

# Weekly Aviation Headline News



Rhinestahl Building

© Rhinestahl

## Rhinestahl acquires HYDRO Systems

Rhinestahl Corporation has unveiled its strategic move to acquire HYDRO Systems KG, a development set to strengthen the company's aviation support equipment and services position. The announcement was made during a presentation at Aviation Week Network's MRO Americas event in Chicago by Dieter Moeller, CEO and President of Rhinestahl, and Thomas Elsner, CEO of HYDRO.

The amalgamation of these two entities will birth RH Aero Systems, positioned to emerge as

the foremost entity in offering comprehensive life cycle solutions. This encompasses a wide array of offerings including engine and airframe tooling, ground support equipment, innovative engineered products and services, alongside asset management and sustainment.

"When you take Rhinestahl which is #1 in GE and CFM OEM-approved engine tooling, customer responsiveness, large shop experience and onsite technical support and combine it with HYDRO which is #1 in Rolls-Royce OEM-approved engine tooling, innovative engineered products, Airbus and Boeing airframe tooling, precision manufacturing expertise and global support services, you are creating the world-class leader uniquely positioned to serve the growing demands of OEMs, MROs and Operators around the world," stated Thomas Elsner, CEO of HYDRO. "The synergies between these two industry leaders will fundamentally shift what the market can expect from a one-stop-shop solution provider."

"Previously, when you assessed the tooling and GSE market, there were a handful of significant players. But now, in combining Rhinestahl and HYDRO, the two largest and most comprehensive industry leaders, along with the synergies that will be available to all our customers by leveraging the two business's complimentary expertise, competencies, and resources, game changing value will be created for our customers. These synergies are holistic, providing new and upgraded support and services where the sum is so much greater than the simple sum of

the two parts," stated Dieter Moeller, CEO and President of Rhinestahl. "With OEM leading positions, shared passions in innovation, strong commitments to high-quality and responsive support, plus proven technical execution competence across the support equipment and services lifecycle, I am excited to see how these two industry leading teams will work together to redefine and set new industry standards of customer and industry support."

*Continued on page 2*



Thomas Elsner, CEO Hydro Systems

© Hydro Systems



Dieter Moeller, President & CEO Rhinestahl

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...continued from page 1

As the two companies integrate, RH Aero Systems will continue working through its strong operating businesses of Rhinestahl and HYDRO. Customers of both Rhinestahl and HYDRO will continue conducting business, without interruption, working with their current teams, yet will immediately have access to the full scope of the synergies provided by

the combined businesses. RH Aero Systems' global headquarters will be in Mason, Ohio, U.S.A., while Rhinestahl and HYDRO's headquarters will remain in the U.S.A. and Germany, respectively. As privately held companies, the financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

HYDRO's business areas include ground sup-

port equipment, airframe and engine tooling, engine transportation, engineered solutions, as well as service. In addition to the headquarters in Biberach (Germany), HYDRO has worldwide subsidiaries, service centres and sales locations in China, France, Germany, Singapore, UAE, UK and the U.S.A.

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Airbus forecasts North America's aircraft services market to surge 45% by 2042

North America's commercial aircraft services market is projected to experience substantial growth, reaching US\$45 billion by 2042, a 45% increase from the current US\$31 billion, as per Airbus' latest Global Services Forecast (GSF). Following the pandemic, North America emerged as one of the earliest and strongest regions to recover. The demand for domestic and international travel surged, driving a steady compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 2.1% in passenger traffic, according to Airbus' Global Market Forecast. This growth is fuelled by increasing annual air traffic, fleet expansion and the need for digitally enabled and connected aircraft. Solutions spanning aircraft delivery to end-of-life, including fleet maintenance, modernisation and training, will witness heightened demand. Airbus predicts the maintenance market in North America to grow from US\$25.9 billion to US\$37.8 billion over the next two decades, with passenger-to-freighter conversion and used serviceable material (USM) contributing an estimated US\$17 billion towards sustainable aircraft retirement. Enhancements and modernisation are poised to experience the highest average annual growth (4.1%) between 2023 and 2042, reaching US\$4.1 billion. This surge is driven by cabin and system upgrades, along with the increasing demand for aircraft connectivity, set to reach 90% fleet coverage by 2042. The training and operations market is expected to rise from US\$2.5 billion in 2023 to US\$3 billion in 2042 (0.8%), with a brief plateau following the post-pandemic recovery period. Airbus foresees a demand for 366,000 skilled professionals in North America over the next 20 years, including 104,000 pilots, 120,000 technicians, and 142,000 cabin crew members. Dominik Wacht, Vice President Customer Services at Airbus North America, stated, "North America offers significant opportunities for aftermarket services, with a focus on efficiency, simplification and sustainability. Airbus remains committed to supporting airlines and the aviation industry in leveraging these opportunities." As a pioneer in sustainable aerospace solutions, Airbus continues to innovate, providing efficient and technologically advanced products and services in commercial aircraft and beyond. (£1.00 = US\$1.27 at time of publication).

## Orders and deliveries – Boeing and Airbus

### Airbus v Boeing: Orders and Deliveries

March 2024 YTD (net orders)

Airbus			Boeing		
Type	Orders	Deliveries	Type	Orders	Deliveries
A220	0	12	737	96	67
A320 Family	96	116	747	0	0
A330	3	7	767	0	3
A350	71	7	777	27	0
A380	0	0	787	3	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>83</b>

Source: Airbus

Source: Boeing

### E190F, Embraer's first E-Freighter conversion, takes off on maiden flight



First flight of the E190F

© Embraer

The inaugural flight of the E190F, the first E-Freighter conversion from passenger transport to cargo aircraft, marked a milestone as it soared through the skies above São José dos Campos, Brazil on April 5. Conducted by the Embraer team, the flight lasted approximately two hours, during which the E-Freighter underwent comprehensive evaluations. Further testing is slated before the aircraft enters into full operation. The aircraft is

under the ownership of Regional One, a leasing company based in the United States. Francisco Gomes Neto, President and CEO of Embraer, remarked, "The E-Freighter programme presents a new avenue of business for Embraer, aligning with the surging global demand for cargo transport driven by e-commerce. By integrating the high-tech E-Jets family with unparalleled operational performance, we are poised to meet the evolving needs of our customers. The rapid progress of the E190F and E195F during testing is highly promising. These jets will serve as essential assets for our customers, facilitating agile and decentralised deliveries." The maiden flight represents one phase in a series of evaluations conducted by Embraer before the E-Freighter jets commence operations. The aircraft has already demonstrated success in ground pressurisation and cargo loading tests. Converted E-Jets will boast over 50% more volume capacity, three-times the range of large cargo turboprops, and up to 30% lower operating costs compared to narrow-body aircraft. With combined capacity on the floor and main deck, the maximum structural payload reaches 13,500 kg for the E190F and 14,300 kg for the E195F. Launched in 2022, the E190F and E195F passenger-to-freight conversion (P2F) programmes engaged a global network comprising over 40 suppliers and more than 600 employees, dedicating over half a million hours to the development of the E-Freighter concept.

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## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Avolon, Cebu Pacific sign sale and leaseback deal for A330neos

Aviation finance powerhouse Avolon has finalised an agreement with Cebu Pacific, the renowned low-cost carrier from the Philippines, for the sale and leaseback of four brand-new Airbus A330neo aircraft. The delivery schedule spans from late 2024 to 2026, with the first aircraft set for arrival later this year. These cutting-edge aircraft will play a pivotal role in supporting Cebu Pacific's expansion efforts across its route network in Asia and the Middle East. Furthermore, they align with Cebu Pacific's commitment to transitioning to a fuel-efficient, technologically advanced fleet, thereby reducing carbon emissions. Notably, compared to its predecessor, the A330ceo, the A330neo offers an extended range of over 13,300 km (7,200 nautical miles) and boasts a remarkable 25% reduction in fuel consumption and CO2 emissions. This agreement solidifies the longstanding partnership between Cebu Pacific and Avolon, dating back to 2012. Currently, Avolon already leases 11 aircraft to the airline, comprising five A320ceos, three A320neos and three A330neos. Avolon's position in the aviation finance market remains robust, fuelled by strong customer demand and an impressive order book. The discrepancy between the production recovery of narrow-body and wide-body aircraft has led to a constrained market and prolonged lead times for twin-aisle planes.



Avolon and Cebu Pacific have finalised an agreement for the sale and leaseback of four Airbus A330neo aircraft  
© Avolon

### CFM International ships first LEAP-1A engines with RBS to Airbus



LEAP-1A engine assembly in Villaroche, France

© Philippe Stroppa

CFM International has dispatched the inaugural production LEAP-1A engines equipped with its new reverse bleed system (RBS) to Airbus, anticipating entry into commercial service by mid-year. This new production configuration hardware will also undergo installation in the existing fleet by airlines and overhaul shops. Additionally, CFM plans to introduce the RBS on the LEAP-1B engine. Certified by the FAA and EASA in 2023, the LEAP-1A engine with the new RBS addresses carbon build-up on fuel nozzles. Consequently, the need for on-wing fuel nozzle replacement and associated maintenance burdens will be significantly reduced. Upon full deployment throughout the fleet, CFM anticipates that fuel nozzle replacement will typically occur during performance restoration shop visits. The hardware, installable on wing in as little as ten hours, is expected to be available in the second quarter of this year. "CFM has always prioritized product enhancements to meet customer expectations for our engines. The reverse bleed system exemplifies that commitment," said Gaël Méheust, President and CEO of CFM International. "It stands as a testament to the ingenuity of our technical and customer teams, who have devised a solution seamlessly integrating with existing aircraft systems. This RBS forms part of a broader initiative to enhance engine durability, with additional upgrades slated for introduction throughout the year." The CFM LEAP engine family offers 15 to 20 percent lower fuel consumption and CO2 emissions, alongside significant noise reduction compared to previous-generation engines. Since its service debut in 2016, the LEAP engine has facilitated CFM customers in reducing CO2 emissions by over 32 million tonnes.

### Abelo leases new aircraft to Olympic Air

Abelo has announced the lease of a new ATR72-600 aircraft to Olympic Air, a member of the AEGEAN Group. The aircraft, part of Abelo's order of thirty ATR aircraft, has just been delivered to Olympic Air. This strategic addition will support Olympic Air's efforts to expand its regional presence in Greece. Since 2013, Olympic Air has played a vital role within the AEGEAN Group, primarily operating the group's island and domestic routes. The airline serves over 30 destinations within Greece, contributing to the group's extensive network of 165 destinations both domestically and internationally. Abelo, an Irish-based regional aircraft leasing platform specialising in turboprop aircraft, focuses on connecting communities and businesses in an economically and environmentally responsible manner. Larger turboprop aircraft occupy a distinct niche within the regional sector, demanding dedicated attention. Its primary aim is to facilitate the transition from older aircraft to the most advanced, low-emission technologies.



Olympic Air has taken delivery of one new ATR72-600 aircraft

© Abelo

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Japan Coast Guard boosts fleet with additional order for H225 helicopters



The Japan Coast Guard has placed an additional order for three H225 helicopters  
© Anthony Pecci/Airbus Helicopters

The Japan Coast Guard (JCG) has placed an additional order for three H225 helicopters, increasing its total H225 fleet to 18. As the largest Super Puma operator in Japan, the Coast Guard received three H225s in December 2023 and one in February 2024 to bolster its expanding fleet. These new helicopters will support territorial coastal activities, maritime law enforcement and disaster relief missions across the country. "The Japan Coast Guard has been actively operating Super Puma-family helicopters for three decades. This follow-on order reflects the customer's confidence in our products and the dedicated support provided to their fleet," said Jean-Luc Alfonsi, Managing Director of Airbus Helicopters in Japan. "We believe the H225 is the ideal choice for JCG's critical missions in law enforcement, coastal and island protection, given its versatility in all weather conditions. We are committed to fully supporting its existing fleet, as well as its upcoming deliveries, ensuring high availability for its operations." JCG's H225 fleet benefits from Airbus' highly adaptive HCare Smart full-by-the-hour material support. This customised fleet availability programme allows the national Coast Guard agency to focus on its flight operations while Airbus manages

its assets. As the latest addition to the Super Puma family, the H225 is renowned for its high performance in challenging conditions, outstanding range, and payload capacity. The H225 has undergone continuous improvement by Airbus Helicopters, now equipped with new avionics including the largest screens available on the market and an innovative interface that, combined with its renowned autopilot, reduces pilot workload and enables them to focus on the mission at hand. Currently, 24 H225s are flown in Japan by Japan's Ministry of Defence or para-public operators for various search and rescue missions, VIP transport, firefighting, as well as passenger and cargo transportation.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Vallair completes advanced aerostructure repair facility in Châteauroux, France

Vallair, a seasoned aircraft MRO specialist, has finalised the construction of its fully integrated aerostructure repair, engine teardown, and component repair facility in Châteauroux, France. This consolidation of capabilities not only enhances efficiency but also offers airlines and lessors a cost-effective solution to prolong the lifecycle of large components that might otherwise be discarded due to logistical challenges associated with transportation for repair. The company is witnessing a surge in repairs for nacelles and flight control parts, with customers increasingly favouring Vallair's responsive team. François Biarneix, Operations Director in Châteauroux, attributes this trend to the streamlined decision-making process at Vallair and the extensive expertise of its technical team. "Many customers seek our specific aerostructure proficiency, but we also handle a significant amount of ad hoc work for aircraft undergoing C-check maintenance," says Biarneix. "Our integrated services significantly reduce turnaround times. If a component like a fan cowl requires repair, we can swiftly provide a quote and commence the repair process without delay." Biarneix underscores the influence of



Integrated aerostructure and engine MRO services on site at Vallair align teardowns with repairs for maximum USM value creation  
© Vallair

several factors shaping the global aerostructure repair services market, including the aviation sector's growth and the aging commercial aircraft fleets. Vallair is aligning its facility and development program to address challenges such as skill shortages, rapid turnaround times, and the complexities of repairing newer composite materials. The company operates its own Part 147 EASA approved training centre, Aircraft Academy, on site in Châteauroux, focusing on training the next generation of technicians and engineers across a wide spectrum of aircraft and engine types. The aerostructure repair services industry plays a critical role in maintaining the safety and efficiency of the global aviation fleet. Vallair's MRO activities encompass structure inspection and repair, composites inspection and repair, and painting for nacelles, flight controls, and cabin parts. Looking forward, Vallair is poised for further expansion and innovation, including the integration of digital technologies for training and repair guidance. Biarneix highlights Vallair's unique advantage of having aerostructures and engine shops adjacent to its extensive maintenance facility in Châteauroux, capable of accommodating multiple wide-body and narrow-body aircraft concurrently. Moreover, Vallair's capability to undertake aircraft and engine dismantling activities within its hangars, regardless of weather conditions, offers significant efficiency gains. The company provides a range of integrated services complementing the teardown process, including cleaning, inspection, analysis, photography, packing, and storage of dismantled parts. These efficiencies also extend to Vallair's new engine shop capabilities, covering CFM56 and V2500 series engines. Services include disassembly and reassembly of modules, minor repairs and inspections, borescope inspections, preservation, leasing of engines, APUs, and engine bays. Borescope capability will soon expand to include Trent 700, PW 4000, CF6-80, Leap, and PW1100 engines.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### StandardAero's DFW centre boosts CFM56-7B engine support, expands services

StandardAero's Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) hub, situated at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, TX, is intensifying its backing for the CFM International CFM56-7B turbofan engine, marking a milestone with its inaugural customer engine shop visit earlier this spring. Since its inauguration last year, the DFW-based CFM56-7B service centre has welcomed over a dozen engines for diverse work scopes, now advancing to furnish comprehensive maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services catering to operators worldwide. Presently, StandardAero's DFW-based CFM56-7B service centre extends an array of quick turn shop visit (QTSV) services including borescope inspections, boro-blend repairs, engine module replacements and QEC/LRU installations, alongside fan, top case, bottom case, hot section and LPT repairs. Augmenting its capabilities, the DFW facility boasts full test cell functionalities for the popular CFM56-7B powerplant at its modern six-cell DFW test complex, facilitating functional and performance engine testing for Boeing 737NG operators and other CFM56-7B asset owners. Adam Gingras, General Manager – CFM56, DFW for StandardAero, expressed, "StandardAero is delighted to furnish our customers with the convenience of DFW-based CFM56-7B service centre capabilities, and we are committed to enhancing our offerings in the upcoming year."

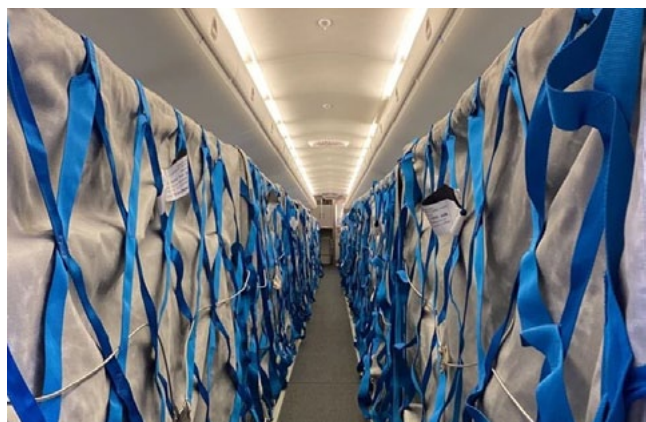
To meet escalating customer demand, the company plans to relocate to a new 147,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility adjacent to the DFW test complex this summer, aiming to introduce full performance restoration shop visit (PRSV) capabilities by year-end. StandardAero holds CFM International general support license agreement (GSLA) approval for the CFM56-7B, with the DFW centre incorporating the engine into its FAA Part 145 Repair Station operations specifications since early 2023. Additionally, StandardAero delivers a comprehensive range of MRO services for the CFM56-7B from its CFM- and GE Aerospace-approved facility in Winnipeg, MB, Canada, initially commencing engine support as a GE designated fulfilment centre (DFC) in 2009. Moreover, StandardAero offers a broad spectrum of supplementary services for the CFM56 family, encompassing component repair and overhaul through StandardAero Component Services (SACS), engine, module and used serviceable material (USM) asset management support through PTS Aviation, and engine health monitoring (EHM) data analysis services. Expanding its support repertoire, StandardAero also provides services for the CFM International LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines from its expansive 810,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility in San Antonio, TX, as a CFM branded service agreement (CBSA) provider. Recently, the company introduced continued time engine maintenance (CTEM) work scope service offerings, with plans for engine test and full PRSV capabilities slated for later this year.



CFM 56-7B engine inspection

© StandardAero

### Liebherr Aerospace partners with LHColus to enter air cargo market



Liebherr-Aerospace Saline will become the exclusive international distributor of the quick conversion passenger-to-freighter cargo aircraft solution – Class F Quick Change  
© Liebherr Aerospace

Liebherr Aerospace Saline (Liebherr), Michigan (U.S.A.) and LHColus Tecnologia, based in São José dos Campos (Brazil), have signed an agreement that declares Liebherr-Aerospace Saline as the exclusive international distributor of the quick conversion passenger-to-freighter cargo aircraft solution – also known as Class F Quick Change - developed and certified by LHColus. Liebherr will be responsible for the global distribution (excluding Brazil) through its worldwide customer services network providing sales and technical support. "We are excited about our entry into the booming air cargo market and the possibility to bring to our customers such an easy, fully reversible and cost-effective solution," commented Alex Vlieland, Chief Customer Officer of Liebherr-Aerospace & Transportation SAS. "We are very happy about this agreement with Liebherr, a leading global OEM that has shown keen interest in our cargo conversion kit, contemplating its distribution worldwide as well as looking forward to developing this project for other aircraft models like the Airbus A320 and Boeing's 737. This partnership will surely enhance our market reach and enable us to offer cost-effective cargo conversion solutions on a global scale," explained Luís Henrique Colus, LHColus Executive Director. Flávio Costa, Technical Vice-

President of Azul added: "We are the first company in the world to have installed this system. In our fleet, we have converted five Embraer E-Jets E1s with the Class F Quick Change solution, and we are very excited about the agility and versatility that this change has given us. It is a constant improvement that allows us to serve our customers better." The Class F Quick Change is implemented by the means of a simple, fast and fully reversible modification on the aircraft. Its efficiency and reliability have been field proven with a sizeable fleet operating for over two years in Latin America that has already accumulated more than 18,000 flight-hours and transported over 15.3 million (e-commerce) packages equivalent to 33.3-thousand tonnes of payload. The solution is currently certified for Embraer E190 aircraft but can be extended to other single-aisle aircraft types. In a simplified approach, the conversion requires the removal of all main cabin seats to make room for aluminium frames and independent fire-proof and smoke-contained cargo nets. The cargo is monitored by two fully independent IR cameras, which are designed to detect any heat sources, alerting the pilots in the cockpit. The system also features a smoke barrier to isolate the main cabin from the front galley/cockpit area (a mandatory requirement) and cargo placards, which are used to indicate the maximum load height.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### StandardAero's Maryville facility delivers 12,000th APU

StandardAero has completed and delivered its 12,000th auxiliary power unit (APU) repair at its Maryville, Tennessee facility. Since 1997, the Maryville facility has been entrusted by commercial airline and business jet operators worldwide to deliver reliable and cost-effective APU services, consistently setting industry benchmarks in support of these critical powerplants. Spanning 154,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, StandardAero's Maryville facility offers comprehensive support for a diverse range of APUs, including the Honeywell GTCP 36-100/150 (utilised across various aircraft platforms including the MHIRJ CR200), Honeywell RE220 (CRJ700 family), Pratt & Whitney Canada APS 2300 (Embraer E-Jets E1 family) and Safran Power Units SPU300 (Bombardier Global 7500 & 8000). Greg Krekeler, Vice President and General Manager of StandardAero's Maryville facility, expressed, "The delivery of our 12,000th APU underscores the unwavering commitment of our Maryville team to deliver top-tier quality and turnaround performance, instilling continued confidence in the services we provide. Our Maryville team offers comprehensive one-stop shop capabilities for some of the industry's most widely used APUs, combining MRO services and line replaceable unit (LRU) repair support to optimize customer operational efficiency. We eagerly anticipate further expansion of our APU service offerings to cater to our global customer base and anticipate celebrating our 14,000th delivery before the decade concludes." Beyond APU servicing, StandardAero's Maryville facility also holds the distinction of being a Rolls-Royce authorised maintenance centre (AMC) for the AE 2100 turboprop, AE 3007 turbofan and AE 1107 turboshaft engines, in addition to providing support for the related MT7 marine gas turbine. Last October, the Maryville team commemorated the delivery of the facility's 7,500th Rolls-Royce AE-family engine, further solidifying its reputation for excellence in engine maintenance and support.



A Honeywell RE220 Auxiliary Power Unit (APU)  
© Honeywell

### Pem-Air unveils state-of-the-art facility, elevating aviation service standards



Pem-Air has inaugurated its new facility in Brooksville, Florida © Pem-Air

Pem-Air Turbine Engine Services (Pem-Air) has inaugurated its brand-new, cutting-edge facility, marking a significant milestone in the company's dedication to serving the commercial aviation aftermarket. Spanning 80,000 ft<sup>2</sup>, this state-of-the-art facility represents a substantial expansion for the company, underscoring its steadfast commitment to excellence and innovation in customer service. Virgil D. Pizer, CEO of Pem-Air, commented, "The growth of Pem-Air stands as a testament to our team's unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional service and results to our valued customers. This new facility marks a significant advancement in our capabilities and efficiency, empowering us to better meet the needs of our clients." Featuring seven-times the capacity of its predecessor, the new facility boasts over 20 engine bays, extendable to 35 depending on configuration. This expanded capacity enables the company to cater to a broader spectrum of aircraft engines, specialising particularly in GE-90 and Trent 800 engines, while maintaining the same level of precision and expertise. Additionally, the company will continue its comprehensive servicing of engine types, including the CFM56, CF6, CF34, V2500, JT9D, JT3D/TF33, PW2000, PW4000, and RB211. Positioned at the forefront of the commercial aviation MRO industry, the new facility equips Pem-Air to deliver expedited turnaround times, exceptional service, and unparalleled expertise to its clientele. "We are excited to inaugurate this facility and embark on a new era of aviation excellence," stated Pizer. "Pem-Air is poised to elevate its standards and provide the quality and service our customers deserve."

### VAS Aero Services, SR Technics extend PW4000-100 engine maintenance partnership

VAS Aero Services and SR Technics have announced the extension of their collaborative supply programme agreement for PW4000-100 engine maintenance operations. This extension further cements the strong working relationship between the two industry leaders, ensuring top-tier engine quality and material availability. The comprehensive agreement encompasses various facets including programme coordination, engine lease pool management, engine dismantlement, parts positioning, repair management, and fulfilment services. By leveraging this partnership, SR Technics based in Switzerland can continue to deliver industry-leading, timely maintenance services on PW4000-100 engines to its airline customers, while also offering a reduced cost of ownership through the utilization of used serviceable materials. Under the extended agreement, VAS Aero Services will strategically position engines at SR Technics' facilities for teardown and whole asset leasing, enhancing operational efficiency and facilitating streamlined maintenance processes. "The extension of this agreement confirms the value both companies create by working together to improve PW4000-100 maintenance and supply for the benefit of aircraft owners and operators around the globe. We are delighted to expand our long-standing relationship with VAS," said Fritz Beiner, SVP Procurement at SR Technics. This cooperative arrangement ensures the availability of spare engines to SR Technics' customers during maintenance periods, along with maintaining a minimum stock level of serviceable spare parts, thereby enabling cost-effective material management and expedited service for SR Technics' clientele. "VAS has enjoyed a close aftermarket material supply relationship with SR Technics for nearly 15 years, and we are excited to take this program to the next level," said VAS CEO Tommy Hughes. "We continue to invest heavily in assets, such as A330 aircraft being retired by American Airlines, to support this valuable partnership. The result is a unique working relationship that permits us to anticipate SR Technics' needs and respond quickly to market demands."



VAS CEO Tommy Hughes (l) and Fritz Beiner, SVP Procurement at SR Technics, at MRO Americas, Chicago  
© AviTrader

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Barfield becomes primary distributor for CTRL Systems' UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter



A member of Boeing's maintenance and ground operations systems uses the UL101 Troubleshooter to perform a bleed air check on a Boeing 757  
© CTRL Systems

Barfield, a subsidiary of Air France Industries KLM Engineering & Maintenance (AFI KLM E&M) in the Americas, has entered into an agreement with CTRL Systems to distribute its UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter. Barfield will serve as CTRL Systems' primary distributor to the commercial and business aviation markets, covering airline operators, aircraft and component OEMs, and MROs worldwide. The UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter is an acoustic ultrasonic test set engineered for aircraft maintenance and troubleshooting. Manufactured in the United States by CTRL Systems, the UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter equips aircraft maintenance technicians with enhanced insight into the operating conditions of the aircraft systems under examination. Operators worldwide have utilised the UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter to expedite the AOG troubleshooting process effectively, reducing both aircraft downtime and the expense of replacement parts. The UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter (part number B00033) is specified in the Boeing AMM for all commercial jet aircraft under the tool tag SPL-1473. CTRL's ultrasonic listening devices, including the UL101 Aviation Troubleshooter, detect acoustic ultrasound at 40kHz and convert the signal into the audible range, delivering it to an included headset or available software. In the field of air-

craft maintenance, this technology is employed to pinpoint leaks in various aircraft systems, such as cabin pressurization, O2 systems, pitot/static systems, bleed/engine air systems, and A/C packs. It is also utilised for identifying electrical faults and intermittent wiring issues, troubleshooting failing mechanical components, detecting internal fluid leaks, and conducting swift valve inspections.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Joramco awarded maintenance contract from LATAM Airlines

Joramco, an independent commercial aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility, has been awarded a contract to conduct heavy maintenance for LATAM Airlines, the largest airline in Latin America. The agreement was announced during MRO Americas 2024. Under the terms of the contract, Joramco will perform C-checks on three of LATAM's B787 aircraft, starting in July of this year. Fraser Currie, Chief Executive Officer of Joramco, expressed his satisfaction with the new partnership, stating, "We are thrilled to expand our customer base further into Latin America. Our agreement with LATAM Airlines not only underscores our commitment to delivering excellence but also reinforces our position as a globally trusted MRO provider. We eagerly anticipate additional fruitful collaborations in the future."

### Fokker Services Americas and Collins Aerospace sign FlightSense® On-Site Support agreement

Fokker Services Americas, a subsidiary of Fokker Services Group (FSG) and Collins Aerospace have

### Sky Airline and Safran sign NacelleLife service deal

Safran Nacelles and Sky Airline, the Chilean low-cost carrier, have signed a multi-year service agreement for the airline's Airbus A320neo-family fleet, powered by CFM International LEAP-1A turbofan engines. Under this agreement, Sky Airline gains access to a comprehensive shared pool of large nacelle components at any given time, ensuring swift resolution of any in-service issues. Furthermore, the nacelles will undergo maintenance and repairs at the Safran Nacelles Services Americas MRO station in Indianapolis, U.S.A. Additionally, the airline will benefit from Safran's expertise and know-how as the designer and manufacturer (OEM) of the A320neo nacelle, for engineering repair solutions and training maintenance operators. Alain Berger, Safran Nacelles' Executive Vice President – Customer Support and Services, commented: "We are very proud to be Sky Airline's partner for their growing A320neo fleet. As being the A320neo full-nacelle designer, our teams are ensuring to our customer the highest levels of quality services which contribute to their efficient operations." Safran Nacelles' services form a crucial component of the company's NacelleLife™ support programme, which ensures responsive, cost-effective, and high-quality services to keep airliners in operational condition while minimising costs.



Representatives from Sky Airline and Safran Nacelles signed the new deal at MRO Americas in Chicago  
© Safran

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

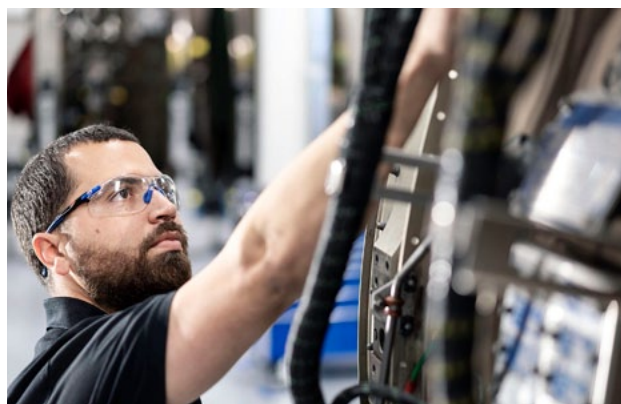
signed a FlightSense® On-Site Support agreement for Collins' integrated drive generators (IDGs). The agreement puts both companies on a path forward to meet the increasing demand for IDG repairs closer to home and provide American operators with a high-quality, dependable, domestically available option. With the signing of this agreement during the MRO Americas 2024 event in Chicago, FSG paves the way for the implementation of IDG repair capabilities at its MRO centre in LaGrange, Georgia, USA. FSG will provide installation and repair services for serviceable IDG units, ensuring uncompromising quality and maximising confidence. Additionally, the company will expand its inventory of Collins IDG components, offering a significant advantage to airline and operator customers. Furthermore, the establishment of FSG's IDG shop in America marks the creation of a second IDG repair facility within FSG globally. This expansion follows the original IDG repair shop at Schiphol Airport, the Netherlands, which obtained certification from Collins in 2020. The addition of a second repair shop enhances redundancy and augments capacity for FSG's customers, ultimately leading to reduced turnaround times, minimised downtime, and a heightened focus on keeping components within the region. The IDG repair capability expansion in the Americas initially focuses on repair and overhaul of Boeing 747, 757, and 767 aircraft, but the company aims to expand its capabilities to multiple other platforms, including additional Boeing, Airbus, and Fokker platforms, in a short period. "By converting power from the engine into electric power for the aircraft, Collins integrated drive generators perform a critical role," said Ryan Hudson, Vice President, Power and Controls Aftermarket for Collins. "This agreement will expand Collins IDG MRO services to Fokker customers in the US, providing them with reliable parts and services to help keep their planes in the air."

### Embraer and Horizon Air ink deal for ECIP programme

Embraer and Horizon Air have signed an agreement for the Embraer collaborative inventory planning (ECIP) programme, a bespoke expendables spare parts inventory management programme tailored to assist customers in slashing operational costs by optimising inventory levels. The deal ensures support for 41 E175s from Horizon Air's fleet operating at the company hub in Portland, Oregon. Additionally, the contract encompasses nine E175s set for delivery, amounting to coverage for 50 aircraft in total. All these jets are operated by Horizon Air under the Alaska Airlines banner. "We are very pleased to welcome Horizon Air to the

### Pratt & Whitney unveils expansion of GTF MRO capacity at West Palm Beach site

Pratt & Whitney has revealed a US\$20 million (£15.7 million) investment to amplify the maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) capabilities of its West Palm Beach engine centre for GTF engines. This enhancement aims to accommodate a 40% surge in capacity and is slated for completion by the latter half of 2025. In anticipation of this growth, the facility will augment its workforce by 25%



Pratt & Whitney will invest US\$20 million to amplify the MRO capabilities of its West Palm Beach engine centre for GTF engines © Pratt & Whitney

over the forthcoming year and will introduce vital equipment in machining, testing, cleaning and warehousing. Additionally, it will integrate innovative technologies pioneered at the recently announced North American Technology Accelerator. West Palm Beach underwent a metamorphosis into a fully functional GTF MRO engine centre in mid-2021. It marked the first Pratt & Whitney site to adopt an automated system for assembling the high-pressure compressor (HPC) rotor and an enhanced overhead engine handling system. Since its implementation, Pratt & Whitney has observed over a 25% enhancement in HPC rotor yield and a 50% reduction in process turnaround time. In 2023, Pratt & Whitney disclosed expansions at three GTF MRO facilities and initiated operations at five new shops to bolster the expanding GTF fleet. Presently, there are 16 operational GTF MRO engine centres globally, with an additional three set to commence operations by 2025. The GTF MRO network constitutes an integral part of Pratt & Whitney EngineWise® solutions, offering operators a comprehensive range of aftermarket services that deliver enduring, sustainable value.

### Airbus, Air Canada ink deal for A320-family cockpit and avionics upgrade



Air Canada's A320-family aircraft will get a major cockpit and avionics system upgrade

© Airbus

Airbus has signed an agreement with Canada's largest airline, Air Canada, for a significant cockpit and avionics system upgrade package for their A320-family in-service aircraft. The multi-year upgrade programme encompasses the enhanced electronic instrument system (EEIS2), head-up display (HUD), and various other avionics functions. It will be fitted on up to 76 aircraft. The HUD will enhance situational awareness and improve airport accessibility during adverse weather conditions. The EEIS2 displays offer heightened reliability and enable the incorporation of the latest function displays. Pilot comfort is notably enhanced with the EEIS2, providing better information display through its high-resolution LCD screen and introducing new system capabilities and features. SBAS landing system (SLS), FMS landing system (FLS), and GBAS landing system (GLS) will also contribute to swifter and more extensive airport accessibility. In addition to these new system capabilities, the upgrade programme will maximise fleet commonality with newer aircraft and facilitate cost rationalisation for maintenance, spares and flight operations. Thales, among other suppliers, manufactures the EEIS2, HUD and other avionics equipment, which are integrated by Airbus. Airbus will furnish the requisite service bulletins and installation kits, as well as on-site engineering support.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Embraer collaborative inventory planning. ECIP was designed to help our customers gain efficiency and reduce inventory costs in all operations. This is even more important for airlines with large fleets and fast growth like Horizon Air," said Carlos Naufel, President and CEO, Embraer Services & Support. ECIP presents numerous benefits to customers. Firstly, the bulk of the inventory investment is undertaken by Embraer, significantly reducing the investment typically borne by airlines. Moreover, fixed yearly pricing for each part enables customers to finely balance costs at guaranteed performance levels by Embraer Services & Support. The operation is data-driven, with weekly ordering recommendations based on customer usage and stock level data, generated using advanced software and collaborative input from Embraer Planning experience. Lastly, all airlines participating in ECIP can rely on Embraer's materials management expertise and a global logistics network boasting best-in-class performance.

### AAR expands distribution agreement with Sumitomo Precision Products

AAR Corp. has announced an extension and expansion of its V2500 engine component distribution agreement with Sumitomo Precision Products. Under this agreement, AAR has extended its exclusive distribution rights for the V2500 pneumatic starter and starter control valve on behalf of SPP for the duration of the programme. Additionally, the contract expands AAR's exclusive distributorship to encompass all V2500 starter/valve subcomponents. Kenro Itakura, Executive Vice President and GM of Aerospace Division, said, "This partnership allows us to better cater to V2500 operators and repair facilities by offering reduced lead times,

### Kellstrom Aerospace named commercial aftermarket distributor for LBM



Kellstrom has been appointed worldwide commercial aftermarket distributor for Libellule Monde (LBM)  
© Shutterstock

Kellstrom Aerospace has been appointed as the worldwide commercial aftermarket distributor for LBM (Libellule Monde Inc.). LBM specialises in commercial aircraft interior placards, interior deco films, exterior markings, erosion protection and livery for a variety of commercial aircraft, including those from Airbus, Boeing, ATR, Beechcraft, DeHavilland, Embraer and MHIrj. This commercial aftermarket partnership enables Kellstrom Aerospace to deliver high-quality OEM products and engineered solutions to major global and regional passenger and cargo carriers, as well as MRO customers, through Libellule Monde's complete portfolio. "Partnering with Kellstrom Aerospace marks a significant milestone for LBM as we extend our global reach to provide innovative solutions for the aviation industry. This collaboration underscores our commitment to delivering excellence in aircraft interior and exterior surfacing solutions," said Stéphanie Lemieux, Founder, and CEO of LBM. "We are delighted to announce our aftermarket distribution channel partnership with LBM (Libellule Monde Inc.) to distribute the truly unique and value-added products and solutions they offer to Kellstrom's global customer base," said Daniel Adamski, Executive Vice President - Distribution at Kellstrom Aerospace. Established in 1993, LBM (Libellule Monde Inc.) is a women-owned business that initially operated in the commercial sector. In 1995, it narrowed its focus, exclusively collaborating with the aerospace industry thereafter. LBM has since collaborated with multiple airlines and aircraft OEMs around the world, delivering high-quality products in innovative ways to its customers. Today, LBM is a design approval organisation (DAO) and holder of a variety of supplemental type certificates (STCs) approved by Transport Canada and validated by both the FAA and EASA. This enables LBM to manufacture and certify placards, markings and aircraft livery, as well as offer many other related products and engineering services for aircraft interiors and exteriors.

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## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

round-the-clock AOG support, and stocking locations worldwide. AAR has been a trusted ally to Sumitomo Precision Products since 2017, and we are delighted to extend our distribution relationship through this agreement."

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Spirit Airlines and Airbus reach agreement to defer aircraft deliveries to bolster liquidity

Spirit Airlines has struck a deal with Airbus to postpone the delivery of all aircraft slated for the second quarter of 2025 through the end of 2026 to the period between 2030 and 2031. Notably, this deferral excludes the direct-lease aircraft set for delivery during this timeframe, with one each in the second and third quarter of 2025. The arrangement with Airbus is anticipated to bolster Spirit's liquidity by approximately US\$340 million over the next two years. However, there are no alterations to the aircraft on order from Airbus scheduled for delivery between 2027 and 2029. Due to grounded aircraft resulting from Pratt & Whitney GTF engine availability challenges, coupled with the deferral of 2025 and 2026 aircraft deliveries, Spirit has announced plans to furlough around 260 pilots effective September 1, 2024. Recently, Spirit entered into a compensation agreement with Pratt & Whitney concerning its GTF engines, estimated to enhance the airline's liquidity by US\$150 million to US\$200 million throughout the agreement's duration. Additionally, Spirit will explore leveraging its existing financeable assets to further boost liquidity in the coming months. Ted Christie, President and CEO of Spirit, emphasised the significance of the Airbus agreement in fortifying the airline's profitability and balance sheet. He expressed gratitude to Airbus for their ongoing support and commitment to Spirit's long-term success. Christie acknowledged the dedication and resilience of Spirit's team amid challenges, noting the regrettable decision to furlough pilots due to grounded aircraft and deferred deliveries. He underscored the company's efforts to safeguard team members while striving for positive cash flow and long-term growth. The Airbus amendment also extends the exercise dates for optional aircraft included in Spirit's purchase agreement by two years, with no change to the total number of aircraft on order or Spirit's options for additional aircraft. As part of its strategic initiatives, Spirit has engaged Perella Weinberg & Partners L.P. and Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP as advisors. The company remains committed to fortifying its balance sheet and operational resilience, including exploring options to refinance upcoming debt maturities and bonds. (£1.00 = US\$1.27 at time of publication).

### Honeywell and ITP Aero to establish European service centre for F124-GA-200 aircraft engines



Honeywell and ITP Aero to set up an authorised service centre for Honeywell's F124-GA-200 engines  
© Honeywell

Honeywell, in collaboration with ITP Aero, an aerospace propulsion company, has unveiled intentions to establish a new authorised service centre for Honeywell's F124-GA-200 aircraft engines. Situated in Madrid, the Ajalvir site of ITP Aero will operate as a licensed maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility for International Turbine Engine Company (ITEC), a joint venture between

Honeywell Aerospace Technologies and the Aerospace Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC). The agreement underscores Honeywell's commitment to aligning with the future megatrend of aviation, offering advanced technological assistance to enhance efficiencies and promote sustainable operations. Expected to commence operations by the conclusion of 2024, this inaugural European centre for Honeywell's F124-GA-200 engine will expand local repair capabilities for over 150 engines in the region. It aims to provide operators with expedited repair turnaround times by facilitating local transportation and repair services. This facility marks Honeywell's third regional service centre for F124-GA-200 engine support, complementing existing centres in North America and the Asia Pacific region.

## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### Greece commits to procuring 35 UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters

The Government of Greece has formalised its intention to acquire 35 UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters manufactured by Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company, through a Foreign Military Sale agreement with the U.S. government. Paul Lemmo, President of Sikorsky, highlighted the significance of this decision, stating, "The latest generation UH-60M Black Hawk will bolster the Hellenic Ministry of Defence's modernisation efforts and serve as a reliable asset for critical national and allied security operations." Lemmo emphasised



Greece is one step closer in procuring 35 Sikorsky-built Black Hawks following the signing of a letter of acceptance (LOA)  
© Lockheed Martin

the Black Hawk's global track record, trusted by over 35 nations, including an expanding number of NATO allies, enhancing Greece's deterrent capabilities and those of all NATO member states. Aside from the aircraft, the procurement package encompasses personnel training and training equipment to ensure seamless integration of the helicopters into the Hellenic Army. With its existing S-70B fleet and recently acquired MH-60R maritime helicopters for the Hellenic Navy, Greece will operate various variants of the Hawk family, capitalising on operational and sustainment efficiencies derived from fleet commonality. As the foremost multi-role utility helicopter with five-million combat hours, the Black Hawk promises Greece a spectrum of operational capabilities and access to a global ecosystem comprising over 5,000 Hawk aircraft. The UH-60M/S-70M Black Hawk stands out as the preferred aircraft for replacing aging medium-lift utility helicopter fleets, offering versatility across missions, extended ranges, resilience in challenging environments, and heightened survivability compared to alternative platforms.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Trax**, a provider of paperless aviation maintenance and engineering software products, and **PTC** have announced a partnership to integrate Trax' platforms with PTC's Servigistics® and develop innovative joint solutions. This collaboration aims to enhance efficiency, redefine service supply chain optimisation, and maximise operational effectiveness across airline and MRO maintenance activities. The partnership between Trax, a powerhouse in paperless maintenance software solutions, and Servigistics, a service parts optimisation solution, offers an innovative approach to addressing the intricate challenges within the aviation industry service supply chain. By seamlessly integrating these platforms, airlines and MROs can rapidly and efficiently optimise their supply chains, ensuring they have the right part in the right place at the right time. "This integration marks a significant milestone in our commitment to delivering unparalleled solutions to the aviation industry. Pairing the strengths of Trax with the advanced capabilities of Servigistics to drive automation and new functionality will unlock immense value, address profoundly complex service supply chain challenges, and enable companies to optimise MRO processes," shared Andrew Schmidt, Trax's Executive Vice President.

## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### Embraer and ENAER forge cooperation agreement in Chile



Embraer and ENAER have signed two new collaborative agreements  
© Embraer

Embraer and ENAER (National Aeronautical Company of Chile) have revealed two collaborative agreements encompassing the A-29 Super Tucano, the C-390 Millennium defence aircraft and commercial aircraft. This cooperation will expand Embraer's supplier and service network in Chile while fostering integration within the aerospace industries of Brazil and Chile. This partnership stems from an understanding among Embraer, ENAER and the Chilean Air Force. ENAER will commence component manufacturing and serve as a designated maintenance centre for the Chilean Air Force's fleet of 22 A-29 Super Tucano units. This initiative aligns with the planned expansion of the A-29 Super Tucano fleet in Chile and aims to bolster ENAER's role as a supplier while strengthening Embraer's presence in the region. Henry Cleveland, Executive Director of ENAER, expressed optimism about the future, stating, "These agreements represent the resumption of commercial ties between the two companies, which lasted many years with successful results. The new stage that begins today allows us to look very optimistically at the future to face, between both countries, the challenges of the aerospace industry in an increasingly dynamic world." Bosco da Costa Junior, President and CEO of Embraer Defense & Security, highlighted the contract's significance in promoting reciprocal investments between Brazil and Chile. He emphasised the goal of deepening the relationship and expanding cooperation and mutual investments, not only in the A-29 Super Tucano but also in other programmes like the C-390 Millennium. The agreement signifies a revival of a fruitful cooperation history that dates back to the 1990s. During that period, ENAER was a key supplier of structures for Embraer's ERJ-135/140/145 family of jets and received several awards for excellence as part of Embraer's global supplier chain.

## OTHER NEWS

**Ryanair** has faced a setback from **Spain's Supreme Court**, which deemed the staff pay cuts and working condition alterations imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic in July 2020 as unlawful. The court upheld a 2021 National Court ruling, dismissing Ryanair's appeal against changes made to Spanish contracts in response to global travel restrictions. The Supreme Court judges highlighted the lack of consultation period for the changes and criticised the company's failure to negotiate in good faith, citing insufficient documentation. These changes resulted in 10% pay cuts for cabin crew staff and 20% for pilots, alongside reductions in rest days and the elimination of a monthly productivity bonus valued at €150 (£128.00). The lawsuit, initiated by the Sitcpla union representing cabin workers and the USO union, affected 893 cabin crew and 608 pilots. Ryanair is now compelled to restore its previous working contracts. In response, a statement from the USO union expressed hope for an immediate implementation of the restored work patterns. It lamented the strategy employed by companies like Ryanair, which sought to exploit legal loopholes for short-term gains, particularly during crises like the COVID pandemic.

The cargo hangars at **Zurich Airport**, some dating back to the 1950s and 1960s, no longer fully cater to the demands of today's cargo business. In response, **Flughafen Zürich AG** is embarking on the construction of a new cargo hangar, "Fracht Rächtenwisen," located in the eastern part of the airport. Construction is to commence this April, with **dnata Switzerland AG** slated to utilize the new infrastructure. Over the



Flughafen Zürich AG is embarking on the construction of a new cargo hangar  
© Zurich Airport

past 60 years, cargo requirements have significantly evolved, with a shift towards transporting smaller goods and freight with diverse needs, such as temperature control. To address this trend towards specialised freight, Flughafen Zürich AG is constructing the modern handling and storage hangar, Fracht Rächtenwisen. The new facility, spanning nearly 9,500 m², will feature 20 docking ramps for trucks, areas for import/export processes, customs and security checks. Additionally, specialised zones for handling pharmaceutical and hazardous goods will be incorporated. The structure will utilise concrete pillars, a wooden supporting framework and a rooftop photovoltaic system for sustainability. Upon completion, dnata Switzerland AG, a ground handling service provider, will lease and operate the Rächtenwisen cargo hangar. The project is scheduled for completion in 2027, reinforcing Zurich Airport's vital role in Switzerland's import and export landscape, where air freight accounts for roughly 50% of the nation's exports' value. The modern infrastructure aims to meet evolving industry demands and uphold the airport's significance in facilitating global trade.

## OTHER NEWS

**B&H Worldwide** has announced a two-year agreement with **Unical Aviation**, a supplier of aircraft parts and components to thousands of commercial aviation customers worldwide. This agreement sees B&H Worldwide providing Unical with comprehensive inventory management and freight forwarding services on a global scale. The strategic partnership aims to capitalise on B&H Worldwide's extensive expertise in aerospace logistics to bolster Unical's operations not only in Europe but also in surrounding markets. Leveraging B&H Worldwide's strategically located warehousing facility near Heathrow Airport, London, Unical will streamline parts distribution across Europe. Moreover, B&H Worldwide will assign dedicated personnel to serve as a seamless communication and administration link between Unical and B&H's global network. Together with B&H Worldwide's global team, they will oversee courier and freight services, handle inquiries, and furnish regular updates on inventory and operations to Unical's sales and operations teams worldwide.

**Lufthansa** and the **UFO union** have agreed on a new collective agreement for approximately 19,000 cabin employees of **Lufthansa Airlines**. The core of the agreement is a wage increase of a total of 16.5% (with interest effect 17.4%) in several stages over the next three years. The collective agreement is valid until at least the end of 2026 and is accompanied by a corresponding peace obligation. Michael Niggemann, Chief Human Resources Officer and Labour Director at Deutsche Lufthansa AG, stated, "I am very pleased about the agreement with our collective bargaining partner UFO – for our colleagues in the cabin, who do an outstanding job every day, and also for our guests, who finally have planning security again when flying with Lufthansa. Our goal has always been to find a solution at the negotiating table together with the union. We have now succeeded. At the same time, the agreed salary developments in all professional groups are also an economic challenge that we now have to deal with." The new collective agreement includes a full inflation compensation bonus of €3,000 net (part-time pro-rata) as soon as possible, table increases: eight percent as of May 2024; a further five percent by March 2025 and 3.5% by March 2026, increase in purser allowances (Purser I to €700, Purser II to €800), increase in the surcharge for holiday pay to €1,250, increase in the foreign language allowance to €65 and a term of at least 36 months. (£1.00 = €1.17 at time of publication).



Iridium Satellite Time and Location is being deployed by L3Harris to protect critical FAA data centre infrastructure © Iridium

isation (FAA) facilities across the United States. L3Harris, responsible for operating a private nationwide network for the FAA, facilitates voice, data and video communications for national airspace system operations and mission support functions. Given the critical nature of timing synchronisation within the L3Harris communications network, particularly for supporting various critical infrastructure applications, the Iridium STL service plays a pivotal role in the overall network timing architecture by eliminating dependencies on GPS as the primary timing source. The solution for L3Harris includes compact devices provided by Adtran's Oscilloquartz division, designed to receive Iridium STL signals. These high-performance devices seamlessly integrate into the network, effectively meeting nationwide network timing synchronization requirements. "With Iridium STL, data centre managers can count on dependable timing synchronisation throughout their facilities," said Christina Riley, Vice President and General Manager, Commercial Resilient Time and Location, Iridium. "STL solutions offer cost-effective resiliency in critical infrastructure environments where GPS is unreliable or unavailable, so L3Harris and the FAA can benefit from uninterrupted, high-performance operations."

**Spanish Crisalion Mobility** has entered into a strategic agreement with Swedish vertiport company **Kookiejar**, renowned for its extensive expertise in developing air mobility solutions. This collaboration aims to jointly develop vertiports, crucial infrastructure for electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft. Crisalion Mobility and Kookiejar are pooling their resources to devise an action plan and roadmap, outlining a set of shared objectives pivotal to their project advancement. Their focus will be on pinpointing potential synergies between the eVTOL INTEGRITY and Kookiejar vertiports, as well as evaluating the operational efficiency of Crisalion Mobility's activities within these facilities. These operations encompass freight transportation, medical emergencies, as well as urban, regional and tourism missions. Moreover, the agreement places significant emphasis on formulating strategies to mitigate environmental impact, improve turnaround efficiency, and adhere to sustainability standards. Joint training initiatives will be implemented for the teams of both companies, alongside research endeavours into upcoming technologies aimed at further enhancing the efficiency and safety of air mobility operations pertinent to the project. The collaboration between Crisalion Mobility and Kookiejar stands as a pivotal milestone in the expansion and advancement of air mobility within urban environments. It not only opens up a plethora of opportunities for integrating aircraft into the global transportation infrastructure but also heralds a new era in urban air mobility. Cooperation has proven to be essential in crafting sustainable, groundbreaking solutions. Each of the two companies brings to the fore its unique expertise in developing innovative, secure solutions that will facilitate the widespread implementation of vertiports across the globe. Taking inspiration from Sweden's IKEA, Kookiejar's scalable, modular construction approach for vertiports empowers businesses, cities, and towns to make their commercial real estate flight-ready and establish an efficient Vertiport network. Kookiejar's cost-effective solutions offer flexibility in vertiport deployment, with the aim of minimising landing fees and making air mobility accessible to all.



eVTOL aircraft INTEGRITY

© Crisalion Mobility

## INDUSTRY PEOPLE



Javier Echave will take over from Emma Gilthorpe as COO of Heathrow © Heathrow Airport

• Heathrow Airport (Heathrow) has revealed several key changes to its executive team as it charts a course for the future, aiming to solidify its position as a premier airport in the global landscape. Chief Operating Officer (COO) **Emma Gilthorpe**, who has served Heathrow for 15 years, will be departing to assume the role of CEO at the Royal Mail starting May 1, 2024. Gilthorpe's tenure at Heathrow has been marked by notable achievements across various executive roles, including regulation, strategy, expansion and Operations. Her departure, effective April 26, signifies the end of an era characterised by her decisive leadership and strategic acumen, which have earned her recognition and respect among stakeholders. Stepping into Gilthorpe's shoes is **Javier Echave**, the current Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at Heathrow, who will assume the role of COO. Echave, who joined Heathrow 16 years ago and became CFO in 2016, brings a wealth of experience and a proven track record of financial stewardship. He has been instrumental in shaping the company's business plan, ensuring financial stability and fostering a culture of performance excellence within the finance team. In the interim, **Sally Ding**, currently Director of Treasury and Corporate Finance, will serve as acting CFO. Ding, who has been with Heathrow since 2006, boasts a strong background in financial management and has been pivotal in cultivating global financial partnerships and spearheading innovative funding initiatives, including the successful launch of Heathrow's sustainability linked bond last year. These changes reflect Heathrow's commitment to nurturing internal talent, driving operational excellence and adapting to evolving industry dynamics as it embarks on its next phase of growth and innovation.

• IBA, the aviation market intelligence



Kane Ray

and advisory company, has named **Kane Ray** as its new Head of General Aviation and Aftermarket. With over 13 years of experience in aviation consulting, valuations and asset management, Ray brings a wealth of expertise to his new role. Drawing on his extensive technical knowledge and commercial relationships, he will lead IBA's General Aviation and Aftermarket appraisal services, leveraging the company's cutting-edge intelligence through IBA Insight to provide accurate, unbiased valuations and advisory services across a diverse range of aviation assets. Ray's career began at IBA, where he established himself as an expert in aircraft engine and component appraisal and consultancy services over seven years, eventually becoming Head Analyst. After stints at Counterpoint Market Intelligence and Kayan Aviation Capital, he returns to IBA as Head Appraiser, bringing significant exposure to the aviation supply chain. Reflecting on his appointment, Ray expressed his excitement to re-join IBA, citing the company's unparalleled access to quality insights and the team's extensive expertise as key factors in his decision. He commented on the remarkable growth and development of IBA's offerings prior to his return, reaffirming his commitment to the company's culture and passion for aviation.



Matthijs Hutsebaut

• ExecuJet MRO Services Europe, a wholly owned subsidiary of Dassault Aviation, has named **Matthijs Hutsebaut** as Regional Vice President for Europe. Hutsebaut takes over from **Christophe de Coppel**, who now serves as Dassault Aviation's MRO Sales Director for Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) as well as Asia Pacific (APAC). In his new capacity, Hutsebaut will lead the growth efforts of ExecuJet MRO Services Europe, focusing on expanding heavy maintenance work and continuing the development of its AOG and line maintenance business. ExecuJet MRO Services Europe operates an MRO centre at

Brussels International Airport, catering to AOGs across Europe and Africa, along with providing line maintenance services. Additionally, it has another facility in the northern Belgian town of Kortrijk, specialising in heavy maintenance tasks, including heavy checks on Cessna Citations and various Dassault aircraft types such as the Falcon 7X and 8X, Falcon 900 and Falcon 2000. Hutsebaut initially joined the company in February 2020 as Finance Manager and played a key role in its expansion. In 2021, he was promoted to Finance Director, his last position before assuming the role of Regional Vice President for Europe.

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### Commercial Jet Aircraft

Aircraft Type	Company	Engine	MSN	Year	Available	Sale / Lease	Contact	Email	Phone
A319-100	FPG Amentum	V2527M-A5	3705	2008	Now	Sale / Lease	Eoin Kirby	eoin.kirby@fpg-amentum.aero	+353 86 027 3163
A320-233ceo	FPG Amentum	V2527E-A5	4457	2010	Now	Sale / Lease	Lei Ma	ma.lei@fpg-amentum.aero	+852 9199 1875
B737-400F	Royal Aero	CFM56-3C1	29204		Feb 2024	Sale/Lease/Ex	Gary MacLeod	gary@royalaero.com	+44 (0)1357 521144
B737-800 SF	GA Telesis		27988	2000	Now	Sale / Lease		aircraft@gatelesis.com	
B777-300ER	BBAM	GE90-115BL	39237	2013	Feb 2024	Sale / Lease	Steve Zissis	info@bbam.com	+1 787 665 7039

### Regional Jet / Turboprop Aircraft

Aircraft Type	Company	Engine	MSN	Year	Available	Sale / Lease	Contact	Email	Phone
SAAB 2000	Jetstream Aviation Capital	AE2100A	031	1996	Now	Sale / Lease	Donald Kamenz	dkamenz@jetstreamavcap.com	+1 (305) 447-1920 x 115
SAAB 340B CRG	Jetstream Aviation Capital	CT7-9B	224	1990	Now	Lease	Bill Jones	bjones@jetstreamavcap.com	+1 (305) 447-1920 x 102
SAAB 340B Plus	Jetstream Aviation Capital	CT7-9B	450	1998	Now	Lease	Bill Jones	bjones@jetstreamavcap.com	+1 (305) 447-1920 x 102

### Commercial Engines

CF34 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
CF34-8E5	Now - Lease	Lufthansa Technik AERO Alzey	Kai Ebach	k.ebach@lhaero.com	+49-6731-497-368
CF34-10E5	Now - Lease				
CF34-8C5	Now - Lease				
(1) CF34-10E6	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) CF34-10E5	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(2) CF34-3A	Now - Sale	GNS	Shlomi Levi	shlomi@g-n-solutions.com	+972-52 850 8511
(1) CF34-10E5A1	Mar 2024 - Lease	DASI	Joe Hutchings	joe.hutchings@dasi.com	+1 954-478-7195

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**Commercial Engines**

CFM Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) CFM56-5B3/3	Now - Lease	FTAI Aviation LLC	Mark Napoles	mnapoles@ftaaviation.com	+1 786-785-0777
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B3/P	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B1/P	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-7B26	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Sale / Lease	Magellan Aviation Group	Bradley Hogan	engines@magellangroup.net	+1 704-504-9204
(3) CFM56-5C4	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Sale	BBAM	Steve Zissis	info@bbam.com	+1 787 665 7040
(1) CFM56-7B26	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-7B26/3	Now - Lease				
(4) CFM56-5B6/P	Now - Sale				
(3) CFM56-5B5/P	Now - Sale				
(1) CFM56-5B5/P	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(1) CFM56-7B24/3	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B4/3	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B4/3	Now - Sale / Lease	GA Telesis		engines@gatelesis.com	
GE90 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) GE90-94B	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(2) GE90-94B	Now - Sale	BBAM	Steve Zissis	info@bbam.com	+1 787 665 7039
LEAP Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) LEAP-1B28	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) LEAP-1A33	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717



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**Commercial Engines**

PW Small Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
PW121	Now - Sale	Lufthansa Technik AERO Alzey	Kai Ebach	k.ebach@lhaero.com	+49-6731-497-368
PW127F	Now - Sale				
PW150A	Now - Sale / Lease				
PW127M	Now - Lease				
(1) PW150A	Now - Sale	Magellan Aviation Group	Bradley Hogan	engines@magellangroup.net	+1 704-504-9204
(2) PW150A	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.	Willis Lease	David Desaulniers	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) PW127M	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.				
Trent Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(2) Trent 772B-60	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.	Rolls-Royce & Partners Finance	RRPF Marketing	RRPFMarketing@rolls-royce.com	+44 7528975877
(1) Trent XWB-84	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.				
(1) Trent 556-61	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.				
V2500 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) V2527-A5	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.	Rolls-Royce & Partners Finance	RRPF Marketing	RRPFMarketing@rolls-royce.com	+44 7528975877
(1) V2533-A5	Now - Sale/Lease/Exch.				
(1) V2530-A5	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) V2533-A5	Now - Lease	FTAI Aviation LLC	Mark Napoles	mnapoles@ftaiairline.com	+1 786-785-0777

**Aircraft and Engine Parts, Components and Misc. Equipment**

Description		Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(2) GTCP331-200ER, (2) GTCP131-9A,	Now - Sale	Setna IO	David Chaimovitz	david@setnaio.com	+1-312-549-4459
(1) GTCP131-9B					
(1) A321 Enhanced Landing Gear 2020 OH					
(1) GTCP36-150	Now - Sale	GNS	Shlomi Levi	shlomi@g-n-solutions.com	+972-52 850 8511
(2) A340 LG Shipset		GA Telesis		landinggearsales@gatelesis.com	
(3) 767 LG Shipset					
GTCP131-9A (2), GTCP131-9B(2)	Now - Lease	REVIMA APU	Olivier Hy	olivier.hy@revima-apu.com	+33(0)235563515
(1) GTCP331-200, (1) GTCP331-250	Now - Lease				
APS500C14(3), APS1000C12(2), APS2000	Now - Lease				
APS2300, APS3200(2), APS5000(2)	Now - Lease				
PW901A(4), PW901C(2)	Now - Sale / Lease				
TSCP700-4E	Now - Sale				
(1) 131-9A, (2) 131-9B (Max compliant), (1) APS2300		GA Telesis		apu@gatelesis.com	+1-954-849-3509
(3) 131-9B, (1) 331-200, (2) 331-350, (1) 331-600					
Engine stands: CF6-80C2, CFM56-3, CFM56-5A/B/C, PW4000				stands@gatelesis.com	+1-954-676-3111
(2) APU GTC131-9B	Now - Sale / Lease	Willis Lease	Gavin Connolly	gconnolly@willislease.com	+44 1656 765 256
Engine stands now available	Now - Lease				
(2) PW901A, (1) PW901C(1), PW125B RGB	Now - Lease	Lufthansa Technik AERO Alzey	Kai Ebach	k.ebach@lhaero.com	+49-6731-497-368