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Weekly Aviation Headline News

“This settlement represents five years of intense and hard-fought litigation and brings very real recovery to the class members both in terms of monetary recovery, as well as non-monetary relief.”

Filippo Marchino, attorney for the plaintiffs from the X-Law Group

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Delta Agrees US$79 Million Settlement Over 2020 Class Action Lawsuit Over Fuel Dump

Carrier agrees to settlement but without any admission of liability

On January 20, 2020, Delta Air Lines (Delta) flight 89 took off from Los Angeles International Airport, destined for Shanghai. On board were 149 passengers for what should have been a 13-hour non-stop flight. However, only 25 minutes into the flight a thrust problem developed, and the aircraft was forced to return to the airport in Los Angeles. With the threat of an emergency landing looming over them and with the aircraft weighing over the 160,000 lbs maximum landing weight, the pilots chose to jettison roughly 15,000 gallons of aviation fuel over a business and residential area in Los Angeles, including schools in Cudahy and Whittier where students were hit with fuel and subsequently treated by medical personnel. The dump saw tens of thousands of homes in Los Angeles become coated in jet fuel. In the class action lawsuit, residents claimed that the pilots could have flown out to sea over the Pacific or flown to a higher altitude then and dumped the fuel before coming back to land at the airport. Delta disputed this as a viable option, making it abundantly clear that the two pilots in question had been cleared of any wrongdoing by the FAA when they jettisoned the fuel, stating that its pilots “did exactly what federal regulations and their FAA-approved training required them to do to respond to that in-flight emergency and ensure the safety of the passengers, crew, and people on the ground.” In settling the lawsuit and according to the LA Times, Delta noted in court documents that it agreed to the settlement “without any admission of liability” to avoid the uncertainty and expenses of a trial and “to eliminate the distraction and other burdens this litigation has caused to Delta’s business.” The settlement totals US$78.8 million, which translates into US$50.6 million for victims after attorneys’ fees and other court costs. The fund will be sliced into thirds, with two-thirds, or about US$33.9 million, set aside for property owners and one-third, or about US$16.7 million, for residents. At bare minimum, a property owner will receive US$888.82 per claim, while a resident will receive US$104.34, according to court documents. The estimated numbers of those who were affected are listed in the lawsuit as 160,000 residents and 38,000 properties. “This settlement represents five years of intense and hard-fought litigation and brings very real recovery to the class members both in terms of monetary recovery, as well as non-monetary relief. We are especially pleased to obtain this result for residents of the Southeast L.A. communities, comprised of hard-working families who asked only for respect and just treatment and rightly deserve this result,” said Filippo Marchino, an attorney for the plaintiffs from the X-Law Group.

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AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

Qantas expands fleet with 20 additional A321XLRs

Qantas has announced an order for 20 additional Airbus A321XLR aircraft, further expanding its largest-ever fleet renewal programme. Sixteen of the new aircraft will feature lie-flat business-class seats and seat-back entertainment screens, marking the first time Qantas will offer lie-flat seating on its narrow-body fleet. These aircraft will serve longer domestic routes, including transcontinental flights to and from Perth, as well as short- and medium-haul international services across Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. The new A321XLRs are scheduled to arrive from 2028, bringing Qantas' total order for the next-generation aircraft to 48. The extended range of up to 8,700 kilometres provides more than 3,000 kilometres additional reach compared with the Boeing 737s they will replace. This capability enables Qantas to launch direct flights to destinations that are currently not commercially viable, opening new connectivity options for both domestic and regional international travel. Qantas' first two A321XLRs, configured for domestic and short-haul international flights, are expected to commence commercial service in mid-September, making Qantas the first airline in the Asia-Pacific region to operate the aircraft type. Initially, the aircraft will operate Sydney-Melbourne and Sydney-Perth services, with a progressive rollout across other routes. By the end of the financial year, Qantas will have seven A321XLRs in operation. Jetstar will also benefit from the A321XLR programme, with aircraft due to arrive from 2027. These will feature a two-class cabin layout designed for international travel, supporting the low-cost carrier's expansion on regional international routes. The additional aircraft strengthen Qantas' ability to modernise its fleet while improving passenger comfort with enhanced seating and entertainment options. The A321XLR's long range and efficient design will allow Qantas to increase route flexibility, reduce travel times, and provide a seamless travel experience on both domestic and international services. The expansion reflects Qantas' strategic focus on growing direct connectivity across the Asia-Pacific region and supporting long-term network development.

New A321neos strengthen China Airlines' global network strategy

China Airlines has taken delivery of two new A321neo aircraft on lease from Air Lease
© AirTeamImages

Air Lease Corporation (Air Lease) has confirmed the lease and delivery of two additional Airbus A321-200neo aircraft to China Airlines, further strengthening its partnership with the Taiwan-based flag carrier. These aircraft were delivered on August 16 and 20, marking the seventh and eighth A321neos to join the airline under long-term lease agreements from Air Lease's orderbook with Airbus. John L. Plueger, Chief Executive Officer and President of Air Lease, welcomed the development, noting that the delivery underlined Air Lease's commitment to its long-term relationship with China Airlines. He explained that the modern aircraft will help support the airline's continuing fleet development and expansion strategy, particularly at a time when demand for travel across the Asia-Pacific region continues to recover and grow. China Airlines emphasised that the introduction of the new A321neo aircraft is central to its plan to enhance fleet capacity and maintain competitiveness in a rapidly evolving aviation market. The carrier said that the latest deliveries are part of a broader strategy to steadily expand its international route network while simultaneously upgrading efficiency and sustainability. By leasing rather than purchasing outright, China Airlines is able to pursue fleet modernisation in a flexible and cost-effective way. The airline also highlighted that the A321neo offers improvements in fuel efficiency and passenger comfort, making it a vital asset for medium-haul operations. With the addition of these two aircraft, China Airlines strengthens its ability to meet growing passenger demand while upholding high service standards, reinforcing its reputation for reliability and quality.

Korean Air places major Boeing order to drive post-merger growth

Korean Air Boeing 777 freighter *© AirTeamImages*

Boeing and Korean Air have announced the airline's intent to purchase 103 new Boeing aircraft, marking the carrier's largest-ever order and Boeing's biggest widebody order from an Asian airline. The acquisition is designed to modernise Korean Air's fleet and support growth as the airline integrates fully with Asiana Airlines in the coming years. Once finalised, the order will be published on Boeing's Orders & Deliveries website and will represent a landmark milestone for Korean Air. The deal includes 20 Boeing 777-9s, 25 Boeing 787-10s, 50 Boeing 737-10s and, significantly, eight Boeing 777-8 Freighters – the first time Korean Air has committed to the 777-8F model. The order is expected to support around 135,000 jobs across the United States. Walter Cho, Chairman and CEO of Korean Air, emphasised the strategic importance of the agreement: "This agreement with our long-standing partners, Boeing and GE, marks a pivotal moment for Korean Air. Acquiring these next-generation aircraft is the core of our fleet modernisation strategy, delivering significant gains in fuel efficiency and enhancing the passenger experience across our global network. This investment is also a critical enabler for our future as a merged airline with Asiana, to ensure that our combined carrier is one of the most competitive airlines in the industry." The signing took place during the Korea-U.S. Business Roundtable, "Partnership for a Manufacturing Renaissance," attended by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick and South Korea's Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Kim Jung-kwan. This latest commitment builds on Korean Air's incremental order in March for 20 additional 777-9s and 20 787-10s, meaning the airline's total orders and commitments for Boeing aircraft in 2025 exceed 150 units. Currently operating a fleet of 108 Boeing jets – including 737s, 747s, 777s and 787s – Korean Air has 72 aircraft on order. Once this new deal is finalised, its backlog will expand to 175 aeroplanes, underlining its ambition to become a more efficient, competitive, and globally leading carrier in the post-merger era.

AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

Satair introduces new cargo floor panel solution

Station 41, A320 family final assembly line installation floor panels
© Satair

Satair, the Airbus Services subsidiary and a key provider in the commercial aerospace aftermarket, has introduced a new cargo floor panel solution that broadens its Airbus Semi-Finished Floor Panel (ASFP) product line. The development, called Cargo Robust, extends maintenance support to both passenger and cargo areas of Airbus aircraft, offering operators and maintenance organisations a more durable and efficient option for structural floor repairs. The Cargo Robust panels were designed in close cooperation with Airbus Engineering and materials supplier Schütz GmbH & Co. KGaA. They build on the ASFP passenger solution launched in 2022 but are tailored to meet the tougher demands of cargo environments. The panels place strong emphasis on operational resilience and long-term performance, addressing a clear need for more robust options in the market. Like the earlier ASFP products, the Cargo Robust panels are supplied in a semi-finished state. This enables operators and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) providers to cut and drill the panels on-site according to their specific requirements. The approach reduces downtime and costs compared with fully finished replacements. Furthermore, the use of high-performance polymer inserts, and hard points lowers the risk of corrosion in humid conditions and ensures a consistent standard of installation across various aircraft fleets. The updated ASFP range now supports repairs in seat, aisle, galley and cargo zones across Airbus' leading aircraft families, including the A320, A330, A340, A350 and A380. All panels are stocked in Satair's worldwide warehouse network, ensuring rapid availability and shorter lead times for customers. By adding the Cargo Robust option, Satair has strengthened its aftermarket offering while giving operators greater flexibility to manage repairs. The solution also aligns closely with Airbus' own maintenance standards, ensuring quality and reliability for customers worldwide. In doing so, it simplifies processes, improves turnaround times, and reduces complexity for operators who need dependable solutions in demanding environments.

Gulfstream delivers first G800 business jet

The G800 jet © Gulfstream Aerospace

Gulfstream Aerospace (Gulfstream) has delivered the first G800, the latest addition to its next-generation family of aircraft. The milestone comes after the jet received certification from both the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) on April 16, 2025. The G800 is designed as the longest-range business aircraft currently available. It can fly 8,200 nautical miles (15,186 kilometres) at its long-range cruise speed of Mach 0.85. At a high-speed cruise of Mach 0.90, the range is 7,000 nm (12,964 km). It can also achieve 8,000 nm (14,816 km) at Mach 0.87. In addition, the maximum operating speed has been increased to Mach 0.935, compared with the earlier limit of Mach 0.925. These figures allow the G800 to connect distant city pairs without refuelling, further strengthening Gulfstream's position in the ultra-long-range sector. The aircraft was outfitted at Gulfstream's completions facility in Appleton, Wisconsin. This site has become a key part of the company's operations, offering large-cabin completions, a custom paint hangar, and a modernised maintenance, repair and overhaul centre. The paint hangar, opened in 2023, is able to handle up to 48 aircraft a year, supporting Gulfstream's growing customer base. The G800 has entered service with what Gulfstream describes as high programme maturity. This means that systems, performance, and cabin comfort have already been proven and refined, much like the company's earlier G700. The focus is on delivering a seamless entry into service for customers who have been awaiting the new flagship. Demand for the G800 has been strong. Gulfstream has invested heavily in both product development and global support infrastructure to meet expectations. With a workforce of over 21,000 employees worldwide, the company is positioning the G800 as a benchmark for range, performance and passenger comfort in the business aviation market.

RwandAir takes delivery of two new B737-800s

RwandAir has added two new B737-800 aircraft to its fleet
© RwandAir

RwandAir has expanded its fleet this month with the arrival of two Boeing 737-800 aircraft, one of which is already in active service. The airline has also successfully returned several previously grounded aircraft to operation after undergoing technical servicing. A third aircraft is expected to join the fleet in the fourth quarter of the year, further strengthening operational reliability. These additions come after a challenging period in which the airline faced technical disruptions across parts of its fleet, temporarily reducing available capacity. The issues led to delays and cancellations, affecting passenger travel plans. With the affected aircraft now repaired and returned to service, and with new deliveries being incorporated, RwandAir aims to provide a more reliable schedule and minimise operational interruptions. The newly delivered Boeing 737-800s are configured with 12 business-class and 162 economy-class seats, making them well suited for short- and medium-haul services across Africa and neighbouring regions. Their introduction is expected to support higher frequency on popular routes, improved connectivity within the continent, and greater comfort for passengers. Looking ahead, RwandAir also anticipates the delivery of a wide-body Airbus A330-200 later in the fourth quarter. The aircraft will enhance the airline's long-haul offering, particularly routes linking Africa with key international destinations. This development marks an important step in diversifying the fleet mix and supporting the growth of intercontinental services. The latest investments reflect RwandAir's broader strategy of modernising its fleet while simultaneously expanding its route network. The focus on both narrow-body and wide-body aircraft underlines the airline's commitment to strengthening intra-African connectivity and achieving its long-term ambition of linking Africa more effectively to the global market.

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Airbourne Colours' second aircraft paint hangar nears completion


Hangar 9 is nearing completion at Teesside Airport © Teesside International Airport

Airbourne Colours is set to expand its operations at Teesside Airport with the opening of a second aircraft painting hangar, marking another milestone in the airport's growth as an aviation hub. The new facility, known as Hangar 9, is nearing completion and is expected to begin operations in November this year. The company, which launched its £6.5 million aircraft-painting facility at Teesside Airport in October last year, has seen rapid success, with its order book already full for the next two years. In response, it is building a second hangar on the north side of the airport to meet rising demand. The new facility will be able to accommodate narrow-body aircraft such as the Airbus A321 and Boeing 737 MAX 10, ensuring the firm can handle some of the most in-demand models currently in service. The expansion represents a significant vote of confidence in the airport's business park vision, which has already attracted major deals from Airbourne Colours, Willis Aviation and Draken. Earlier this year, the Tees Valley Mayor and Combined Authority Cabinet approved a £12.5 million investment package for airport infrastructure as part of a wider investment plan, enabling the development of Hangar 9. Steven Darbyshire, Founder and Chief Executive of Airbourne Colours, said: "We need a second hangar to fulfil the demand we've had. There's a backlog in aircraft painting facilities in Europe so we're building them here at Teesside Airport – and we're expanding at Teesside Airport. It's been a source of great pride to set up at Teesside Airport – to return to my roots and bring employment back to where I grew up." The growth of Airbourne Colours also ties in with local skills development. Hartlepool College of Further Education has partnered with the company to offer an Aircraft Painting Trainee Programme, creating a practical pathway for careers in aviation. The Tees Valley Mayor and Combined Authority has supported this initiative by funding the initial six-week course through the Adult Skills Fund, aimed at training and employing local people. With its second hangar soon to open, Airbourne Colours is cementing its place at the heart of Teesside's aviation sector while contributing to regional job creation and industrial regeneration. (£1.00 = US$1.35 at time of publication).

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

StandardAero expands Augusta facility to boost business aviation services

© StandardAero

StandardAero has celebrated the grand opening of its newly expanded business aviation facility at Augusta Regional Airport in Georgia. The development marks a major milestone for the company, increasing its capacity to serve business aviation operators across North America and globally, while also bringing around 100 new skilled jobs to the region. The project represents a significant 60% increase in the size of the Augusta site, adding 80,500 ft² of space dedicated to hangar facilities, an engine shop, advanced avionics, and improved customer amenities. The expansion takes the overall campus size to 210,000 ft². The investment strengthens StandardAero's ability to provide Honeywell HTF7000 engine maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, where the company remains the sole independent provider licensed by the OEM for heavy overhauls. Additionally, the facility will now offer expanded airframe services for large-cabin business jets, broadening its service portfolio. Founded in 1974, the Augusta facility has built a reputation for comprehensive maintenance and repair support across a range of aircraft platforms, including Bombardier, Dassault Falcon, Embraer, Gulfstream and Hawker. It also specialises in engine and auxiliary power unit (APU) models such as the Honeywell HTF7000, TFE731, and GTCP36 APU. The grand opening was marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by executives, local and state officials, customers and employees. Guests were given an insight into the site's enhanced capabilities and the career opportunities now available for technicians, engineers and support staff in the Augusta area. While airframe maintenance work has already commenced in the new hangar, the purpose-built engine shop, designed to support the growing demand for HTF7000 MRO services, is scheduled to be fully operational by the first half of 2026. StandardAero currently employs around 175 people at its Augusta facility and nearly 7,700 across its worldwide operations.

Kenya Airways posts half-year loss amid fleet groundings

Kenya Airways PLC has reported its financial results for the six months ending June 30 2025, a period defined by considerable operational and financial turbulence. Central to the difficulties was the temporary grounding of three Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner aircraft, amounting to a third of the airline's wide-body fleet. The grounding, caused by global supply chain disruptions and limited engine availability, significantly constrained capacity and revenue generation during the first half of the year. The airline's total revenue stood at KES75 billion, a 19% decline from the KES91 billion posted in the same period of 2024. Passenger numbers fell by 14 per cent, while available seat capacity was reduced by 16%, with overall offered capacity dropping from 7,991 million Available Seat Kilometres (ASKs) to 6,715 million. These declines translated into an operating loss of KES6.2 billion, reversing the KES1.3 billion operating profit achieved in the prior period. The net result was a loss of KES12 billion compared with a profit of KES513 million in the first half of 2024. Efforts to contain the impact of these headwinds included disciplined cost management and scaled-down operations, which lowered operating costs by 10%. However, fleet ownership costs rose by 29%, a reflection of the remeasurement of leased assets as well as the acquisition of a new Boeing 737 aircraft. Despite the setbacks, there were some encouraging developments. One of the grounded Dreamliner aircraft resumed operations in July 2025, with the other two expected to return to service before the end of the year. Looking forward, Kenya Airways remains focused on implementing its recovery plan, which centres on restoring grounded aircraft to service, expanding capacity, enhancing operational efficiency, and undertaking a strategic capital raise. The airline views these measures as essential to reduce debt, strengthen liquidity, and support long-term sustainable growth. Although the financial results for the first half of 2025 illustrate the scale of the challenges faced, the carrier remains committed to stabilising its operations and positioning itself for recovery in a demanding aviation market. (US$1.00 = KES129.14 at time of publication).

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Construction of VietJet's aircraft maintenance hub

Vietjet aircraft © AirTeamImages

Vietjet has officially begun construction on its Aircraft Maintenance and Engineering Center at Long Thanh International Airport, marking a key development in both the airline's growth and Vietnam's aviation sector. The project is part of a nationwide programme of 80 landmark initiatives commemorating the 80th anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day (September 2, 1945 – September 2, 2025), highlighting its symbolic and strategic significance. The ground-breaking ceremony was attended by senior Vietnamese leaders, including General Secretary To Lam and Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, along with officials from the Party, the State, ministries, agencies, and local authorities, as well as partners from both domestic and international aviation circles. The presence of such dignitaries underscores the importance of the project in advancing Vietnam's aviation infrastructure and economic development. With a total investment approaching US$100 million (over VND 1,700 billion), the facility will comprise hangars No. 3 and No. 4 at Long Thanh International Airport, designed to service up to ten aircraft simultaneously. The centre will feature modern infrastructure built to international standards, enabling it to meet the growing maintenance requirements of Vietjet's expanding fleet while offering technical support for other domestic and international carriers. The new hub is expected to strengthen Vietnam's aviation capabilities, particularly in line with Long Thanh International Airport's vision to become one of the most advanced gateways in the region. Vietjet's investment reflects the airline's long-term strategic focus, commitment to sustainable development, and its role as a pioneering private enterprise driving the advancement of the national aviation industry. Beyond servicing Vietjet's operations, the Maintenance and Engineering Center is anticipated to contribute to broader industry growth by creating technical expertise, improving operational efficiency, and supporting the country's integration into the global aviation network. The project demonstrates how private sector initiatives can complement state-led development, enhancing infrastructure, boosting technical capacity, and fostering innovation in line with Vietnam's ambitions in a rapidly globalising era.

Kuehne+Nagel and MTU expand partnership in China

MLS fulfilment centre in Zhuhai, China © Kuehne+Nagel

Kuehne+Nagel is working with MTU Maintenance Lease Services (MLS) to open a new fulfilment centre in Zhuhai, China, supporting the management of aero engine parts supply. The strategic facility reinforces the long-standing partnership between the two companies and is central to improving MLS' global logistics operations.

The MLS fulfilment centre is strategically situated in Zhuhai, within the Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area and supports material supply across the region. It complements MLS' existing parts hubs in the Netherlands and the United States, creating a globally integrated logistics network that provides fast and reliable access to essential components.

Operated by Kuehne+Nagel, the facility is designed to the highest standards of speed, compliance, and reliability. It offers bonded storage and provides same-day or 24-hour dispatch throughout the year, ensuring continuous support for urgent line-replaceable-unit (LRU) needs and time-critical operations, including aircraft-on-ground (AOG) situations.

"MLS operates in a highly dynamic and time-sensitive environment, and we are proud to provide the logistics expertise that supports their global operations and responsiveness," said Damian Raczynski, Head of Contract Logistics, Kuehne+Nagel Asia Pacific.

"With fulfilment centres strategically located around the globe, we are uniquely positioned to respond swiftly to customer needs, no matter where they are," comments Patrick Biebel, Managing Director of MLS: "The Zhuhai facility exemplifies our commitment to providing rapid and reliable access to essential engine parts, which minimises operational downtime and ensures efficient support for our customers within China and the APAC region."

This partnership also reflects Kuehne+Nagel's continued commitment to the aerospace sector, offering scalable, end-to-end logistics solutions that combine global reach with local execution.

FINANCIAL NEWS

LOT Polish Airlines reports record passenger numbers in July

LOT Polish Airlines has reported outstanding results for July 2025, carrying over 1.18 million passengers and covering a total of 15.5 million kilometres. This performance marks the best month in the 96-year history of the airline, following an already exceptional first half of the year. Both passenger numbers and aircraft flight hours reached historic highs, reflecting the carrier's continued growth and operational efficiency. Among European destinations, Vilnius, London, and Amsterdam proved the most popular, while long-haul flights to Toronto, New York (JFK), and Chicago saw the largest passenger volumes. LOT attributes these outstanding results largely to the consistent expansion of its connection network. In 2025 alone, the airline inaugurated flights from Kraków to Paris Orly and from Warsaw to Thessaloniki, Malta, Reykjavik, and Lisbon. Looking ahead to the autumn, additional services to Marrakesh and Rovaniemi are planned, with further routes expected to be announced by year-end. Expanding the number of destinations has also strengthened LOT's position as a preferred carrier in Central and Eastern Europe. This strategy increases the availability of transfer flights at Warsaw Chopin Airport, where nearly 60% of LOT passengers now travel as transit passengers. By growing its network, the airline not only meets rising demand but also enhances connectivity across the region. The fleet expansion programme will further support these ambitions. At the end of 2025, the first of 13 Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft ordered by LOT will arrive in Warsaw from the Boeing factory in Seattle. Alongside previously ordered Airbus A220 aircraft, these new planes will play a key role in delivering the airline's 2024–2028 strategic plan, enabling continued network growth and enhanced service for passengers across both European and long-haul routes.

General Atomics invests CA$20m in Canadian fusion fuel project

General Atomics has announced a CA$20 million (US$14.51), ten-year investment in Fusion Fuel Cycles, Inc. (FFC), a Canadian joint venture formed by Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) and Kyoto Fusioneering. The partnership will support the development of UNITY-2, a test facility dedicated to advancing the tritium fuel cycle, considered one of the most challenging but vital aspects of commercial fusion energy. Scheduled to begin operations in mid-2026, UNITY-2 will be located at CNL in Ontario. It is set to become the world's first fully integrated facility designed to test the complete deuterium-tritium (D-T) fuel cycle. This system is crucial for any practical fusion power plant, which must combine plasma confinement, an energy-absorbing blanket system, a fuel cycle to recover tritium, and a heat-to-electricity conversion process. Fusion, the process that powers the

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

HAECO Xiamen boosts overhaul capacity with new facility

HAECO Engine Services Xiamen © HAECO

HAECO Engine Services Xiamen, part of the HAECO Group and specialising in the overhaul, testing and component repair of GE90 series engines, has commenced construction of a new facility set to increase capacity by the fourth quarter of 2026. The site will support the overhaul, testing and repair of additional engine types, including the GP7200, CF34-10A and GE9X, while also offering expanded space for maintenance and storage. The new facility, situated adjacent to the existing Phase 2 building, will span 4,420 m2, with a total floor area of 10,015 m2 across two levels. In keeping with HAECO's commitment to sustainability, it will incorporate energy-efficient LED lighting and a solar panel system to help reduce environmental impact. "As the aerospace industry continues to grow and evolve, this facility reflects our commitment to innovation and sustainable development, enabling us to scale up support for our customers across a diverse range of product lines," said Sandra Nieuwenhuijzen, Group Director of Component and Engine Services at HAECO. "This strategic investment underscores HAECO's long-term vision to support the evolving demands of the global aviation industry with cutting-edge solutions and operational excellence." "Since our establishment in 2008, we have continually adapted to meet our customers' needs, including the completion of our Phase 2 building in 2011. The new facility will enhance our capacity and enable us to develop capabilities for both current and next-generation engines." commented Simon Smith, Director and General Manager of HAECO Engine Services, Xiamen.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Menzies Aviation acquires G2 Secure Staff to expand U.S. operations


G2 and Menzies Aviation join forces © Menzies Aviation

Menzies Aviation, an Agility Global company, has completed the US$305 million acquisition of G2 Secure Staff (G2), a major aviation services provider in the United States. The deal strengthens Menzies' position as the world's largest aviation services provider, now operating at 350 airports across 65 countries with a workforce of 65,000. It is expected to boost group revenue by 20%, taking it to more than US$3.1 billion based on FY2024 figures. The acquisition positions Menzies as the leading provider by number of airports served in the U.S., the world's largest aviation market. Combining Menzies and G2 adds operational resilience and new capabilities in ground services, including passenger assistance and cabin cleaning, complementing Menzies' existing ground, air cargo, and fuel services portfolio. John Redmond, Menzies' Executive Vice President Americas, will continue to lead the region, supported by G2 senior management joining his team. The merger doubles Menzies' U.S. footprint to over 110 locations, including key hubs such as Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Los Angeles International Airport and Denver International Airport. Executives emphasise that the merger is not just about scale but about creating high-readiness infrastructure to meet growing airline demand for seamless, multi-airport service coverage. It provides an opportunity to raise standards across the U.S. and globally through training, safety, sustainability initiatives and technology rollout. The combination is also expected to create jobs and upskilling opportunities, leveraging the expertise of G2's team. G2's operations will be rebranded as Menzies Aviation, with integration beginning immediately. Menzies plans to implement global standards for training, safety, sustainability, and technology across all new operations to ensure a smooth transition for employees, customers and partners.

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sun, is regarded as a potential near-limitless and sustainable source of energy. UNITY-2 aims to simulate the full D-T sequence, including tritium discharge, purification and resupply. The project will address safety, storage and management challenges associated with tritium, laying groundwork for the eventual development of other large-scale fusion technologies, including blanket component testing. General Atomics will use UNITY-2's advanced infrastructure for its own research and development, while supporting Canadian partners in tackling the complex science of fuel cycle integration. According to General Atomics executives, the initiative represents a direct step towards solving one of the hardest puzzles in making fusion commercially viable: ensuring all subsystems work in harmony. The investment also aligns with Canada's Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) Policy, linked to General Atomics Aeronautical Systems' contracts for supplying MQ-9B SkyGuardian remotely piloted aircraft to the Canadian government. Canada's Federal Department for Innovation, Science and Economic Development has formally endorsed UNITY-2, highlighting its role in advancing green energy innovation. The Canadian government has welcomed the project, describing it as an opportunity to strengthen Canada's role in the global fusion sector while

AIP and BeYoke form strategic aviation investment partnership

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AIP Capital (AIP), an alternative investment manager specialising in asset-based finance, and BeYoke Capital, a global aviation specialty investment platform headquartered in Japan, have announced a strategic partnership aimed at creating new investment opportunities for Japanese investors. The collaboration will focus on aircraft and engine investment initiatives using Japanese Operating Lease (JOL), Japanese Operating Lease with Call Option (JOLCO) structures, and secured loan products. As part of the partnership, AIP has taken a minority stake in BeYoke and will join its board of directors. This involvement provides AIP with a Japanese Financial Services Agency (FSA) licensed platform for JOL and JOLCO arrangements, positioning the company to further expand its footprint across the Asia-Pacific region. The partnership is expected to facilitate greater access to aviation investment opportunities for Japanese investors, while leveraging the combined expertise of both firms in asset-based finance and aviation investment. AIP Capital received legal advice from Morgan Lewis, acting as lead counsel, and tax structuring guidance from KPMG to support the transaction. The collaboration represents a strategic move for AIP as it seeks to strengthen its presence in the Asia-Pacific aviation investment market. By aligning with BeYoke, AIP gains direct access to Japan's regulated aviation leasing market, which is expected to enhance the range and scale of investment products it can offer to institutional and private investors in the region. The partnership reflects a growing trend in cross-border aviation finance, combining Western investment management expertise with Japanese market access and regulatory compliance. It also highlights the increasing demand for structured aircraft and engine investment opportunities in Asia, driven by the region's expanding aviation sector and the need for innovative financing solutions.

FINANCIAL NEWS

creating high-value jobs and new economic opportunities. If successful, UNITY-2 could help position Canada as a leader in the international race to develop sustainable fusion technologies.

airBaltic secures strategic investment and strengthens Supervisory Board

Latvia's national airline, airBaltic, has wrapped up the attraction of a strategic investor, with Lufthansa Group stepping in alongside a matching co-investment from the Latvian state. All agreements are signed and formalities complete, bringing the total fresh funding to €28 million (US$32.5 million) and cementing a closer industrial link between the two airlines. Next, the Supervisory Board grows to five members to deepen aviation and governance know-how. Two newcomers — Dr Alexander Feuersänger of Lufthansa Group and governance specialist Ruta Amtmane — will join Andrejs Martinovs, Jurģis Sedlenieks and Lars Thuesen. Their term will start once the share capital increase is recorded with the Latvian Register of Enterprises. Dr Feuersänger brings more than two decades in airline operations and technology, currently serving as Senior Vice President Fleet Management at Lufthansa Group, with prior leadership posts at Lufthansa Technik and board roles at Ameco Beijing and German Operating Aircraft Leasing. His academic track includes a Ph.D. in Aeronautics (ISAE-SUPAERO) and aerospace degrees from RWTH Aachen and Imperial College London, complemented by executive study at Columbia Business School and IMD — a profile tailored to fleet strategy and reliability. Ruta Amtmane adds seasoned oversight from banking and financial services, spanning legal, compliance, and corporate governance. She is Deputy Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board at AS APF Holdings and has previously held senior roles at AS Industra Bank, AS Reverta (formerly Parex Bank), SIA DNB Līzings, and AS DNB Banka — experience that bolsters boardroom controls as the airline executes its growth plans.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

Thailand orders next-generation Gripen fighters in SEK 5.3 billion deal

The Kingdom of Thailand has ordered four Gripen E/F fighter aircraft *© Saab*

Saab has confirmed the signing of a major contract with the Swedish Defence Materiel Administration (FMV) for the supply of four Gripen E/F fighter aircraft to the Kingdom of Thailand. Valued at approximately SEK 5.3 billion (€469 million), the agreement covers the delivery of three Gripen E and one Gripen F models, along with associated equipment, training and long-term support. Deliveries will be scheduled between 2025 and 2030. This order builds upon Thailand's existing experience with Saab's technology. The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) already operates a squadron of Gripen C/D multi-role fighters, making it one of Saab's established international partners. The new fighters will complement these aircraft and further enhance the country's defence capabilities, enabling the RTAF to field a mixed force of advanced Gripen variants. In parallel, Saab has concluded a separate agreement with the Royal Thai Air Force involving a significant long-term offset package. This arrangement is designed not only to support Thailand's defence needs but also to stimulate broader industrial and economic benefits. The package includes extensive technology transfer, defence cooperation and investment in multiple sectors of Thailand's national economy. Such provisions are intended to reinforce Thailand's ambitions for self-reliant, sustainable defence development while boosting wider industrial growth. Micael Johansson, President and CEO of Saab, emphasised the importance of Thailand's decision, stating: "We welcome Thailand as the latest customer for Gripen E/F. Thailand is already a well-established Gripen user and familiar with the strengths that Gripen brings to the Royal Thai Armed Forces. Thailand has chosen the most modern fighter on the market with which to build its next generation of strategic, independent capabilities." With the introduction of Gripen E/F aircraft, the RTAF will gain access to cutting-edge fighter technology designed to meet contemporary and future security demands. The aircraft are noted for their advanced avionics, adaptability, and cost-effectiveness compared with other modern fighter platforms. Overall, this agreement strengthens Sweden's defence export portfolio, deepens its partnership with Thailand, and highlights the Gripen programme's growing role in global air power. Thailand's choice underscores a commitment to modernising its air force while ensuring that defence investments contribute to national industry and long-term economic development.

US$2.8 billion deal boosts Pratt & Whitney's F-35 engine production

Pratt & Whitney has been awarded a contract for production of Lot 18 of F135 engines, which power all three variants of the F-35 Lightning II fifth-generation fighter aircraft *© RTX*

Pratt & Whitney, a subsidiary of RTX, has been awarded a US$2.8 billion un-definitised contract action (UCA) to manufacture Lot 18 of the F135 engines, the power source for all three variants of the F-35 Lightning II fifth-generation fighter aircraft. This latest contract underscores the strategic importance of the F135 programme in sustaining advanced air power capabilities for both the United States and its allied partners. The funding covers production of engines for the conventional take-off and landing (CTOL) version, the carrier variant (CV), and the short take-off and vertical landing (STOVL) model of the aircraft. In addition, it provides for spare engines, replacement modules, engineering and tooling support, programme management, and broader production assistance. Highlighting the engine's proven battlefield performance, Christopher K. Johnson, Vice President of the F135 programme at Pratt & Whitney, emphasised its role in delivering "power, safety, reliability, and low observability" to operators. He further stated that the engine represents "an investment in mission assurance," ensuring that war fighters have the technological advantage required to succeed in critical missions both now and in the future. The F135 programme is a significant contributor to the U.S. defence industrial base. It currently supports over 67,000 domestic jobs and relies on a network of 240 suppliers across the United States. In 2024 alone, the programme contributed more than US$9.1 billion to the U.S. economy, demonstrating its extensive economic as well as military impact. Pratt & Whitney has already delivered more than 1,300 F135 production engines to a global enterprise involving 20 allied nations, highlighting the international scope and collaboration underpinning the F-35 programme. The award of this new contract ensures continuity of supply and support for one of the most advanced and widely deployed fighter aircraft in the world. By sustaining both economic output and defence capability, the contract reaffirms Pratt & Whitney's role in underpinning U.S. and allied air superiority for decades to come.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

AAR and AmSafe Bridport forge defence distribution agreement

© AAR

AAR CORP. has entered into a significant new multi-year defence distribution agreement with AmSafe Bridport, a TransDigm company. The collaboration positions AAR as the exclusive distributor for KC-46 and C-40 platform products across direct and indirect sales channels within the global defence and military aftermarket. The agreement extends to key customers such as the United States Defence Logistics Agency (DLA), the U.S. Armed Services for fleet sustainment, and allied foreign militaries, including Japan's defence sector. By integrating AmSafe Bridport's product lines within its distribution network, AAR expects to strengthen internal coordination on government contracts, particularly through its Government Programmes division. This, in turn, is anticipated to enhance customer service and operational efficiency for military clients worldwide. A notable element of the contract is its role in diversifying AAR's existing defence distribution portfolio, now broadened to include advanced cargo handling solutions. These products are vital for modern military logistics, supporting the safe, secure, and efficient transportation of critical materials. Senior leaders from both organisations welcomed the deal. Natalie Paul, Senior Vice President of Sales and Engineering at AmSafe Bridport, emphasised the synergy created by combining "proven safety and cargo handling solutions" with AAR's expansive distribution infrastructure and in-region support. She highlighted that the partnership ensures military operators receive critical products "exactly when and where they're needed." Frank Landrio, AAR's Senior Vice President of Distribution, echoed this sentiment, underscoring the strategic significance of the agreement. He noted that the partnership not only broadens AAR's product range for the KC-46 and C-40 aircraft but also complements the company's value-added services. The outcome, he said, would be "a more comprehensive suite of offerings" for customers. Overall, the agreement represents a strengthening of transatlantic defence supply chains and reflects a growing emphasis on global military readiness. By leveraging AAR's established logistics reach and AmSafe Bridport's expertise in safety and cargo systems, the collaboration is poised to deliver enhanced reliability and support to defence operators across multiple regions.

US Air Force contracts Reliable Robotics for autonomous flight system

Reliable Robotics, a company based in California, has confirmed a new contract with the United States Air Force. The agreement covers the purchase, integration, and testing of its Reliable Autonomy System (RAS) on a Cessna 208B aircraft. The technology, which is certifiable by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), is designed to deliver safe and continuous autonomous operations at a fraction of the cost of traditional systems. The Reliable Autonomy System is a complete platform for uncrewed flight. It allows aircraft to operate without pilots through every phase, including taxi, take-off, cruise, and landing. The system is aircraft agnostic. It also has multiple layers of redundancy and advanced navigation. These features ensure higher levels of safety and reliability, which are critical for both civil and military uses. For the Air Force, the use of autonomy brings new opportunities. It supports Agile Combat Employment (ACE), a concept where rapid and flexible logistics are essential. Autonomous aircraft can operate from dispersed bases, improve security and reduce risk to crews. They also make operations faster and more efficient. This is not the first time Reliable Robotics has worked with the Air Force. The two have collaborated under several contracts and exercises. These efforts have included applying autonomy to the Cessna 208B Caravan and even the KC-135 Stratotanker. The company is also contributing to the Autonomy Government Reference Architecture (A-GRA). This initiative aims to create a flexible autonomy system that can be used across multiple aircraft and missions. The latest deal strengthens the role of Reliable Robotics as a leading partner in autonomous aviation. It shows how the Air Force is moving quickly to bring advanced commercial technology into military service. It also highlights the wider importance of autonomy in future air operations.

The US Air Force has signed a contract to purchase, integrate and to test the Reliable Autonomy System (RAS) onboard a Cessna 208B aircraft
© Reliable Robotics

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

United Aerospace Maintenance Company (UAMCO), an aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) provider, will implement **Ramco Systems**' next-generation aviation software to enhance its operations. The collaboration focuses on supporting LEAP engines, including the CFM International SA LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B, reinforcing UAMCO's role in the global open MRO ecosystem. The software, designed specifically for engine MROs, aims to improve operational efficiency, streamline workflows, and strengthen UAMCO's ability to deliver world-class services. Ramco's business partner, **AiAppsData**, a consultancy with deep aviation IT experience, played a key role in facilitating the engagement. Ramco Aviation Software offers a comprehensive suite of modules covering engineering and CAMO, maintenance, supply chain, MRO and part sales, employee management, safety, quality, compliance, and finance and accounting. The integrated platform will allow UAMCO to manage engine maintenance operations down to the component level, optimise vendor and material management, and gain full visibility of costs and revenues. In addition, the platform includes digital tools such as Ramco Anywhere mobile apps, HUBs, and integrated customer portals. These features are expected to improve process efficiency, enhance customer engagement, and reduce reliance on paper-based systems. UAMCO's CEO, John Savvides, emphasised the importance of selecting the right technology partner to enable smarter operations and faster decision-making. He highlighted the software's maintenance and materials management capabilities and its alignment with UAMCO's goal of providing rapid turnaround work scopes for CFM LEAP engines. Savvides anticipates significant improvements in resource management, customer engagement, and overall business execution. Ramco Systems' Chief Customer Officer, Manoj Kumar Singh, noted that the partnership demonstrates the growing trust leading MRO providers place in Ramco Aviation Software. Singh stated that the software's advanced functionality and Ramco's focus on customer success will provide UAMCO with both innovation and a competitive edge. The collaboration is expected to redefine standards in aircraft engine maintenance and further strengthen UAMCO's market position.

OTHER NEWS

According to Indian Times, **India's Civil Aviation Minister**, Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu, has announced a plan to expand the country's airport network to a total of 350 by the year 2047. This represents a significant increase from the current number of 162 airports, more than doubling the existing infrastructure. The announcement was made during the Eastern Region Ministers' Conference on Civil Aviation, where the minister highlighted the rapid growth of the civil aviation sector and its importance to the country's economy. He emphasised that the central government will support state governments in developing aviation infrastructure to achieve this ambitious target. Over the past 11 years, 88 new airports have been developed, particularly in tier-two and tier-three cities, reflecting a strategic focus on improving regional connectivity and promoting development beyond major metropolitan areas. The expansion plan is seen as a way to enhance mobility, meet rising passenger and cargo demand, and support economic growth in smaller cities and regions. The initiative is aligned with India's broader vision for a developed nation, with aviation positioned as a key driver of economic integration and regional development. By increasing the number of airports, the government aims to create jobs, stimulate local economies, and provide greater accessibility across the country. This long-term target also underscores India's commitment to strengthening its civil aviation sector to meet future demand, accommodate a growing number of passengers, and maintain competitiveness in the global aviation market. The focus on regional airports ensures that development is not limited to major cities but extends to smaller urban centres, fostering balanced economic growth throughout the country.

© Copenhagen Airport

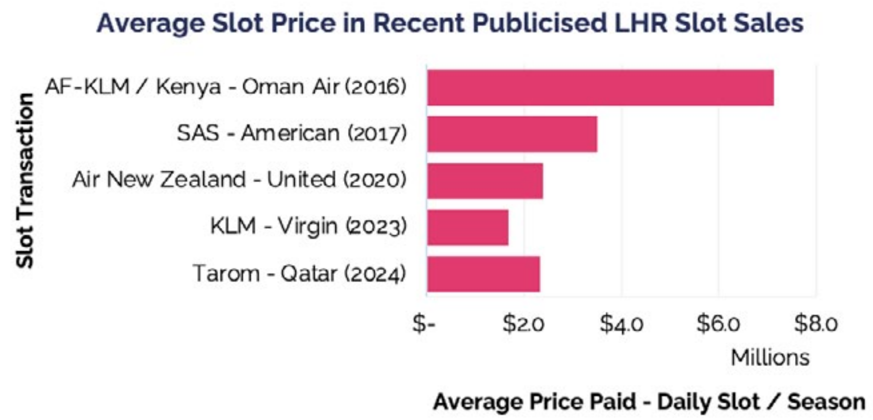
Copenhagen Airport is marking its 100th anniversary with record passenger numbers and strong financial results. In the first six months of 2025, 14.9 million passengers passed through the terminals. This was 8% more than in the same period last year and the highest number ever recorded in the airport's history. Copenhagen Airports A/S reported a pre-tax profit of DKK 595 million (US$92.8m), an increase from DKK 491 million (US$76.5m) in the first half of 2024. Revenue rose to DKK 2,541 million (US$396.1m), up from DKK 2,355 million (US$367.1m) last year. Aeronautical income from air traffic reached DKK 1,548 million (US$241.3m), a 9% rise. Non-aeronautical revenue, including shopping, parking, property leasing and hotels, stood at DKK 993 million (US$154.8m), up 7%. Growth was affected by temporary shop and restaurant closures during construction work to expand Terminal 3, due for completion in 2028. Transfer traffic played a key role. 3.3 million transfer passengers used the airport in H1 2025, up 23% compared with last year. Nine out of ten transfer passengers flew with SAS. The airline has strengthened Copenhagen as its global hub by adding 18 new routes and increasing frequencies on existing services. SAS increased its passenger share at the airport by 22% compared with last year and now accounts for 37% of all traffic. Together with Norwegian and Ryanair, the three largest carriers handled 62% of passengers in H1 2025, up from 57% a year earlier. The airport's route network also expanded. In the first half of 2025, 29 new routes were launched, bringing the total to 334 connections to 171 destinations. Over 85% of all traffic is within Europe, though the growing base of transfer passengers helps sustain intercontinental links. Infrastructure improvements are under way. In May, five new security lanes opened featuring CT scanners that generate 3-D images of cabin baggage. This allows passengers to keep laptops, electronics, belts and watches in their bags. A total of 20 new lanes will be in place by spring 2026, with six more opening as early as November 2025. The changes are intended to speed up checks while maintaining safety. The increase in passenger traffic also brings environmental challenges. Copenhagen Airport has highlighted the need to balance growth with its commitment to a green transition, which remains one of the industry's most pressing tasks. Ownership of the airport is shifting. The European Commission has approved the Danish State's acquisition of a controlling stake in Copenhagen Airports A/S. Current majority shareholder ATP has confirmed that the conditions for transfer are met. The Danish State is expected to make a mandatory offer for the remaining shares in October 2025.

Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) has entered into a long-term strategic partnership with Swiss start-up **neustark**, a pioneering company that has developed a novel method of permanently removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The partnership is set to accelerate both the refinement of neustark's technology and its international rollout, furthering SWISS's broader efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The aviation industry faces the challenge of balancing the benefits of global connectivity with the environmental impact of emissions. SWISS has set itself the target of reaching net zero by mid-century, pursuing a combination of measures such as operating more fuel-efficient aircraft, adopting sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), and investing in solutions that permanently eliminate carbon dioxide. The partnership with neustark represents a key step in the airline's strategy to mitigate its carbon footprint. Neustark, a spin-off from ETH Zurich, is the first company worldwide to apply a process that stores carbon dioxide from biogas facilities into demolished and recycled concrete. The gas is mineralised within the building material, ensuring its permanent removal from the atmosphere while also contributing to the circular economy by repurposing construction waste. SWISS is the first airline to actively support this mineralisation technology, highlighting its intention to back innovative and scalable approaches to decarbonisation. The agreement between SWISS and neustark will run until 2030, with provisions to extend its scope either by increasing the volumes of carbon dioxide processed or by prolonging the partnership's duration. By committing early, SWISS is enabling neustark to advance its technology at pace and pursue expansion into new markets. Together with the Lufthansa Group, SWISS is demonstrating leadership in tackling aviation's environmental impact by fostering partnerships that can deliver meaningful and lasting carbon reductions. This initiative signals a commitment not only to cleaner air transport but also to broader sustainability goals, ensuring that mobility can remain accessible to future generations without compromising the planet's climate.

Collins Aerospace has begun providing **JetBlue** with FlightAware Foresight®, a predictive analytics tool designed to strengthen airline operations. The technology improves visibility, efficiency and decision-making across the flight network. FlightAware Foresight works by using real-time flight tracking and predictive data. It

OTHER NEWS

supplies operators with essential information about arrivals and departures. Moreover, it identifies risks such as weather issues, congestion and other delays. With these insights, flight operations teams can quickly adjust schedules, improve connection times and keep passengers updated in advance. The system is powered by machine learning. Billions of data points feed its algorithms, which then forecast potential disruptions before they occur. As a result, airlines can adjust gate assignments, crew scheduling and timings. This helps to sustain performance while also protecting the passenger experience. The technology went live in JetBlue's operations in July. Since then, it has supported the airline in managing complex daily challenges. For example, it helps minimise delays, which improves reliability. It also strengthens communication with passengers, ensuring that updates are timely and accurate. The partnership between JetBlue and Collins Aerospace underlines a broader industry shift. Airlines are investing in tools that use artificial intelligence to anticipate problems instead of reacting once they happen. This proactive approach is becoming critical as air travel continues to grow, and operational demands increase. Furthermore, the adoption of FlightAware Foresight signals JetBlue's commitment to innovation. The airline is looking to deliver smoother journeys while also maintaining efficiency. For Collins Aerospace, the agreement demonstrates the value of its connected aviation technologies in helping carriers around the world adapt to rising expectations. In short, this collaboration highlights how advanced analytics are reshaping aviation. By blending predictive power with real-time tracking, JetBlue is better equipped to manage disruptions and keep passengers moving.



© IBA

IBA, the aviation market intelligence and consultancy company, has released new insights into the soaring value of airport slots, as unprecedented demand at **London Heathrow** (IATA: LHR) continues to drive record prices. Slot transactions at Heathrow frequently make headlines due to the high amounts airlines are prepared to pay for access. However, the underlying factors driving these valuations are often overlooked. Analysis of Summer 2025 (S25) slot data shows supply at Heathrow is approximately 90% of recorded demand. This excludes unregistered demand, where airlines may choose not to apply due to the extremely low probability of securing a slot via the free allocation pool. As a result, very few slots are returned for reallocation, underscoring the intense competition and scarcity in the market. "Slots are critical strategic assets, and their value is influenced by regulatory environments, market conditions, and timing," said William McClintock, Manager, Markets & Sustainability at IBA. IBA has an LHR transaction database with over 15 years of transactions. Many of these transactions have been fully verified via rigorous research and client intelligence. Historic Heathrow transactions illustrate the scale of valuations. In 2016, Oman Air purchased a slot pair from Air France-KLM for US$75 million – the highest publicly reported slot trade to date. The transaction coincided with Oman's launch of its 25-year National Tourism Strategy, highlighting how slot investments often align with wider economic and strategic objectives. Ultimately, slot values are determined by how much an airline is willing to pay to gain a competitive advantage. This dynamic has the potential to trigger pricing wars where strategic gains outweigh the high investment costs. IBA provides independent slot appraisals to support financing, restructuring, and transactions for more than 30 airline clients worldwide. The company's expertise enables stakeholders to forecast slot values across the short, medium, and long term, modelling scenarios such as runway expansions, regulatory reforms, and airline restructuring.

CSTPL will establish a new pilot training centre in Mumbai © CSTPL

CAE Simulation Training Private Limited (CSTPL), a joint venture between **InterGlobe Enterprises** and **CAE**, has announced the establishment of a new pilot training centre in Mumbai. The 44,000 ft² facility is scheduled to begin operations in the first quarter of 2026 and will initially house two Airbus A320 full-flight simulators (FFS), with the capacity to accommodate up to six simulators in total. The expansion comes at a time of significant demand for skilled pilots in India, with projections suggesting that as many as 20,000 will be required over the next decade. As one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets, India is central to regional growth in commercial aviation, and training infrastructure is considered essential to meet industry needs. The new centre in Mumbai will complement CSTPL's existing training network in Greater Noida, Gurugram and Bengaluru, where the joint venture currently operates facilities with the capacity for 23 FFSs. By adding a presence in Mumbai, CSTPL strengthens its coverage across India's key aviation hubs, ensuring training is accessible where demand is highest. The training centre will deliver a range of programmes for pilots across Airbus, ATR and Boeing aircraft types. Services will include type ratings, recurrent training, and proficiency checks, all compliant with Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) requirements. These programmes are expected to support both new entrants to the profession and experienced pilots seeking to maintain qualifications. According to CAE's 2025 Aviation Talent Forecast, the Asia Pacific region will require 98,000 new pilots by 2034, highlighting the importance of sustained investment in training capacity. CSTPL's new Mumbai facility aims to play a critical role in meeting this demand by offering high-quality, locally accessible training for Indian and regional carriers. This development underlines the strategic commitment of both InterGlobe Enterprises and CAE to strengthen India's aviation training ecosystem. The Mumbai centre is expected to provide not only operational efficiency for airlines but also a foundation for long-term skills development in the aviation sector.

OTHER NEWS

Michael Steen, Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Air Worldwide
© Etihad Cargo

Atlas Air, Inc., a subsidiary of **Atlas Air Worldwide**, has announced a new long-term partnership with **Etihad Cargo**, the freight and logistics arm of **Etihad Airways**, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates. The deal will see Atlas Air operate a newly delivered Boeing 777 freighter on Etihad Cargo's behalf, strengthening the carrier's network at a time of rising global demand. From August, the dedicated aircraft will begin services linking Hong Kong, Abu Dhabi and Madrid, three key hubs across Asia, the Middle East and Europe. The routes have been chosen to address expanding demand for air cargo services, particularly in sectors such as e-commerce, pharmaceuticals, automotive goods and perishable products. The Boeing 777F is capable of carrying over 100 tonnes of cargo. With strong fuel efficiency and proven reliability, the type underpins Etihad Cargo's commitment to sustainable and efficient transport solutions across its expanding network. The partnership is not new; Atlas Air and Etihad Cargo have a relationship stretching back to 2012, when Atlas first provided flight services for the Abu Dhabi-based carrier. The new agreement, however, deepens the collaboration and provides Etihad Cargo with long-term dedicated capacity to capture new growth opportunities. Michael Steen, Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Air Worldwide, praised the renewal of ties, stating the partnership "reflects our strong value proposition and the trust we've built with customers over time." He emphasised Atlas Air's ability to deliver tailored capacity solutions thanks to its global scale and wide-body freighter fleet. Stanislas Brun, Chief Cargo Officer at Etihad Airways, described the agreement as a "strategic step in scaling capacity and extending our global reach." He highlighted the importance of aligning the airline's growing passenger fleet with parallel growth in freighter capacity to sustain momentum, strengthen trade lanes and ensure reliable service worldwide.

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INDUSTRY PEOPLE

• TrueNoord, the specialist regional aircraft leasing company, has announced four new appointments at its Amsterdam office, enhancing its capabilities across technical, transactional, and financial areas. **Jonnathan Garzon** and **Jesus Cardenas** have joined as Technical Managers.

Jonnathan Garzon

• **Jonnathan Garzon** brings over thirteen years of experience in technical records audits, aircraft phase-outs, and mid-term inspections. He has worked extensively with airlines, airports, and MRO organisations, focusing on operational efficiency and compliance. His previous roles include positions at AerData B.V., Aircraft Digital Company, and Avianca.

Jesus Cardenas

• **Cardenas**, an Aeronautical Engineer with more than five years' experience, has expertise in aircraft modification, maintenance, and operations. He recently completed an MSc in Aerospace Engineering at TU Delft, specialising in operations research, control theory, and systems engineering. He previously oversaw the continuous airworthiness of three regional aircraft for the Central Bank of Mexico.

Emma Foudy

• **Emma Foudy** joins as Transaction and Lease Manager, bringing over six years of experience in contract management and aircraft leasing. She has worked at AerCap and JLPS Ireland Limited and holds a Diploma in Aviation Leasing & Finance from the University of Limerick. At TrueNoord, she will manage lease agreements and support transaction execution across global operations.

Nanne de Jong

• **Nanne de Jong** has been appointed Receivables Manager. With nearly twenty years in financial services, including seven at DVB Bank, she has extensive expertise in receivables management, accounts payable, financial reporting, VAT compliance, and regulatory documentation. De Jong holds a degree in Business Economics and has a proven record of implementing process improvements within aviation finance.

THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

Commercial Jet Aircraft

Aircraft Type	Company	Engine	MSN	Year	Available	Sale / Lease	Contact	Email	Phone
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	

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) CF34-8C5	Now - Sale / Lease	ASI Aero	Dave Silvers	daves@asiaero.net	+561.931.6650
(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	Now - Lease	DASI	Joe Hutchings	joe.hutchings@dasi.com	+ 1 954-478-7195

THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

Commercial Engines

CFM Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(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) CFM56-5B3/3	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(1) CFM56-5B5/P	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-7B26	Now - Lease				

LEAP Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) LEAP-1B28	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950

Commercial Engines

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.				
PW1000 Engines	**Sale / Lease**	**Company**	**Contact**	**Email**	**Phone**
(2) PW1127G	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
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) V2530-A5	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950

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					
(4) APU EMB145LR, Model: 4504113A	Now - Sale	Newcastle Aviation	Steve Hendrickson	steveh@newcastleaviation.com	952-223-0317
(3) CFM56-7B Engine Stands	Now - Sale	KMS Aero Investments	Sharon Brady	enginestands@kmsaeroinvest.com	+353 0868161287
(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
(3) A340 LG Shipset, (1) B777 LG Shipset (4) B737 LG Shipset,		GA Telesis		landinggearsales@gatelesis.com	
(10) A320 LG Shipset, (2) B757 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				
(7) 131-9A, (2) 131-9B (Max compliant), (1) APS3200, (3) 331-500, (1) APS2300		GA Telesis		apu@gatelesis.com	+1-954-849-3509
(4) 131-9B, (2) APS3200 "C", (1) 85-129H, (1) 331-350, (3) 331-200					
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				