avion Express's board of directors, with a unanimous choice based on the recommendation of the search committee. The move aligns with rigorous standards for CEO appointments in government-owned entities and is currently pending approval from the appointments committee, the Minister of Defense, and the Regional Cooperation Minister responsible for government companies.

"This step aligns with our commitment to innovative decisions within the aviation industry, proving to be timely and offering clear value. At Avion Express, we believe that digitalizing is the path to the aviation future, primarily working for the safety of our passengers and the effectiveness of the airline. We constantly search for the most modern solutions in every step of our work. It is pivotal to analyze data, compare it, and make decisions based on it. Analyzing and comparing data and making informed decisions is crucial. With the introduction of the electronic logbook system, we now have all the digital data, which enables us to track and improve our and our customers' Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) more effectively. This also allows us to assess the overall performance of the fleet, the performance of the maintenance provider, etc," said Aistis Urbonas, VP of Technical, Avion Express.

One of the key advantages of the electronic system is its ability to centralize data visibility. This ensures that a wealth of information is readily available in one place, promoting faster and more efficient execution of various tasks. Most importantly, the system allows for comprehensive data analysis, a crucial aspect for Avion Express's operations and for delivering high-quality service to ACMI customers.

In addition to its analytical capabilities, the ETL system eliminates the time-consuming process of handling and sending paper documents. This reduction in administrative overhead is particularly significant as Avion Express's fleet expands, with a notable increase from 39 aircraft at the beginning of the year to 54 by the end, and an anticipated growth to 39 in 2022. The automation and simplification of tasks that previously required manual effort not only enhance operational efficiency but also allow skilled professionals to focus their time and expertise where it is most impactful.

The successful integration of the Electronic Technical Log system involved comprehensive training sessions for all users, including pilots, cabin crew, engineers, and base operators. Avion Express recognizes the challenges associated with adapting to a new system and is actively supporting its team in embracing and benefiting from this technological advancement.

Avion Express, as part of the Avia Solutions Group family, holds a prominent position as the world's largest narrow-body aircraft ACMI operator with a fleet of 199 aircraft. This strategic move towards digitalization positions the company at the forefront of innovation in the aviation industry, setting a precedent in Lithuania's aviation landscape.

In conclusion, the adoption of the Electronic Technical Log system by Avion Express marks a significant milestone in the company's pursuit of excellence. It underlines their commitment to advancing aviation practices, ensuring passenger safety, and maintaining operational efficiency. As Avion Express pioneers this digital transformation, it not only enhances its global standing but also contributes to the broader industry's trajectory towards a more sustainable and technologically advanced future ■

Leonardo delivers first C-27J Spartan jet to Slovenia

Slovenia's choice of the Leonardo C-27J completely satisfies a range of operational requirements concerning projection capabilities and transport in international missions.

Leonardo has successfully delivered the first of two C-27J Next Generation aircraft to the Slovenian Ministry of Defence was in accordance with Italy-Slovenia Government-to-Government (G2G) Agreement. The aircraft is outfitted with cutting-edge avionics, including a glass cockpit featuring five multifunctional colour screens, a satellite system, communication systems, a radar for tactical transport missions, ballistic protection, and winglets that enhance its aerodynamic efficiency.

Over the past two years, Leonardo and the Air Armaments and Airworthiness Directorate of the Secretariat General of Defence / National Armaments Directorate have signed two contracts under the framework of the G2G Agreement between the two countries. Each contract includes one aircraft in addition to logistics and training services. The Slovenian Ministry of Defence's choice of the C-27J completely satisfies a range of operational requirements with regard to projection capabilities and transport in international missions. This is on top of helping the country's community with firefighting, rescue, and disaster relief efforts. The Slovenian programme plans to utilise the C-27J in its upgraded firefighting configuration, furnished with the most recent United Aeronautical Corporation palletized firefighting equipment, the MAFFS II (Modular Airborne Fire-Fighting equipment).

Interoperability with other higher category transport aircraft is one of the many cost-effective solutions for all tactical operational requirements stated by the market that the C-27J Next Generation's system architecture guarantees. The aircraft's modular architecture satisfies operator requirements by enabling integration with ballistic protection, self-defence, in-flight refuelling, secure communications, and other equipment to operate in high-threat settings while delivering people, light vehicles, and supplies. Because of the platform's adaptability, the C-27J may really be quickly modified using kits and roll-on/roll-off mission systems to the configuration required to carry out defence and civil protection tasks, in accordance with the demands of the expanding market.

Leonardo's Spartan is able to perform with maximum effectiveness and cost competitiveness military transport missions, airdrop of paratroopers and materials, tactical support to ground forces, special forces operations, Maritime Patrol (MP), Command-Control-Communications (C3), Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconaissance (ISR), and support for populations affected by environmental disasters. Over 90 units have been ordered to operate in the most difficult geographical, environmental, and operational contexts. As a result, Leonardo's Spartan continues to grow in capacity and performance ■

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Diamond Aircraft completes order for four Diamond DA62 MPP aircraft with the Nigerian Air Force

Equipped with cutting-edge electro-optical systems, and the latest in tracking and sensor technology, the Diamond AircraftDA62 MPP is a cost-effective, powerful, and versatile airborne platform for the Nigerian Air Force.

Diamond Aircraft has achieved a significant milestone by delivering four DA62 MPP Special Mission Aircraft to the Nigerian Air Force (NAF). The official acceptance ceremony, held at the 303 Medium Airlift Group's base in Ilorin, Kwara State, marked the completion of a procurement process initiated approximately two years ago. As the DA62 MPP takes its place in the Nigerian Air Force's operations, it symbolizes a step forward in leveraging cutting-edge technology for national security, reinforcing Nigeria's position as a regional leader in adopting advanced airborne solutions for defense and surveillance.

The delivery of the final two DA62 MPP aircraft, complementing the first two delivered earlier in the year, was celebrated during a reception ceremony attended by high-ranking officials. Equipped with cutting-edge electro-optical systems, these aircraft showcase the latest in tracking and sensor

technology, establishing the DA62 MPP as a cost-effective, powerful, and versatile airborne platform in its class. This enhancement significantly contributes to the NAF's operational efficiency.

David Fasching, Sales Manager of Special Mission Aircraft Division in Africa, Diamond Aircraft Austria said, "Diamond Aircraft is honored to contribute to the Nigerian Air Force's capabilities with the delivery of the DA62 MPP Special Mission Aircraft. This successful collaboration reflects our commitment to providing cutting-edge solutions for surveillance missions in Africa. We are confident that the DA62 MPP's advanced features will significantly enhance the NAF's operational effectiveness."

This milestone delivery reinforces Diamond Aircraft's commitment to advancing aerial capabilities for military and surveillance purposes. The DA62 MPP's integration into the Nigerian Air Force's fleet signifies a strategic investment in modern, versatile, and technologically sophisticated platforms, emphasizing Nigeria's commitment to enhancing its security infrastructure.

Shakiru Olayinka, Sales Representative Nigeria Diamond Aircraft said, "As the sales representative for Diamond´s Special Mission Aircraft Solutions in Nigeria, I am proud to witness the successful delivery of the DA62 MPP Special Mission Aircraft to the Nigerian Air Force. This milestone reflects our dedication to providing the NAF with top-tier solutions for their evolving operational needs. We are excited about the positive impact these aircraft will have on Nigeria's security efforts."

The successful collaboration between Diamond Aircraft and the Nigerian Air Force reflects a synergy aimed at addressing contemporary security challenges through innovative aerial solutions. The DA62 MPP, with its state-of-the-art features, is poised to play a pivotal role in surveillance missions, reaffirming Diamond Aircraft's position as a key contributor to Africa's aerospace advancements ■

RTX secures a U.S. Navy $80 million contract for ADVEW on the Super Hornet jet

Raytheon has received an $80 million contract from The U.S Navy for a prototype ADVEW system for the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet replacing the existing AN/ALQ-214 countermeasure and AN/ALR-67(V)3 radar with a consolidated solution.

Raytheon, an RTX Business, has been awarded by The United States Navy an $80 million contract for the development of a prototype Advanced Electronic Warfare (ADVEW) system for the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet. This prototype aims to replace the existing AN/ALQ-214 integrated defensive electronic countermeasure and AN/ALR-67(V)3 radar warning receiver with a consolidated solution, delivering advanced electronic warfare capabilities to the Navy's carrier air wing. With its focus on replacing legacy systems and delivering a comprehensive solution, Raytheon's ADVEW prototype represents a strategic investment in ensuring the long-term effectiveness and survivability of the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet, a vital component of the Navy's carrier air wing.

Raytheon's Advanced Electronic Warfare offering is designed to provide substantial performance upgrades by modernizing existing electronic warfare systems into fewer components and incorporating government-defined open architecture. The development of this new solution will closely integrate with other combat-proven radio frequency sensors and effectors employed by the Super Hornet, ensuring F/A-18E/Fs maintain their operational electronic warfare advantage while significantly improving survivability against advanced and complex threats.

Bryan Rosselli, President of Advanced Products & Solutions, Raytheon said, "We are completely replacing and consolidating the legacy systems into a one-box solution that will deliver a generational refresh to the electronic warfare capability for the lifetime of the Super Hornet."

The development and testing of ADVEW will primarily take place in Goleta, California. The prototype phase includes preliminary design review, critical design review, and flight testing over a 36-month period. This initiative represents a crucial step toward the next generation of electronic warfare capabilities, addressing the evolving threat landscape and enhancing the Super Hornet's ability to operate in complex and contested environments.

Raytheon's ADVEW project aligns with the broader trend in defense technology toward integrated, versatile, and adaptable solutions. The consolidation of electronic warfare systems into a unified platform not only enhances performance but also simplifies maintenance and streamlines logistics for the Navy.

As electronic warfare continues to play a critical role in modern military operations, the development of ADVEW signifies a commitment to maintaining and advancing the electronic warfare capabilities of key naval assets. The contract with the U.S. Navy underscores Raytheon's position as a leader in providing innovative solutions to address the evolving challenges faced by military forces ■

Aero to support Bulgarian Air Force's L-39 Albatros fleet modernization

This strategic agreement encompasses the comprehensive MRO and partial modernization of the Bulgarian Air Force's L-39 Albatros aircraft, with the contractual framework, established in November 2022, extending over four years.

Aero Vodochody, a stalwart in the Czech Republic's aviation landscape and one of the world's oldest aircraft manufacturers, has recently inked a significant contract with the Ministry of Defense of Bulgaria. This strategic agreement encompasses the comprehensive overhaul and partial modernization of L-39 Albatros aircraft, marking a continued collaboration between Aero and the Bulgarian Air Force. The contractual framework, established in November 2022, extends over four years, reflecting a commitment to sustained partnership and shared objectives.

The contract outlines the meticulous overhaul of two L-39ZA aircraft, including the simultaneous refurbishment of their respective engines. A key collaborator in this venture is LOM Praha, a strategic partner entrusted with the repair of AI-25TL engines. This multifaceted approach to aircraft maintenance and modernization is slated to commence in January 2024 at the Vodochod factory. Following the completion of extensive work, the aircraft will autonomously journey back to Bulgaria, emphasizing the efficiency and reliability of the refurbished machines.

"I am pleased to continue the successful cooperation with the Bulgarian Air Force. We systematically work to strengthen and develop relationships with current users of our aircraft. Bulgaria has joined the customers with whom Aero has been cooperating for a long time. We are now following up with a second contract for the repair of Bulgarian L-39ZA aircraft," said Filip Kulštrunk, vice president for business, Aero Vodochody.

The scope of the contract is not limited to routine maintenance; it extends to a partial modernization phase. This involves the replacement of the original Russian avionics with state-of-the-art Western systems. Navigation, communication, identification, and recording equipment are all earmarked for modernization, aligning the aircraft with contemporary technological standards.

The comprehensive nature of the overhaul aims to restore the aircraft's maintenance interval to an impressive 7.5 years or 1,500 flight hours, ensuring prolonged operational effectiveness. This commitment to excellence reflects Aero Vodochody's dedication to delivering high-quality, reliable aircraft solutions to its clients.

The historical significance of the L-39 Albatros aircraft cannot be overstated. With over 2,900 units produced by Aero, this model stands as the most successful trainer jet in history. While initially designed for training purposes, the adaptability of the Albatros has seen its deployment in various capacities, including reconnaissance missions and border protection, in numerous countries around the world.

Looking towards the future, Aero Vodochody envisions the transition from the venerable L-39 Albatros to the advanced L-39NG platform. This next-generation aircraft integrates modern avionics systems, an efficient jet engine, and exceptional flight characteristics. The L-39NG platform is designed to accommodate both western and eastern configurations, providing flexibility to meet the diverse needs of military training for the Air Force. Beyond training, it offers capabilities for light combat and reconnaissance missions, expanding its role in modern air operations.

As the largest aircraft manufacturer in the Czech Republic, Aero Vodochody has played a pivotal role in shaping the global aviation landscape. With a century of experience and a legacy of producing 11,000 aircraft, the company maintains a strong position in the market for military training and light combat aircraft. The success of the L-39 Albatros and the promising trajectory of the L-39NG affirm Aero's leadership in the world market for jet training aircraft.

In the realm of civil aviation, Aero's collaboration with major aircraft manufacturers underscores its versatility and adaptability. Participation in risk-sharing programs further demonstrates Aero's commitment to advancing aviation technology, contributing not only to the production and assembly of aircraft units but also to their ongoing development.

In summary, Aero Vodochody's recent contract with the Ministry of Defense of Bulgaria signifies not just a routine maintenance agreement but a testament to a century-long legacy of excellence in aviation. The company's dedication to innovation, coupled with its commitment to fostering enduring partnerships, positions Aero as a global leader in the dynamic and ever-evolving aviation industry ■

AAR and Ontic sign a new multi-year agreement for military distribution

AAR CORP has signed a new multi-year agreement with Ontic allowing distribution rights to supply a strategic selection of military products to the U.S. government, with exclusivity on specific parts.

AAR CORP. is a leading provider of aviation services to commercial and government operators, MROs, and OEMs, has signed a new multi-year agreement with Ontic giving distribution rights to supply a strategic selection of military products to the U.S. government, with exclusivity on specific parts.

Terry Streb, General Manager of Ontic's Chatsworth facility said, "Ontic is pleased to deepen our partnership with AAR through this new agreement. AAR's support adds efficiencies to our processes that allow us to best support our wide range of customers. AAR enables us to reduce turnaround times and improve product availability for our shared U.S. government customers."

Currently, Ontic's facilities in Cheltenham, United Kingdom, for military distribution, and Creedmoor, North Carolina, for commercial distribution, both receive support from AAR. AAR will provide assistance for Ontic's Chatsworth, California, facility as part of this new contract.

Ross Wuestenfeld, Vice President of AAR's Distribution – Defense said, "AAR is enthusiastic about bolstering our strategic military portfolio by expanding our Ontic relationship to include the Chatsworth facility. Ontic is a trusted provider of parts and services to the aviation after-market, and we look forward to enhancing these services to support the U.S. warfighter."

With operations in North America, the UK, Europe, and Asia and over 45 years of experience in product production and aftermarket service, Ontic offers strategic global support to civil and defence customers wherever and wherever it's needed ■

GAMA appoints 2024 Executive Committee Leadership

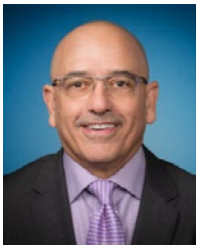
This committee, drawn from GAMA's Board of Directors, will play a pivotal role in providing strategic direction and leading key policy committees.

The General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) has charted its course for 2024 with a newly elected Executive Committee, an assembly of leaders poised to navigate the challenges and opportunities in the aviation industry. This committee, drawn from GAMA's Board of Directors, plays a pivotal role in providing strategic direction and leading key policy committees. Let's delve into the profiles and roles of these industry stalwarts:

Chuck Wiplinger – Chair of the Board:
As the President and CEO of Wipaire, Chuck Wiplinger brings a wealth of experience to the position of Chair. His background in aviation and previous role as Vice Chair positions him well to guide GAMA strategically. Wiplinger's leadership will be crucial in steering the association through the complex landscape of regulatory changes and technological advancements.

Henry Brooks – Vice Chair:
Henry Brooks, the President of Power & Controls at Collins Aerospace, assumes the role of Vice Chair. His expertise in aerospace systems and focus on security issues positions him to provide valuable insights into the challenges related to aviation safety and regulatory compliance.

Eric Hinson – Immediate Past Chair:
Eric Hinson, President and CEO of Simcom International, takes on the role of Immediate Past Chair. Having served as GAMA's 2023 Chair, Hinson's continuity in leadership provides stability and ensures a seamless transition, contributing to the association's sustained growth.



Tony Brancato – Chair of the Airworthiness and Maintenance Policy Committee:
Tony Brancato, President of Business Aviation at StandardAero, steps into the role of Chair for the Airworthiness and Maintenance Policy Committee. His leadership will be pivotal in addressing critical issues related to maintenance regulations and ensuring the industry's adherence to the highest standards.

Maria Della Posta – Chair of the Communications Committee:
Maria Della Posta, President of Pratt & Whitney Canada, continues her role as the Chair of the Communications Committee. With her background in aerospace communications, Della Posta is well-placed to champion initiatives that promote the aviation industry and its contributions.

Oliver Reinhardt and Ben Tigner – Co-Chairs of the Electric Propulsion and Innovation Committee (EPIC):
Oliver Reinhardt, Chief Risk and Certification Officer at Volocopter, and Ben Tigner, CEO of Overair, share the responsibility as Co-Chairs of EPIC. Their joint leadership reflects a commitment to fostering innovation and sustainable practices in the realm of electric propulsion, including electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft.

Frank Moesta – Chair of the Environment Committee:
Frank Moesta, Senior Vice President at Rolls-Royce, assumes the role of Chair for the Environment Committee. His expertise will be crucial in navigating the industry's response to environmental challenges, including reducing CO2 emissions and embracing sustainable aviation fuels.

Thierry Betbeze – New Member:
Thierry Betbeze, CEO of Dassault Falcon Jet, joins the Executive Committee, bringing with him a wealth of experience. As a new member, Betbeze's insights will contribute to the diversity of perspectives within the committee.

Carlos Brana – Chair of the European Leaders Steering (ELS) Committee:
Carlos Brana, Senior Executive Vice President of Civil Aircraft at Dassault Aviation, will chair the ELS Committee. His role involves engaging with European policymakers to advocate for the interests of general/business aviation, an essential function in a dynamic regulatory environment.

John Calcagno – Chair of the Policy and Legal Issues Committee:
John Calcagno, President and CEO of Piper Aircraft, continues as the Chair of the Policy and Legal Issues Committee. His leadership will be crucial in navigating legal complexities and advocating for policies that benefit general aviation manufacturers.

Allen Paxson – Chair of the Technical Policy Committee:
Allen Paxson, Vice President & General Manager of Commercial Strategy for GE Aerospace, assumes the role of Chair for the Technical Policy Committee. His leadership will be instrumental in ensuring continuous improvement in certification processes and technical policies.

The newly elected GAMA Executive Committee brings a diverse set of skills, experiences, and perspectives to the table, reinforcing the association's commitment to addressing the evolving needs of the general aviation industry. As they take on leadership roles, these industry leaders will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of aviation.

Charlie Gregoire – Chair of the Safety and Accident Investigation Committee:
Charlie Gregoire, President and COO of Redbird Flight, continues to lead the Safety and Accident Investigation Committee. His focus on proactive safety improvements is integral to fostering a culture of safety within the industry.

Tonya Sudduth – Chair of the Security Issues Committee:
Tonya Sudduth, Head of U.S. Strategy for Bombardier, steps into the role of Chair for the Security Issues Committee. Her leadership will be pivotal in establishing best practices for general aviation security in an ever-evolving security landscape.

Ron Draper – Chair of the Flight Operations Policy Committee:
Ron Draper, President and CEO of Textron Aviation, remains the Chair of the Flight Operations Policy Committee. His role involves ensuring that adequate air transportation infrastructure is available for general aviation, a critical aspect of industry sustainability.

STS Aviation Group names Gary Pratt as new SVP and General Manager

Gary Pratt as the SVP and General Manager, at STS Aviation Group, Pratt will be in charge of 43 Line Maintenance locations around the U.S., making sure each upholds the highest levels of excellence and security.

Gary Pratt has been appointed as the new Senior Vice President and General Manager of STS Line Maintenance by STS Aviation Group (STS). Pratt, who has a long and distinguished history in aviation maintenance, is well-positioned to lead the company to new heights of expansion and innovation.

In his capacity as Senior Vice President and General Manager, Pratt will be in charge of 43 Line Maintenance locations around the country, making sure each upholds the highest levels of excellence and security for which STS Aviation Group is renowned. His guidance will be crucial in improving service capabilities and increasing operational efficiency.

Gary Pratt, Sr. VP and General Manager said, "I am honored and excited to lead STS Line Maintenance into its next chapter. The opportunity to work with such a talented team and to build upon the company's sterling reputation is truly invigorating. Together, we will continue to innovate and elevate our service offerings, ensuring that STS remains at the forefront of the aviation maintenance industry."

Pratt's direction has put STS Line Maintenance in a strong position for future expansion and success. It is anticipated that his strategic vision and steadfast dedication to quality would lead to a revolution in line maintenance services, guaranteeing that STS Aviation Group will always surpass its clients' expectations.

Mark Smith, President of STS Aviation Group said, "Gary's extensive experience and proven leadership in aviation maintenance make him the ideal candidate to guide STS Line Maintenance. We are confident that under his stewardship, the division will flourish, setting new industry standards and further solidifying our position as a leading service provider. Gary's vision for the future aligns perfectly with our commitment to excellence and innovation."

Under Pratt's leadership, STS Line Maintenance and its committed staff are committed to staying ahead of the curve, adjusting to changes, and developing groundbreaking solutions that will influence the future of aircraft maintenance as the aviation industry continues to change. ■

Rafael names Yoav Turgeman as CEO

Rafael has appointed Yoav Turgeman as its CEO, following a unanimous decision by the board of directors based on the recommendation of the search committee.

Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd. has announced the appointment of Yoav Turgeman as its Chief Executive Officer, following a unanimous decision by the board of directors of Rafeal based on the recommendation of the search committee appointed by the company. The strategic move adheres to rigorous standards for CEO appointments in government-owned entities and is pending approval from the appointments committee, the Minister of Defense, and the Regional Cooperation Minister responsible for government companies.

Yoav Turgeman brings a wealth of experience to the role, having served in various command and staff positions in the Israeli Navy for 25 years, retiring as a Colonel. His aerospace industry tenure includes leadership of the "Arrow" program and management of the MLM facility. Since 2018, he has been the CEO of "Elta."

With bachelor's and master's degrees with honors in electrical engineering from Tel Aviv University, complemented by additional degrees from the University of Haifa and Bar Ilan University, Yoav Turgeman is well-qualified to lead Rafael. He is set to succeed Major General (Ret.) Yoav Har-Even, who has been the CEO for over 8 years.

Major General Har-Even has agreed to extend his tenure at the board's request, given the ongoing "Swords of Iron" war, ensuring a smooth transition with the incoming CEO.

Yoav Yuval Steinitz, Chairman of the Board at Rafael, commended the decision, expressing confidence in Yoav Turgeman's experience, capabilities, and skills to guide Rafael successfully through upcoming challenges and goals. Dr. Steinitz also expressed gratitude to Major General Har-Even for his substantial contributions over the years and his current efforts in the ongoing "Swords of Iron" war, highlighting the commitment to a seamless leadership transition.

The appointment reflects Rafael's commitment to leadership excellence and aligns with the company's reputation for innovation and strategic defense solutions. As Yoav Turgeman steps into this crucial role, the aerospace industry will be keenly watching Rafael's trajectory under his leadership in a rapidly evolving global defense landscape ■

Phil Jasper named as President of Raytheon by RTX

Phil Jasper to replace Wesly D. Kremer as the new President of Raytheon.

Phil Jasper, who will answer to President and Chief Operating Officer Christopher T. Calio, has been named President of Raytheon, according to an announcement made by RTX. As president of Raytheon, Jasper, 55, will lead the company and its industry-leading franchises in air-to-air missiles, fire control radars, electro-optical/infra-red systems, and missile defence. He will also be a part of the RTX senior leadership team. Wesley D. Kremer, who will retire from the firm at the end of Q1 2024, is replaced by Jasper, a 31-year veteran of the aerospace and military industries.

Christopher T. Calio President & Chief Operating Officer said, "Phil is a proven leader with significant depth of experience delivering defence solutions to the military customer. His recent integration of RTX's connected battlespace solutions, a critical customer priority and growth driver for the company, is one of many business transformations he has led over his career. I am confident he will drive the newly restructured Raytheon business to accelerate performance to effectively meet customer commitments."

As president of Raytheon, Jasper, 55, will lead the company and its industry-leading franchises in air-to-air missiles, fire control radars, electro-optical/infra-red systems, and missile defence. He will also be a part of the RTX senior leadership team.

Jasper assumed the role of president of Collins Aerospace's Mission Systems strategic business unit in 2018. The unit is accountable for providing military, government, and civilian solutions to assist clients globally in accomplishing their most challenging missions in a safe and effective manner. He brought cutting-edge networking and communications technologies from the commercial aerospace industry to the defence industry. Furthermore, Jasper created, developed, and integrated a number of military aircraft mission-specific capabilities, including as airdrop, refuelling, intercepting, and guidance and control products and operations.

Kremer has served in executive leadership positions since 2003 and was named a business president in 2015. Christopher T. Calio continued: "Wes has contributed significantly to the advancement of missile defence systems for the U.S. and its allies and played a critical role in structuring the Raytheon business in 2023. We thank him for his many contributions to RTX and wish him well as he retires from the company."

Extra Appointments for Leadership

- Several other executive leadership changes that were made in accordance with the company's succession plan have taken effect since Jasper's appointment.
- The Mission Systems division of Collins Aerospace has selected Troy Brunk as its new president.
- The Mission Systems Chief Operating Officer at Collins Aerospace is now Heather Robertson.
- The avionics division of Collins Aerospace has selected Nathan Boelkins as its new president ■

International CALENDAR

2024

Date	Event	Venue
12 – 14 Feb 2024	African Air Expo	Cape Town, South Africa
14 – 15 Feb 2024	MRO Latin America	San José, Costa Rica
20-24 Feb 2024	Singapore Airshow	Changi Exb Centre,Singapore
27-29 Feb 2024	MRO XPO INDIA	New Delhi, India
27-29 Feb 2024	Aircraft Interiors INDIA	New Delhi, India
28-29 Feb 2024	Aerospace & Defence MRO South Asia 2024	New Delhi, India
28 – 29 Feb 2024	Aviation Festival Asia	Suntec, Singapore
28 Feb – 01 Mar 2024	Aero-Engines Americas	Miami, FL, USA
29 Feb – 01 Mar 2024	Engine Leasing, Trading & Finance Americas	FL, USA
05 –0 6 Mar 2024	Aircraft Interiors Middle East 2024	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
05 –0 6 Mar 2024	MRO Middle East	Dubai, UAE
7 – 8 Mar 2024	PBExpo 2024	Miami, FL, USA
12 – 14 Mar 2024	Aerospace & Defence Supplier Summit	Seattle, USA
26 – 27 Mar 2024	MRO Central Asia	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
9 – 11 April 2024	MRO Americas	Chicago, USA
17 – 18 April 2024	Aerospace Tech Week Europe	Munich, Germany
17 – 19 April 2024	Vietnam Aviation Forum	Hanoi, Vietnam
24 – 25 Apr 2024	Aero-Engines Asia-Pacific	Hong Kong
28 – 30 May 2024	Aircraft Interiors EXPO	Hamburg, Germany
28 – 30 May 2024	EBACE 2024	Geneva, Switzerland
30 Apr – 2 May 2024	Global Aerospace Summit 2024	Abu Dhabi, UAE
02 –04 June 2024	IATA AGM & World Air Transport Summit	Dubai, UAE
05 –06 Jun 2024	Engine Leasing, Trading & Finance Europe	London, UK

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