

Weekly Aviation Headline News



“This action is a precautionary measure, based on the information received from the initial investigation of the recent Cathay Pacific serious incident and on the airline’s findings in its own subsequent inspections.”

Florian Guillermet, EASA Executive Director

EASA Partial Override Demands Checks on A350-1000s After Cathay Pacific Engine Fire

Legacy of Boeing safety crisis sees European agency step in to ensure thorough exploration of fault

European Union Air Safety Agency (EASA) has intervened and issued an emergency directive after an engine fire onboard a Cathay Pacific flight forced a Zurich-bound Airbus A350-1000 to turn back to Hong Kong. The agency’s intervention was to ensure that no similar incidents occurred and was issued after discussing the situation with Rolls-Royce, the manufacturer of the Trent XWB-97 engine, and Airbus.

EASA Executive Director Florian Guillermet said in a statement that: “This action is a precautionary measure, based on the information received from the initial investigation of the recent Cathay Pacific serious incident and on the airline’s findings in its own subsequent inspections.”

The move would seem to be the EASA working to help restore public confidence in airline safety in relation to the damage caused by Boeing’s safety crisis. The Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2024-0174-E was issued after spending many hours discussing the situation with Rolls-Royce, who had initially sought to implement a less rigorous check that would reduce any potential disruption to carriers. The EASA has been able to show that it is prepared to work independently of manufacturers recommendations and this incident is the first major test for Florian Guillermet, the new executive director at the EASA who took over in April this year.

The EASA has also confirmed that the fire, classed as a “serious incident” (a “serious incident” is an investigative term in aviation that means there was a high probability of an accident), was as a consequence of the failure of a hose in the fuel system that caused a fire which, at the time, was quickly dealt with by the aircraft’s crew. “We will continue to follow closely all information that will be made available through the ongoing safety investigation,” Guillermet said, according to Reuters news agency.

The A350-1000 is the larger of the twin-engine A350 family of aircraft and there are currently 86 in service, roughly 15% of the entire A350 fleet. The EASA has given carriers between three and 30 days to carry out visual checks and measurements on the fuel hoses but did not call for parts to be removed for the work, unless they were found to be damaged. It is understood that preliminary investigations have identified that a hose between a manifold and a fuel injection nozzle was pierced. The Hong Kong-led probe now needs to establish whether this was the cause of or as a consequence of the incident.

The EASA confirmed that the fire had caused heat damage to the engine housing, including ducts used for reverse-thrust on landing. “This condition, if not detected and corrected could, in combination with additional failures, lead to a more severe engine fire and resulting damage to an airplane,” the Agency said.



AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

EASA orders inspections for Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 engines

The EASA has mandated inspections for the Airbus A350-1000 fleet, which is equipped with Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 engines. This precautionary measure follows a serious incident involving a Cathay Pacific flight from Hong Kong earlier this week. EASA's Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2024-0174-E requires a phased, one-off inspection of the flexible fuel hose connections inside the engines to check for potential damage. These inspections must be completed within the next 3 to 30 days, depending on the individual engine's history. Currently, there are 86 A350-1000 aircraft in service worldwide. "This action is a precautionary measure, based on the information received from the initial investigation of the recent Cathay Pacific serious incident and on the airline's findings in its own subsequent inspections," said EASA Executive Director Florian Guillet. "We will continue to follow closely all information that will be made available through the ongoing safety investigation." On September 1, a Cathay Pacific A350-1000 experienced an in-flight engine fire shortly after taking off from Hong Kong on its way to Zurich. The fire was quickly detected and extinguished, allowing the aircraft to return safely to Hong Kong. The affected aircraft was powered by Trent XWB-97 engines. This event has been classified as a serious incident, prompting an International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex-13 investigation by Hong Kong's Air Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA). Following inspections, Cathay Pacific reported similar issues on other A350 aircraft in its fleet. EASA, as the State of Design airworthiness authority for both the A350 aircraft and the Trent XWB engines, has mandated these measures specifically for the Trent XWB-97 engines. The Trent XWB-84 engines, used on the A350-900, have different design and service histories, and no extension of the current measures to these engines is deemed necessary at this time.

Avation PLC completes sale of two ATR aircraft

Avation PLC (Aviation), a commercial passenger aircraft leasing company, has announced the sale of two ATR 72-600 aircraft to Danish Air Transport (DAT). The two aircraft, acquired by Avation in 2018, were originally leased to DAT under agreements that included purchase options. DAT has now exercised these options, and the sales of both aircraft have been successfully completed. The transaction was carried out at book value and has generated net cash proceeds of approximately US\$10 million after the repayment of associated bank loans.



72-600

© ATR

Jeff Chatfield, Avation's Executive Chairman, commented, "We are pleased to have successfully concluded these aircraft sales to our longstanding customer, DAT. The Company's strategy is to maintain a balanced portfolio of regional and modern commercial narrowbody aircraft, and exiting these two ATR aircraft aligns with that strategy." This sale supports Avation's ongoing efforts to optimise its aircraft portfolio, focusing on the ownership of newer, more efficient aircraft while maintaining strong relationships with key customers like DAT.

JEKTA signs first lessor deal with Solyu for 30 PHA-ZE 100 aircraft



JEKTA signs deal with Solyu for 30 PHA-ZE 100 aircraft © JEKTA

Swiss aircraft developer JEKTA has signed its first lessor agreement with Solyu for 30 PHA-ZE 100 zero-emissions amphibious aircraft. This deal boosts JEKTA's advanced commitments for its amphibious aircraft to over US\$1 billion. Based in Seoul, South Korea, Solyu is dedicated to promoting a low-carbon future for aviation, providing financial and leasing solutions to operators seeking to benefit from the PHA-ZE 100's sustainable features. This is the first amphibious aircraft in Solyu's regional advanced air mobility portfolio. Andrew Claerbout, CEO of Solyu, highlighted the

PHA-ZE 100's potential to open new markets for clients, offering low operating costs, flexible configurations, and zero-emissions operations. He also noted the minimal infrastructure requirements needed to support the aircraft, anticipating strong interest in both hydrogen and electric variants. JEKTA and Solyu recognise the significant market and investment potential for zero-emissions amphibious aircraft, especially for operators in Asia and globally. JEKTA CEO George Alafinov emphasised the crucial role leasing companies like Solyu play in offering financial flexibility to operators, enhancing networks, and increasing market opportunities. He noted that this agreement demonstrates the aviation sector's interest in incorporating amphibious aircraft into global air transport systems. This milestone for JEKTA, which launched in December 2022, brings the company's forward interest value to over US\$1 billion in less than two years. The PHA-ZE 100 is designed to seamlessly transition between land and water, serving coastal and island communities, regional routes, and new low-cost sustainable services without requiring expensive infrastructure. The aircraft, certified to EASA CS-23 and US FAA FAR-23 standards, offers versatile configurations including passenger, freight, VIP, and air ambulance options, all within a spacious, modern cabin.

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AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

Stratos delivers A330-200 to Iberia

Stratos, an aircraft investment specialist and asset manager, has announced the delivery of an Airbus A330-200 on a long-term operating lease to Iberia, Spain's largest airline and a member of the International Airlines Group (IAG). The aircraft (MSN 1319), owned by a US-based investor, was recovered from Virgin Australia and transitioned to Iberia. It will be utilised by Level, IAG's low-cost brand based in Barcelona. Camille Pousseur, Marketing Director at Stratos, stated, "This aircraft presented a significant challenge for our technical team, but it has once again demonstrated Stratos' capability to manage highly complex projects and deliver profitable outcomes for our clients—both investors and airlines. We are delighted to welcome Iberia as a new airline partner." Founded in 2013, Stratos is a top-ten aircraft asset manager and a leading independent aircraft investment specialist. The company offers a comprehensive range of services, including acquisition, re-marketing, servicing, advisory, and capital raising, to airlines, lenders, and investors in large commercial aircraft. To date, Stratos has placed and sourced over 200 new and used aircraft, valued at more than US\$7 billion, and raised or traded US\$4.2 billion in aircraft-backed debt. The company currently manages a fleet of 61 aircraft with a total value exceeding US\$3 billion.



Level Airbus A330-200

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Heart Aerospace and Loganair launch hybrid-electric partnership



Loganair ES-30

© Heart Aerospace

Heart Aerospace, a hybrid-electric aircraft manufacturer and Loganair a UK regional airline, have announced an exclusive partnership aimed at decarbonising regional air travel across the United Kingdom. Under this agreement, Loganair and Heart Aerospace will work together to explore and develop use-cases for hybrid-electric aircraft within Loganair's extensive network in Scotland and the rest of the UK. Headquartered at Glasgow Airport, Loganair is the UK's largest regional airline by passenger numbers and fleet size, primarily operating domestic flights. Central to this collaboration is Heart Aerospace's ES-30, a hybrid-electric aircraft currently in development. With the capacity to carry up to 30 passengers, the ES-30 has the potential to significantly reduce carbon emissions while providing cost-effective and accessible air travel.

Simon Newitt, President and CCO of Heart Aerospace, expressed enthusiasm for the partnership, noting that Loganair has long been a champion of regional aviation. He highlighted that this collaboration marks a significant step towards making air travel more sustainable, aligning with Loganair's ambitious goal of achieving net-zero emissions across its operations by 2040. As part of the partnership, Heart Aerospace and Loganair will evaluate the ES-30's use cases, while also engaging with the Scottish and UK governments and airports to promote the benefits of this innovative propulsion technology. Additionally, Loganair will join Heart Aerospace's Industry Advisory Board, which includes airlines, governments, leasing companies, and airports worldwide, all committed to supporting the electrification of air travel. "This is a very exciting and significant moment for Loganair and for the future of sustainable UK regional flying. This exclusive collaboration with Heart Aerospace brings together two organisations who share a passion to see aviation emissions reduce in a realistic and meaningful way, and we definitely see the ES-30 as being a strong contender to emerge as one of the leaders in this space. At Loganair we are very proud of our environmental work and achievements to date, and we see this as the next logical step along the path to a greener future for UK regional aviation," said Luke Farajallah, CEO of Loganair. The ES-30 will offer a fully electric, zero-emissions range of 200 kilometres, an extended hybrid range of 400 kilometres with 30 passengers, and the flexibility to fly up to 800 kilometres with 25 passengers, all while maintaining typical airline reserves. Heart Aerospace currently holds firm orders for 250 ES-30 aircraft, with options and purchase rights for an additional 120 planes, and letters of intent for a further 191 aircraft.

Azorra delivers first Airbus A220 to Cyprus Airways

Azorra has announced the delivery of an Airbus A220-300 to Cyprus Airways, marking the beginning of a new partnership with the Cypriot flag carrier. The aircraft, previously operated by Egyptair, is part of a batch of 12 A220s acquired by Azorra in February 2024. John Evans, CEO and Founder of Azorra, expressed his satisfaction with the new partnership, stating that the delivery of this A220, which includes freshly overhauled and updated engines from Pratt & Whitney, will enhance Cyprus Airways' existing Airbus fleet. He highlighted the A220's exceptional fuel efficiency, cost effectiveness, and passenger comfort. Evans extended his gratitude to Cyprus Airways for its trust in Azorra and looked forward to a successful and enduring collaboration. Thanos Paschalis, CEO of Cyprus Airways, says: "Cyprus Airways is delighted to receive one more Airbus A220 aircraft to enhance our current fleet. The aircraft encompasses the latest technology in safety and operations and has one of the best environmental footprints of any aircraft flying. Cyprus Airways is committed to developing its fleet based on safety, efficiency, sustainability and customer comfort. This aircraft as well as another brand-new unit will be delivered from Azorra." This delivery signifies a significant milestone for both Azorra and Cyprus Airways, underscoring the airline's dedication to modernising its fleet with state-of-the-art aircraft while forging a strong relationship with its new lessor.



Cyprus Airways' A220

© Azorra

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

JAL and MHI begin maintenance & aftermarket services partnership



© JAL

Japan Airlines (JAL) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) have agreed to jointly explore potential collaboration in the aircraft aftermarket sector. The two companies have formalised this agreement by signing a memorandum. The aircraft aftermarket business encompasses services such as repairs, maintenance, parts supply, and refurbishment, all of which are crucial for maintaining and enhancing aircraft safety and operational efficiency. With the global resurgence in aircraft demand, the need for maintenance services has also grown. In response, JAL and MHI have initiated discussions to address the various challenges currently facing the aircraft aftermarket. JAL Group, with its expertise and experience in aircraft operation and maintenance, and MHI Group, with its expertise in aircraft design, development, manufacturing, certification, and MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) services—particularly in North America—will both contribute to this exploration. Within the JAL Group, the joint exploration will be led by JAL Engineering (JALEC), which is responsible

for aircraft maintenance. Additionally, JAL and MHI will continue their current efforts to expand cooperation in human resources and technology development within the aircraft industry. JAL and MHI have a longstanding relationship rooted in Japan’s aviation industry. Over the years, MHI has been a key partner for JAL, supplying various aircraft components and systems. This collaboration has extended beyond mere supplier-customer dynamics, with both companies working closely on the development and maintenance of aircraft. MHI’s expertise in manufacturing and engineering has played a crucial role in supporting JAL’s fleet, particularly in ensuring the reliability and safety of its aircraft operations. In addition to their technical collaboration, JAL and MHI have also engaged in joint initiatives aimed at advancing the broader aerospace industry in Japan. They have partnered on projects related to the development of next-generation aircraft and technologies, reflecting a shared commitment to innovation and excellence. This partnership has been instrumental in enhancing the capabilities of both companies, allowing them to contribute significantly to Japan’s position in the global aviation market. Their collaboration continues to evolve, adapting to the changing demands of the industry while maintaining a focus on quality and safety.

HAL and SAFHAL cooperate to develop Aravalli engines

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and SAFHAL Helicopter Engines (SAFHAL) have entered into an airframe contract to jointly design, develop, manufacture, supply, and support a new generation of high-power engines named ‘Aravalli’. These engines will power India’s 13-ton Medium Lift class Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH) and the Deck-Based Multi-Role Helicopter (DBMRH), both of which are being designed and developed by HAL. The name ‘Aravalli’, inspired by India’s majestic mountain range, symbolises the nation’s aspirations for achieving self-reliance in critical engine technologies. The contract was signed by Mr S Anbuvelan, CEO (HAL Helicopters), Mr Olivier Savin, Director, SAFHAL Helicopter Engines and EVP, Sales & Marketing, Safran Helicopter Engines and Mr S K Mehta, Director, SAFHAL Helicopter Engines and Executive Finance Director, HAL. Mr Cedric Goubet, CEO of Safran Helicopter Engines, expressed pride in collaborating with HAL on this strategic project, building on 25 years of successful partnership between Safran and HAL. This project not only strengthens the collaboration with HAL but also enhances the strategic relationship between India and France. By combining their expertise and resources, the two companies are committed to ensuring the success of the IMRH and DBMRH programmes, while also contributing to the growth of India’s aerospace and defence sector. Safran remains fully dedicated to its customers in India and is eager to design, produce, and support these new, efficient helicopter engines. SAFHAL, a joint venture between Safran Helicopter Engines SAS and HAL, is dedicated to the design, development, production, sales, and support of new-generation helicopter engines in India. This partnership marks a significant milestone in India’s aerospace and defence sector, aiming to enhance the nation’s self-reliance in helicopter engine technology. Under this strategic contract, SAFHAL will collaborate with its parent companies on cutting-edge engine technologies, ensuring superior performance, reliability, and operational efficiency. This partnership will involve state-of-the-art design, advanced manufacturing processes, and rigorous testing protocols to meet the highest global standards. IMRH is a new 13-ton multi-role helicopter designed by HAL to meet the requirements of the Indian Armed Forces. A naval version, the 12.5-ton DBMRH, is also being developed for the Indian Navy. The engines will be designed to operate in the diverse and challenging environments where these helicopters are deployed. Future extensions to the civil market for offshore operations, utility, VVIP transport, and more are also planned, followed by MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) activities.



Contract-signing between HAL and SAFHAL

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MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

ANA introduces first AeroSHARK-aircraft by LHT and BASF

All Nippon Airways (ANA) has welcomed another marine-inspired aircraft to its fleet: its first Boeing 777 equipped with AeroSHARK. This revolutionary surface technology, inspired by shark skin, reduces drag and enhances fuel-efficiency. ANA has become the first airline globally to operate both passenger and freighter variants of the Boeing 777 with this innovative technology. The first modified Boeing 777F (JA771F) commenced scheduled cargo flights with plans to extend AeroSHARK technology to a passenger aircraft (JA796A) by next spring, reinforcing ANA's commitment to investing in fuel-efficient technologies that reduce emissions. AeroSHARK, a joint development by Lufthansa Technik and BASF, is a functional surface film inspired by the drag-reducing structure of sharkskin. The film features tiny ribs, known as riblets, approximately 50 micrometres in size. ANA's MRO partner, under Lufthansa Technik's guidance, has recently applied several hundred square metres of these riblet films to the fuselage of



AeroSHARK

© ANA

JA771F, which re-entered commercial service with its first AeroSHARK-optimised flight from Tokyo-Narita to Chicago-O'Hare. Although the riblet modification is almost invisible, it is expected to deliver significant fuel and emissions savings. The contracted Boeing 777F and 777-300ER aircraft will have nearly the entire fuselage covered with the sharkskin-inspired film, resulting in estimated annual savings of approximately 250 metric tons of fuel and 800 metric tons of CO2 for each aircraft. Kohei Tsuji, a member of the board and executive vice president of the engineering and maintenance centre at ANA, highlighted that the introduction of AeroSHARK technology on their Boeing 777 aircraft marks a significant milestone in its sustainability strategy, supporting its broader goal of reducing carbon emissions across the fleet. ANA is proud to be the first airline in the world to implement this innovative technology on both passenger and freighter versions of the Boeing 777, reinforcing its commitment to delivering excellence and reducing its carbon footprint. As ANA begins operations with two Boeing 777s equipped with riblet films, the airline will assess the effectiveness of this technology in its daily operations, with plans to expand its use across other aircraft of the same type. This initiative is part of the ANA Group's medium-to-long-term environmental strategy, which includes the broader "ANA Future Promise" initiative aimed at realising a sustainable society and promoting ESG management.

Pegasus Airlines entrusts Lufthansa Technik with maintenance for A320 fleet



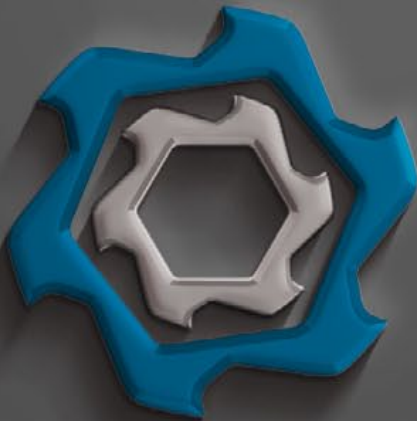
Pegasus Airlines and Lufthansa Technik celebrate signed agreement

© LHT Sofia

Pegasus Airlines has entrusted Lufthansa Technik with the comprehensive base maintenance of its rapidly expanding Airbus A320 family fleet. The recently signed three-year agreement includes over 60 checks on A320ceo, A320neo, and A321neo aircraft for Türkiye's second-largest airline. All contracted services will be carried out at a dedicated overhaul line at Lufthansa Technik Sofia. "The newly concluded contract, and the long-term intensification of our cooperation with Lufthansa Technik, gives us flexibility while ensuring our high-quality standards," said Şerife Akin, Senior Purchasing Director at Pegasus Airlines. "With our dedicated overhaul line at Lufthansa Technik Sofia, we are now optimally positioned for the coming years. This supports our goal of being one of the leading low-cost airlines in the industry, streamlining air travel, and

offering affordable fares to our valued customers." Marcus Motschenbacher, Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Aircraft Maintenance Services at Lufthansa Technik, added: "We are pleased to offer our customers top-quality service and to contribute to the stability of their flight operations with reliable overhauls. We already enjoy a close and trustful collaboration with Pegasus Airlines, allowing us to respond individually to their needs, and we are honoured to expand our successful business relationship." In recent years, this relationship has included areas such as Landing Gear Services and shorter collaborations for Base Maintenance Services. The new contract marks the first-ever multi-year agreement between the two partners in the latter field. Additionally, Pegasus Airlines utilises solutions from Lufthansa Technik's AVIATAR digital platform to optimise its technical operations.

Beyond Lufthansa Technik Sofia, where the checks for Pegasus will be performed, Lufthansa Technik's global base maintenance network includes major facilities on three continents, providing comprehensive aircraft checks for a broad range of customers worldwide. Their service portfolio spans C-, IL-, and D-checks on short-, medium-, and long-haul aircraft, as well as modifications and other services.



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MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Egyptair Maintenance & Engineering signs MoU with Airbus

Egyptair Maintenance & Engineering (Egyptair M&E) has announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Airbus. This partnership strengthens Egyptair M&E's position as a global leader in aviation maintenance and repair services (MRO). As part of the MoU, Egyptair M&E will undergo the Airbus airframe MRO supplier qualification process, showcasing its compliance with industry-leading standards. This qualification will establish the company as a preferred supplier for Airbus aircraft operators across Africa, highlighting its advanced technical expertise, cutting-edge facilities, and dedication to quality and safety in aviation maintenance. Eng. Walid El-Khaffif, Chairman and CEO of Egyptair M&E, expressed the company's excitement about entering into this strategic partnership with Airbus. He emphasised that the collaboration will strengthen their ability to provide world-class maintenance services to clients and support the sustainable growth of aviation across Africa. Mikail Houari, President of Airbus Africa and Middle East, expressed satisfaction with the deepened collaboration with Egyptair through this agreement. He highlighted Airbus' commitment to enhancing MRO capabilities in Africa and the Middle East, aiming to raise maintenance standards and support the safe growth of the aviation industry. Houari noted that this partnership will contribute to building a stronger, more resilient aviation ecosystem in Egypt and looks forward to continued cooperation.

This partnership will allow Egyptair M&E to expand its range of services for Airbus fleets, including scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, component repairs, and technical support. These advancements will benefit its customers and contribute to the growth of the aviation sector in Africa.



MoU signing with Airbus

© Egyptair M&E

HAECO partners with Safran Aircraft Engines for LEAP RBS installation



HAECO partners with Safran Aircraft Engines for RBS installation on LEAP engines © HAECO

HAECO has announced a long-term partnership with Safran Aircraft Engines for the installation of the reverse bleed system (RBS) on LEAP engines. This collaboration reinforces HAECO's reputation as a trusted provider of high-quality engine services and its commitment to fostering innovation in the aviation industry. The RBS installation will be performed on-wing and near-wing by HAECO's dedicated global engine support team. HAECO is the first supplier to sign an agreement with Safran Aircraft Engines to retrofit this advanced system on their existing fleet of LEAP engines. Additionally, HAECO will provide storage and housekeeping services for these engines. Since 2010, HAECO has been providing engine services to Safran Aircraft Engines at its facility in Xiamen, China. This expanded partnership now includes HAECO's global engine support network and marks a significant milestone, extending its services to include LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines. Sandra Nieuwenhuijzen, Group Director of components & engine services at HAECO, highlighted the company's dedication to delivering efficient, reliable, and high-quality engine services. She expressed pride in being selected for Safran Aircraft Engines'

RBS retrofit project and anticipation for the opportunities it will bring for their LEAP engine services. HAECO, with strategically located facilities in Hong Kong, London, Amsterdam, and Dallas, is a leading provider of on-wing and near-wing engine services. The company also offers advanced tooling, comprehensive training, and operates EASA- and FAA-approved shops. HAECO's engine storage facilities are located in Dallas and Greensboro, and the company serves as a centre for lease redelivery of various major engine models.

Deutsche Aircraft awards Javel Aerospace D328eco contract

Deutsche Aircraft has contracted Javel Aerospace to update and develop design and manufacturing standards for the 40-seater D328eco regional turboprop. This follows a successful pilot programme created by the Deutsche Aircraft and Javel Aerospace teams, based in Germany, the United Kingdom, and India. The goal of this collaboration is to create comprehensive standards and specifications for the D328eco, leveraging modern design and manufacturing practices, while ensuring compliance with global aerospace standards.

Vipul Vachhani, Founder and CEO of Javel Aerospace, expressed the company's pride in being part of the Deutsche Aircraft D328eco programme, attributing the success to the collaboration between the Deutsche Aircraft and Javel teams in developing the standards and specification framework, which will be implemented across the entire D328eco programme. He highlighted that, building on the strong track record of the D328®, the D328eco is well-positioned to deliver optimal seat-mile costs, along with improved utilisation and reliability within its class.

Nico Neumann, COO at Deutsche Aircraft, stated, "We look forward to further collaboration with Javel Aerospace on the update and, where required, new development of design and manufacturing standards for the D328eco programme. The extension of the contract is based on a successful pilot programme created by both teams. India is a key market in the APAC region for Deutsche Aircraft, and this collaboration represents another commitment to India and the 'Make in India' initiative." Deutsche Aircraft utilises the latest technologies and best practices to ensure the D328eco achieves the highest standards of reliability, efficiency, and sustainability. As a strategic partner in the sustainable development of regional air transport, Deutsche Aircraft collaborates with key industry players to work towards climate-neutral flights.



Javel Aerospace and Deutsche Aircraft executives

© Javel Aerospace

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Air India breaks ground on MRO facility at Bengaluru Airport

Air India has officially launched construction of a pioneering base maintenance facility at Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru. Spanning 35 acres, this facility marks a significant collaboration between Air India, the Government of Karnataka, and Bengaluru International Airport. The new MRO (Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul) facility, championed by Gunjan Krishna, Commissioner for Industrial Development and Director of the Department of Industries & Commerce for Karnataka, is set to position Bengaluru as a major aviation hub in India. The facility will feature 12 hangars with the capacity to accommodate three wide-body aircraft for base maintenance simultaneously. Phase I of the development involves an investment of INR 1400 crore, with plans for further expansion in the future. The ground-breaking ceremony was attended by notable figures including Gunjan Krishna, Hari Marar, Managing Director and CEO of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), Chin Yau Seng, CEO of SIA Engineering Company, and senior leadership from Air India. The facility will be developed in partnership with SIA Engineering Services (SIAEC). “The Bengaluru MRO facility is coming up at an opportune time to help strengthen India’s aviation ecosystem, while enhancing our in-house capabilities to maintain our fleet,” comments Campbell Wilson, Chief Executive at Air India stated. “The ground breaking of this MRO is an important step towards strengthening the fleet maintenance capabilities and infrastructure offering,” stated Hari Marar, Chief Executive, BIAL. “This development will not only enhance regional connectivity and drive economic growth but also create valuable opportunities for local talent and businesses, reinforcing Bengaluru’s position as an important player in the aviation ecosystem.” Upon completion, the facility is expected to create around 1,200 skilled jobs in the Bengaluru region. Additionally, Air India plans to establish a Basic Maintenance Training Organisation (BMTO) in Bengaluru by 2025 to address the growing demand for skilled aircraft maintenance engineers in India. (1 crore = US\$120,382 at time of publication).



Ground-breaking at Bangalore Airport

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Safran announces acquisition of AI-firm Preligens



Safran acquisition of AI-firm Preligens © Safran

Preligens; a company specialising in artificial intelligence (AI) for aerospace and defence, has officially joined Safran. The acquisition was completed for an enterprise value of €220 million (US\$244 million). Preligens will be rebranded as Safran.AI and will become part of Safran Electronics & Defense. Founded in 2016, Preligens specialises in AI analytics-solutions for high-resolution imagery, full-motion video, and acoustic signals. The company develops sophisticated algorithms and software that can automatically detect and identify military objects of interest, particularly using commercial and government satellite imagery. Its unique AI Factory enables the development, production, and integration of cutting-edge AI algorithms, trained on vast amounts of data from various sources and sensors, with end-to-end security and traceability. This acquisition reinforces Safran Electronics & Defense’s commitment to AI, complementing its expertise in optronics, space communications, and inertial navigation. The integration of Preligens’ solutions will allow Safran to accelerate the incorporation of AI into its products and services, providing reliable information and decision support for operators in surveillance and identification within the defence and space sectors. Safran’s global reach will also bolster Preligens’ expansion, particularly in the US market, and support Safran’s broader digital transformation strategy. This includes applying Preligens’ AI technology to Industry 4.0, such as using AI-powered image analytics to assist quality controllers in identifying anomalies in critical parts. Jean-Yves Courtois, CEO of Preligens, commented: “Joining Safran marks a new stage in Preligens’ development. We’re proud to be helping create a world-class AI centre of expertise for one of the flagships of French industry. The many synergies with Safran will enable us to develop new AI product lines and accelerate our international expansion, which is excellent news for our business and our people.” Franck Saudo, CEO of Safran Electronics & Defense, expressed his delight in welcoming Preligens to the group. He acknowledged the progress Preligens has made and emphasised Safran’s commitment to further developing their AI solutions. By combining strengths, Saudo stated that they aim not only to support Preligens’ AI advancements but also to explore entirely new applications of AI in aviation, defence, and space.

Mr. Fahad Al-Saif, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AviLease, stated: “The robust market response and the diverse profiles of lenders, including both existing and new participants, underscore global confidence in our business model and growth prospects. Beyond the bank market, AviLease will continue exploring various debt funding sources as we deliver on our ambitious strategic objectives, which aim to contribute to the Kingdom’s aviation ecosystem.” AviLease CEO, Mr. Edward O’Byrne, expressed his satisfaction with the deal, saying: “We are delighted to announce the successful closing of this US\$2.5 billion, five-year unsecured term financing facility, supported by a syndicate of banking partners across three continents—demonstrating the global confidence banks have in AviLease. We are grateful to our lenders for their continued support and long-term trust. The demand exceeded our expectations, and we thank our banking partners for their help in achieving this outcome.” He added, “It is essential for us to rely on a broad range of trusted global financial partners with strong balance sheets, ensuring continued funding to support our growth objectives over the years.” AviLease reaffirmed its commitment to fleet expansion as it pursues its goal of becoming one of the top-ten aircraft leasing companies in the world by 2030. Headquartered in Riyadh, AviLease operates globally, with offices in Dublin, Limerick, Singapore, and Fort Lauderdale. The company’s current portfolio includes 180 owned and managed aircraft, with a total book value of US\$6.5 billion.

AviLease secures US\$2.5 billion five-year unsecured term facility

AviLease, a global aircraft lessor has announced the successful raising of a US\$2.5 billion, five-year unsecured term facility. This facility will be utilised, among other purposes, to fully refinance a bridge facility that AviLease secured in 2023 when it acquired Standard Chartered’s aircraft leasing platform. The financing is split into two parts: a conventional facility of US\$1.73 billion and a Shariah-compliant facility of US\$770 million. AviLease attracted significant interest across local, regional, and international markets, with the facility being 2.7-times oversubscribed. Mr. Fahad Al-Saif, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AviLease, stated: “The robust market response and the diverse profiles of lenders, including both existing and new participants, underscore global confidence in our business model and growth prospects. Beyond the bank market, AviLease will continue exploring various debt funding sources as we deliver on our ambitious strategic objectives, which aim to contribute to the Kingdom’s aviation ecosystem.” AviLease CEO, Mr. Edward O’Byrne, expressed his satisfaction with the deal, saying: “We are delighted to announce the successful closing of this US\$2.5 billion, five-year unsecured term financing facility, supported by a syndicate of banking partners across three continents—demonstrating the global confidence banks have in AviLease. We are grateful to our lenders for their continued support and long-term trust. The demand exceeded our expectations, and we thank our banking partners for their help in achieving this outcome.” He added, “It is essential for us to rely on a broad range of trusted global financial partners with strong balance sheets, ensuring continued funding to support our growth objectives over the years.” AviLease reaffirmed its commitment to fleet expansion as it pursues its goal of becoming one of the top-ten aircraft leasing companies in the world by 2030. Headquartered in Riyadh, AviLease operates globally, with offices in Dublin, Limerick, Singapore, and Fort Lauderdale. The company’s current portfolio includes 180 owned and managed aircraft, with a total book value of US\$6.5 billion.



© AviLease

BBVA México and Aeroméxico finalise US\$200 million loan



BBVA México and Aeroméxico finalise loan © BBVA México

Aerovías de México, a subsidiary of Grupo Aeroméxico has successfully closed a US\$200 million syndicated revolving credit line for a three-year term, marking its strong return to the Mexican banking market. In this transaction, BBVA México served as the sole global coordinator, sole bookrunner, and agent bank, overseeing the structuring and syndication of the loan with the participation of both national and international banks. This agreement provides Aeroméxico with liquidity for its ordinary operations, allowing the company to allocate resources and profits generated in previous years towards new investments and objectives aligned with its business plan. Grupo Aeroméxico is one of Mexico’s leading airlines. According to information provided to investors, from January to July 2024, the company transported 14.808 million passengers, representing a 4.4% increase compared to the same period in 2023. Notably, the international passenger market saw a 19.2% increase, while the domestic market experienced a slight decline of 1.4%. Earlier this year, Moody’s Investor Service confirmed an improvement in Grupo Aero-

méxico’s credit rating, upgrading the company’s corporate rating from “B3” to “B2” and changing the outlook from stable to positive, reflecting the company’s stability and progress. The closing of this transaction further confirms BBVA México’s leadership in Syndicated Loan operations, reiterating the institution’s commitment to supporting and promoting the growth of clients and companies to build a better future for all. BBVA México and Aeroméxico have maintained a longstanding and collaborative relationship, marked by a series of financial partnerships that have supported the airline’s growth and operations. Over the years, BBVA México has played a pivotal role in providing financial solutions tailored to Aeroméxico’s needs, including syndicated loans, credit facilities, and other financial instruments. This partnership has been instrumental in enabling Aeroméxico to navigate economic challenges, expand its fleet, and enhance its market presence both domestically and internationally.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Aegean invests €25 million in Spanish low-cost carrier Volotea



Aegean Airlines has invested in Volotea © AEGEAN

Aegean Airlines has invested €25 million in Barcelona-based budget carrier Volotea. This capital injection is part of a larger fundraising effort involving Volotea's existing shareholders, totalling €50 million Aegean made the investment through a profit-participating loan, which will later be converted into shares. Volotea may receive another round of investment next year, with Aegean indicating it could contribute an additional €25 million as part of another €50 million funding round, subject to various conditions primarily related to Volotea's financial performance in 2024. Once Aegean's current investment is converted into shares, it will hold a 13% stake in Volotea. Should the Greek carrier invest further next year, its shareholding in Volotea could potentially increase to 21%. Carlos Muñoz, Founder and CEO of Volotea, remarked, "Today is an extremely important day for Volotea, as this capital injection marks a significant financial milestone with our shareholders and the agreement incorporating AEGEAN as a strategic and financial partner. We have known AEGEAN and their team as partners for several years now, and share a similar philosophy, values and vision towards European airline consolidation. We are extremely happy with this new step in our successful partnership together." Aegean Airlines intends to expand its partnership with Volotea beyond just financial investment and is exploring opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration. The two airlines have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in distribution and other commercial areas. For instance, they plan to begin cross-selling each other's products through their websites while also working together to develop and expand the international network from Greek regional airports, such as Heraklion, Rhodes, and Chania, to key European markets, including France, Italy, and Spain. Additionally, there are plans to explore cooperation in MRO (Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul) and flight simulator training services through Aegean's Group to support Volotea in these areas. Aegean's Chairman, Eftichios Vassilakis, acknowledged that while the two airlines operate different models and products, they are complementary in many ways. He stated that Aegean's decision to invest in Volotea is based on the belief that the budget carrier has an expandable model, which will also help Aegean extend its reach into crucial markets such as France, Italy, and Spain. (€1.00 = US\$ 1.11 at time of publication).

Ontic expands with new investment from CVC and new investors

Since CVC Capital Partners acquired Ontic from BBA Aviation in 2019, the company has experienced significant growth. Ontic is now set to enter a new investment cycle to address the evolving needs of aircraft operators and licensors. This investment will focus on enhancing customer support teams, expanding repair capabilities, bolstering supply chain and sustainment engineering resources, and advancing data analytics capabilities. These developments will strengthen Ontic's expertise in transitioning complex part manufacturing from licensors into its own facilities while maintaining or improving part availability for customers. Alongside CVC Capital Partners continuing as the majority owner, Ontic is welcoming several new investors into minority positions. This revised investment structure will provide Ontic with the necessary capital to meet the increasing demand from global OEMs seeking to divest non-core products. Gareth Hall, CEO of Ontic, commented, "Ontic celebrates 50 years of service this year and has seen robust growth since 2019 due to its unique value in the aerospace and defence sectors. We license mature product technologies, allowing OEMs to focus on next-generation innovations while ensuring part availability for the long-term life of their aircraft. I'm incredibly proud of our team's efforts in building Ontic into a successful independent entity since 2019. With this new investment, we look forward to welcoming additional people, licences, and sites as we continue to expand." James Mahoney, Partner at CVC Capital Partners, expressed enthusiasm about extending the partnership with Gareth and the Ontic team. He highlighted that with a strong pipeline of opportunities and Ontic's unique business model, the investment from both CVC and new partners will drive Ontic's ongoing growth. With major facilities in the UK and both the East and West Coasts of the USA, Ontic is crucial to the supply chain for complex aerospace parts, offering stability to OEMs and their clients. Ontic currently supports over 80,000 in-service aircraft through nearly 200 licences and manufactures over 8,000 product lines for its 1,500 customers worldwide.



Ontic receives investment from CVC Capital Partners © Ontic

Unical Aviation announces ecube Solutions acquisition



Unical Aviation acquires ecube Solutions © Unical

Unical Aviation has announced the acquisition of ecube Solutions, a global expert in aircraft storage, disassembly, and transition services, with bases in the UK, Spain and the USA. This strategic acquisition marks a significant milestone in Unical's ongoing expansion across Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) and reinforces the company's commitment to delivering comprehensive aviation solutions worldwide. As an independent unit within the Unical Group, ecube will retain its identity and autonomy, continuing to operate under its established name, with a dedicated focus on remaining the leading disassembly service provider in the sector, optimising the value of each aircraft for every client. Sharon Green, Chief Executive Officer of Unical, said, "We are excited to welcome ecube to the Unical family. This acquisition aligns perfectly with our growth strategy of being a trusted partner for aircraft parts and services worldwide, and it enables us to provide enhanced support to customers across the EMEA region and beyond through an independently operated, high-class provider. We look forward to building on the strengths of both companies to deliver even greater value and service excellence to our joint customers as well as our respective customer bases." Lee McConnelloe, ecube's Chief Executive Officer, said "Unical has always been an important partner to ecube, and we are excited about what's to come as a combined entity, with our customers, partners and people at the very centre of our exciting growth plans. I believe that the shared capability of our two companies, in one of the most important sectors of the aerospace market, only serves to make it stronger. Now we are able to provide a truly end-to-end service to aircraft owners, on a global basis." Green added, "While Unical will provide overarching support and resources as needed, ecube will continue to develop and implement its own strategic plans, guided by the expertise of its existing management team."



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FINANCIAL NEWS

Genesis adds BayernLB to US\$450 million credit facility



Genesis and BayernLB partnership © Genesis

Genesis, a Dublin-based commercial aircraft leasing company, has announced that BayernLB has joined its US\$450 million warehouse facility as a co-lender. The facility, initially led by CitiBank, now includes BayernLB alongside Morgan Stanley and Bank of America as co-lenders, further strengthening Genesis' financial partnerships. Genesis Chief Financial Officer Adam Smyth expressed his satisfaction with the addition of BayernLB as a co-lender. He acknowledged the ongoing support from CitiBank, Morgan Stanley, and Bank of America, and welcomed BayernLB to the group. Smyth emphasised Genesis' strategy of diversifying its lender base, highlighting the importance of this collaboration for the company's future growth. He also noted the positive perception of the Genesis platform within the finance community and its confidence in the continuing strength and expansion of the global aviation industry. Viktor Berta, Director of Aviation & Space at BayernLB, reflected on the significance of the transaction, marking BayernLB's first involvement in an aircraft-secured warehouse facility. Berta expressed his pleasure in adding this product to BayernLB's offerings and welcomed the opportunity to establish Genesis as a valued client. He emphasised the importance of building long-term relationships with expert lessors as a key factor in BayernLB's ongoing growth within the aviation finance sector and expressed gratitude for Genesis' trust in the bank's abilities. This partnership highlights Genesis' commitment to

strengthening its financial base and capitalising on the renewed confidence in the aviation sector. By securing the support of a diversified group of lenders, Genesis is well-positioned to leverage future opportunities in the global aviation industry.

eSky to acquire Thomas Cook from China's Fosun

Thomas Cook is set to return to European ownership after Chinese Fosun agreed to sell the UK travel company to Polish travel platform eSky. Fosun will sell Thomas Cook, excluding its Chinese operations, to eSky for up to £30 million. Thomas Cook, established in 1841, went bankrupt in 2019 after failing to secure a £1.1 billion rescue deal. This collapse caused significant global travel disruption, leading the UK government to repatriate 150,000 stranded customers. Fosun acquired Thomas Cook's brand and intellectual property later that year for £11 million. Fosun has decided to offload the UK online travel agency business, stating that it does not fit with its core strategic focus. Following Fosun's investment, Thomas Cook was relaunched in 2020 as an online-only holiday brand. Meanwhile, rival Hays Travel bought around 550 of Thomas Cook's high street outlets. Alan French, Thomas Cook's CEO, noted that eSky's expertise in flights complements Thomas Cook's hotel sourcing capabilities, presenting a promising opportunity for growth in the maturing package holiday sector. Thomas Cook posted a reduced pre-tax loss of £3.6 million in 2023, down from £13.5 million the previous year, and French anticipates a full-year profit for this year. The sale to eSky comes amid strong post-pandemic travel demand, despite inflation and the cost-of-living crisis affecting consumer spending. Fosun, having aggressively expanded overseas before the pandemic, is now focusing on selling non-core assets to manage its highly leveraged structure and reduce debt to around RMB 60 billion (£8 billion). Founded in 2004, eSky aims to expand from being an online flight aggregator to a comprehensive holiday provider, combining flights and hotels, and operating in over 50 countries. The acquisition is expected to enhance Thomas Cook's access to eSky's flight inventory and support its growth. (£1.00 = US\$1.32 at time of publication).



eSky to acquire Thomas Cook © Thomas Cook

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

Curtiss-Wright lands £20 Million Belgian Air Force contract



Curtiss-Wright will support F-35's from Belgian Air Force © Lockheed Martin

Curtiss-Wright Corporation has announced it has been awarded a £20 million (US\$26.4 million) multi-year contract by the Belgian Air Force to modernise its aircraft arresting systems. Under the agreement, Curtiss-Wright will supply new cable systems and related turnkey services to three airbases, preparing for the arrival of the F-35 aircraft in Belgium and ensuring effective emergency takeoff and landing capabilities. The contract also includes various services, spares, repair, and overhaul to support the Belgian Air Force's military flight operations. Lynn M. Bamford, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Curtiss-Wright Corporation, commented, "As a leading global supplier of military aircraft arresting systems and support capabilities, Curtiss-Wright is proud to enhance our existing relationship with the Belgian Air Force by providing new systems, aftermarket, and logistical services to support the availability and longevity of its arresting capability. This contract also highlights the growing demand for our technologies in support of our NATO defence allies and partners." Curtiss-Wright

will progressively equip the main and parallel runways at Florennes, Kleine-Brogel, and Beauvechain Air Bases to ensure uniformity across all airbase configurations. The ESCO SmartArrest® system, a sophisticated, computerised version of the ESCO BAK-12 energy absorber, will be used to facilitate the arrestment of multiple fighter jet platforms. The work will be carried out by Curtiss-Wright's EMS division within the Naval & Power segment. The manufacturing of energy absorbers and BAK-12 mobile systems (PortArrest®) will take place at its facility in Aston, Pennsylvania, while retractable hook cable systems will be produced at its Merpins, France facility. Additionally, a ten-year maintenance contract for services, spares, repair, and overhaul will be managed at the Merpins facility, which has a history of supporting NATO European customers.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

AOI and Safran sign Larzac engine maintenance agreement

The Arab Organization for Industrialization (AOI), has received a supplier certificate from aircraft engine manufacturer Safran Aircraft Engines. This certification follows a cooperation agreement signed in December 2023 for the maintenance, repair, and overhaul of the Larzac engine. With this certification, AOI is now a globally authorised and licensed provider for the engines used in Alpha Jet training and light attack aircraft. The work will be conducted at a new engine shop in Helwan, Egypt, employing 30 skilled workers. Mokhtar Abdel Latif, Chairman of AOI, comments, "It is a great pleasure to celebrate today the inauguration of the Larzac engine overhaul line accredited by Safran Aircraft Engines at the AOI Engine Factory as the sole international certified supplier. This milestone adds to the record of accomplishments of the Arab Organization for Industrialization, and we look forward to further enhancing cooperation with Safran to build a distinguished industrial base that benefits our customers." Christophe Bruneau, Vice President of Military Engines at Safran Aircraft Engines, remarked, "We are delighted to continue our cooperation with the Arab Organization for Industrialization as an official Safran Aircraft Engines-approved MRO shop. We share a common commitment to excellence, and AOI's engine workshop meets our strict quality standards. This major step with the Egyptian industry paves the way for further collaboration in aerospace and defence." Following successful audits by Safran Aircraft Engines experts, AOI has been granted a ten-year licence to perform repair and overhaul operations for all export customers of the Larzac engine. The agreement covers all versions of the engine, which supports a global fleet of up to 280 Larzac engines.



Agreement signing with AOI at the Egypt International Airshow @ Safran

Christophe Bruneau, Vice President of Military Engines at Safran Aircraft Engines, remarked, "We are delighted to continue our cooperation with the Arab Organization for Industrialization as an official Safran Aircraft Engines-approved MRO shop. We share a common commitment to excellence, and AOI's engine workshop meets our strict quality standards. This major step with the Egyptian industry paves the way for further collaboration in aerospace and defence." Following successful audits by Safran Aircraft Engines experts, AOI has been granted a ten-year licence to perform repair and overhaul operations for all export customers of the Larzac engine. The agreement covers all versions of the engine, which supports a global fleet of up to 280 Larzac engines.

OTHER NEWS



Sustainable Aviation Fuel ceremony at Incheon International Airport @ Korean Air

A ceremony at Incheon Airport on August 30 marked the launch of **Korean Air's Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)** initiative. The event was attended by several high-profile figures, including Sangwoo Park, Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT); Dukgeun Ahn, Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy; Sanghyup Kim, Co-Chairman of the Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth Commission; Keehong Woo, President of Korean Air; Hakjae Lee, President of Incheon International Airport Corporation; Jonghoon Oh, President of SK Energy; and Anwar A. Al-Hejazi, CEO of S-Oil. Beginning on August 30th and running through to July 2025, Korean Air will implement a 1% Sustainable Aviation Fuel blend for its weekly flight KE719 from Seoul Incheon to Tokyo Narita. This initiative serves as a pivotal starting point for the airline's domestic SAF programme, which aims to progressively expand the use of SAF across medium- and long-haul routes. The SAF used for this route will be supplied by two prominent Korean energy companies: S-Oil and SK Energy. S-Oil will provide the SAF for the first six months, after which SK Energy will take over for the remaining period. S-Oil's

SAF is produced from used cooking oil, while SK Energy utilises a mix of used cooking oil and animal fats. Both products have been certified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) under the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), ensuring compliance with global sustainability standards. The adoption of SAF is gathering momentum worldwide. The European Union's "RefuelEU" policy mandates a minimum 2% SAF blend for flights departing from EU airports by 2025, with a target of 70% by 2050. Meanwhile, the United States, the world's largest aviation fuel importer, has launched the "SAF Grand Challenge," aiming to meet 100% of its aviation fuel demand with SAF by 2050. South Korea is also making strides in SAF market development. In 2022, MOLIT and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy announced the "Eco-friendly Biofuel Expansion Plan," which sets out quality and production standards for domestically produced SAF. In August 2024, the government further amended the "Petroleum and Alternative Fuel Business Act" to allow the use of eco-friendly materials in petroleum refining.

Cathay Pacific has announced that maintenance work on its A350 fleet is making good progress, the airline's engineering-team having conducted a thorough inspection of all operational A350 aircraft over a 24-hour period. So far, 15 aircraft have been identified with engine components that need replacing, and three of these have already been successfully repaired. The remaining aircraft will stay out of service until repairs are completed and they are cleared for operation; the airline anticipates that all affected aircraft will be back in service by Saturday September 7. The issue began on September 2, when an engine component failure was discovered in one of the A350 aircraft. The airline promptly informed both the aircraft and engine manufacturers, as well as aviation regulators. As a precaution, a fleet-wide inspection of the A350s was immediately initiated. On September 3, Cathay Pacific confirmed that there will be no additional cancellations beyond those previously announced. Affected customers have been notified and offered alternative travel options. Looking ahead to September 4, the airline expects to cancel ten more regional return flights, although long-haul-services should remain unaffected. Passengers are encouraged to check Cathay Pacific channels for the latest flight updates. Cathay Pacific places the utmost importance on the safety of its customers and staff, which informs every decision made. The airline apologises sincerely for any inconvenience caused and appreciates the patience and understanding of its passengers.



Cathay Pacific

© AirTeamImages

OTHER NEWS

AerFin has officially announced the launch of its new brand as it continues its global expansion and transformational growth. Over the past decade, AerFin has twice been recognised as Europe’s fastest-growing aviation and defence business. The company has now expanded to nearly 200 dedicated and passionate employees, serving over 600 customers across six continents, consistently delivering

confidence and commitment to its partners and the industry. The new brand reflects AerFin’s core values, articulating what the company does, why it does it, and how it provides value to its customers, employees, and investors through a clearly defined brand promise. In today’s aviation industry, there is an increasing demand for a confident, reliable, and forward-thinking partner who can deliver solutions promptly and at the right price—someone who keeps their promises and simplifies complexities, providing a clear path to success. This is the

essence of AerFin’s approach, encapsulated in the company’s rebranding AerFin’s purpose, “To breathe new life into aviation,” is at the heart of everything it does, reflecting the fresh perspective the company brings to the industry. This supports its vision “To be the most trusted partner in the aviation aftermarket.” The rebrand is complemented by a refreshed logo and colour scheme, symbolising the energy and dynamism of its people.

The **Technical and Vocational Skills Development Commission** (TVSDC) has signed a partnership agreement with **Jordan Aircraft Maintenance Limited** (Joramco), in a ceremony attended by Joramco’s Chief Executive Officer, Fraser Currie, and Chief People and Performance Officer, Hana Ibsais. This collaboration is designed to advance vocational training for both parties and create new opportunities for young Jordanians in the commercial aircraft maintenance sector. Under the agreement, TVSDC will support the training of a selected group of students at Joramco Academy, which specialises in the maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) of commercial aircraft. These students will benefit from a comprehensive four-year Aircraft Maintenance programme tailored for Technicians. Dr Raghda Al-Faouri, President of TVSDC, hailed the agreement as a significant step forward in expanding opportunities for the Kingdom’s youth. She emphasised the strategic goals of developing the skills of talented and creative young people and enhancing their capabilities in roles that are in high demand locally, regionally, and internationally. This initiative aligns with the directives of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdullah II, both strong advocates for vocational and technical education. The programme will offer 25 promising individuals job opportunities for a 12-month period. To be eligible, students must be Jordanian, at least 17 years old, fluent in English, not a social security subscriber, have successfully passed the General Secondary Certificate Examinations (Tawjihi), have a keen interest in aviation, and require financial assistance to cover tuition fees. Dr Al-Faouri also provided an overview of TVSDC’s establishment, key responsibilities, and notable achievements. She outlined the Commission’s strategy, which includes issuing training licences, conducting professional assessments, granting practice licences, training and classifying trainers, accrediting training providers according to professional standards, and collaborating with the private sector through sector skills councils, among other duties. Dr Al-Faouri praised Joramco’s contributions to the aircraft MRO sector and commended the company’s commitment to collaboration and its role in creating new opportunities for Jordanian youth. Fraser Currie, CEO of Joramco, reaffirmed the company’s dedication to aligning its efforts with national institutions to raise awareness about the Aircraft Maintenance Programme. He highlighted the sector’s significant potential, stable career prospects, and vital role in the economy. Currie also acknowledged TVSDC’s crucial role in enabling companies and institutions in Jordan to implement well-structured and specialised training programmes, thereby equipping young people with the skills needed to join the labour market in dynamic fields.



TVSDC partnership-signing

© Joramco

INDUSTRY PEOPLE



Andy Graham

• Aerogility, a provider of AI-based digital simulation twin solutions, has announced the appointment of **Andy Graham** as Chief Commercial Officer. In his new role, Graham will focus on expanding the company’s global reach and brand presence, while working closely with customers to enhance the company’s products and value proposition. His efforts will be key in helping Aerogility achieve its ambitious

growth targets for 2025 and beyond. With over 32 years of experience, Graham brings a wealth of expertise in leading teams to achieve commercial objectives and drive significant growth for major aviation technology firms, including Mxi/IFS, flydocs, and QOCO Systems. Graham says: “I have been following Aerogility’s success for several years now, and I have always been impressed with the innovation and quality of the company’s products. Many of the world’s leading Airlines and Defence companies work with Aerogility – and together with the high calibre Aerogility team – made it an easy decision to join the company. AI is talked about by many players in the industry, and it is refreshing to see it being

implemented for customers and delivering immense value”. Graham’s appointment comes at a critical time for Aerogility as the aviation sector faces numerous challenges. Aerogility remains committed to innovating with its customers, leveraging data, and providing deep insights to enhance asset availability and manage operational performance. **Gary Vickers**, CEO of Aerogility, says, “Andy’s extensive experience and leadership in the aerospace sector is a tremendous benefit to us. His deep understanding of the issues and challenges facing our customers and his ability to translate this into strategic opportunities, aligns perfectly with our vision for the future growth and success of Aerogility.”

INDUSTRY PEOPLE



John Langford and Marc Allen

• Electra has appointed **Marc Allen** as its new Chief Executive Officer. Allen joins Electra after a distinguished career at The Boeing Company, where he most recently held the position of Chief Strategy Officer and Senior Vice President for Strategy and Corporate Development. During his tenure at Boeing, Allen led the US\$5 billion customer finance business and spent nearly a decade on the company's Executive Council. He served as President of Boeing International, overseeing key enterprise-wide functions, and played a pivotal role in restructuring and fully acquiring Wisk Aero, a venture focused on the future of autonomous flight, where he also served as Chairman. His other roles at Boeing included President of the Embraer Partnership, President of Boeing China, and General Counsel of Boeing International. "Marc's exceptional background in global business and strategic leadership makes him the ideal choice to guide Electra into its next phase of growth," said **John S. Langford**, Electra's Founder and Chairman. "With over 2,000 orders for our nine-seat hybrid electric aircraft from customers worldwide, we are poised to become a global industrial champion. Electra already has the strongest technical team in the business – and now we have the finance, legal, and operations experience to match." Langford, who has served as both Chairman and CEO since founding Electra, will continue to serve as its chairman focusing on long-term strategy and innovation. "I am excited to join Electra's first-rate team and help define the next level of air travel connectivity," said Allen. "My passion has always been about building, coaching, and inspiring high-performing teams. Electra is at the forefront of revolutionising air travel with its direct aviation model, bringing air travel closer to where we live, work and play – without airports, emissions, or noise. Leading Electra at this pivotal moment is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

• SR Technics has announced the appointment of **Florent Leforestier** as the new Senior Vice President of Procurement, effective September 1, 2024. He succeeds **Fritz Beiner**, who is pursuing a new



Florent Leforestier

opportunity outside the company. Florent Leforestier brings over 20 years of experience in the aerospace industry, including more than a decade at SR Technics supporting engine MRO activities. During his tenure, he has successfully managed customer services, product development, and most recently led the industrialisation of the GTF and LEAP engine programmes. **Michael Brunnschweiler**, currently VP of Programmes, will assume the role of VP of New Engines, also effective September 1, 2024, to continue the successful implementation of the GTF and LEAP engine platforms. Michael joined SR Technics in April 2024, after 19 years with Pratt & Whitney, where he most recently served as Regional Manager GTF Europe & America. "Our talent management programme and commitment to our employees have yielded two talented successors from within our own ranks," stated **Owen McClave**, CEO of SR Technics. "I am excited to take on this role and eager to build on our current successes, leading strategic initiatives that will further strengthen our supply chain and maximise value," said Leforestier.



Selim Bouri and Shawn Gregor

• SITA has announced the appointment of **Shawn Gregor** as company President of the Americas and **Selim Bouri** as company President of the Middle East and Africa. Both bring extensive experience from the travel and transport, telecommunications, and IT sectors. Shawn Gregor's experience includes overseeing digital transformation programmes within the aviation sector across the Americas, including the US and Canada. He has held several leadership positions, most recently as Vice President and Industry Leader for Travel and Transportation at IBM. Before IBM, Gregor made significant contributions at Infosys Technologies Limited and Accenture, where he developed various strategic business units. In his new role, he will lead SITA's operations and strategic initiatives across the Americas, further enhancing the company's commitment to delivering exceptional value

AviTrader Publications Corp.
Suite 305, South Tower
5811 Cooney Road
Richmond, BC
Canada V6X 3M1

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to its customers. Selim Bouri is a seasoned leader in aviation, secure communications, and technology. His career includes high-profile roles such as heading Critical Comms and Security at Airbus for the Middle East/Africa and APAC regions, and driving business development across leading telecommunications companies. He holds master's degrees in Aeronautics, Aerospace Science, and Technology from ISAE-SUPAERO, and Executive Leadership, Strategy, and Business Administration from IMD. "This regional leadership change comes as SITA expands its reach and capabilities, opening an exciting new chapter in our company, to which the Middle East and Africa are absolutely integral. SITA's Executive Team and I are excited to have Selim on board and look forward to his contributions in driving SITA's future growth," said **David Lavorel**, SITA CEO.

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 | | Now | 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 | |
| B737-800 SF | GA Telesis | | 33814 | 2004 | Now | Sale / Lease | | aircraft@gatelesis.com | |
| B767-300ERBCF | Altavair | PW4060-3 | 28141 | 2000 | Now | Now | Gareth Henry | gareth.henry@altavair.com | +353 87 330 9220 |
| B767-300ERBCF | Altavair | PW4060-3 | 30563 | 2000 | Now | Now | Gareth Henry | gareth.henry@altavair.com | +353 87 330 9220 |
| B777-300ER | BBAM | GE90-115BL | 39237 | 2013 | Now | 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

| AE3007 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| (8) AE3007A1 | Now - Sale | Newcastle Aviation | Steve Hendrickson | steveh@newcastleaviation.com | 952-223-0317 |
| CF34 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
| (1) CF34-10E | Now - Sale | Lufthansa Technik AERO Alzey | Johannes Otto | johannes.otto@lhaero.com | +49-151-589-39560 |
| (2) CF34-10E | 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 |
| (1) CF34-8C5A1 | Now - Sale / Lease | Magellan Aviation Group | Bradley Hogan | engines@magellangroup.net | +1 704-504-9204 |
| (2) CF34-3A | Now - Sale | GNS | Shlomi Levi | shlomi@g-n-solutions.com | +972-52 850 8511 |
| (1) CF34-10E5A1 | Now - Lease | DASI | Joe Hutchings | joe.hutchings@dasi.com | + 1 954-478-7195 |



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Commercial Engines

| CF6-80 Engine | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
|------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) CF6-80E1A4/B | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |
| CFM Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
| (1) CFM56-5B3/3 | Now - Lease | FTAI Aviation LLC | Mark Napoles | mnapoles@ftaiaaviation.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 | | | | |
| (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) CFM56-5B4/3 | Now - Lease | | | | |
| GE90 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
| (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-1B25 | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |



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Commercial Engines

| PW1100 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| (1) PW1133G-JM | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |
| PW Small Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
| (1) PW150A | Oct 2024 - Lease | Lufthansa Technik AERO Alzey | Johannes Otto | johannes.otto@lhaero.com | +49-151-589-39560 |
| (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@ftaiaaviation.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 | | | | | |
| (3) 3800702-2, (2) 3800708-1 | Now - Lease | Magellan Aviation Group | | apuleasing@magellangroup.net | +1 704.504.9204 |
| (4) APU EMB145LR, Model: 4504113A | Now - Sale | Newcastle Aviation | Steve Hendrickson | steveh@newcastleaviation.com | 952-223-0317 |
| (4) EMB145 LG Shipsets | Now - Sale | Newcastle Aviation | Steve Hendrickson | steveh@newcastleaviation.com | 952-223-0317 |
| (1) GTCP36-150 | Now - Sale | GNS | Shlomi Levi | shlomi@g-n-solutions.com | +972-52 850 8511 |
| (5) A340 LG Shipset, (1) B777 LG Shipset (2) B737 LG Shipset, | | GA Telesis | | landinggearsales@gatelesis.com | |
| (3) 767 LG Shipset, (1) A320 Shipset, (5) A330 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 | | | | |
| (5) 131-9A, (2) 131-9B (Max compliant), (2) APS3200, (1) 331-500 | | GA Telesis | | apu@gatelesis.com | +1-954-849-3509 |
| (3) 131-9B, (3) 331-350, (2) 331-200, (2) APS3200 "C" | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |