AVITRADER
AVIATION NEWS PUBLICATIONS
ISSN 1718-7966 FEBRUARY 16, 2026/ VOL. 1025
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Weekly Aviation Headline News


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Unions For American Airlines Press Board Over Lagging Profits

After years of lagging behind United Airlines and Delta Air Lines on profitability, unions are now turning to the directors of American for accountability

Unions at American Airlines (American) have begun to put pressure on the directors of the company as it continues to lag well behind rival carriers United Airlines and Delta Air Lines in terms of profitability. Over the last few days, the pilot's union has begun to urge American to take "decisive action" to narrow the gap in profitability and has requested a meeting with the full board, while the flight attendant's union has issued a vote of no confidence in Robert Isom, American's CEO, demanding a change in leadership. The Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA), which represents American's flight attendants, said on Monday, February 9, its board voted unanimously in what it called a first against an American Airlines CEO. The union said the airline was falling "dangerously behind" competitors and called for "accountability, improved operational support and leadership change." It intended to hold a protest outside American's headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, last Thursday to press those demands. "At the end of the day, our management team, we feel, has failed us," APFA President Julie Hedrick told Reuters news agency. "We don't want to be left with a company that isn't competitive." On the quarterly earnings call last month, Isom said American's turnaround strategy should start showing results in 2026, reinforcing the message at an internal leadership conference last week. "It starts with us at the top," he said. On an adjusted pretax basis in 2025, American generated US$352 million, compared with about US$5 billion at Delta and US$4.6 billion at United, according to company results. American has blamed the underperformance on exposure to a softer domestic market, broader economic uncertainty and a federal government shutdown that badly affected bookings. Meanwhile, union officials have pointed out that such a small profit share has led to worker frustration, with APFA indicating that some crew members received as little as US$150 in profit-sharing for 2025. The no-confidence vote followed on from a letter sent two weeks ago from the board of the pilot union urging American's board to take "decisive action" and warning that the carrier remains on an "underperforming path" marked by persistent operational, cultural and strategic shortcomings. The union requested that its president, Nick Silva, be allowed to formally present concerns to the full board, while Isom has told Silva he would meet with the union as soon as possible and that the board had discussed the request, according to a letter reviewed by Reuters. The union said it had not yet received a reply from directors and that Isom's letter "was not responsive" to its request for a board-level meeting. It said that after multiple meetings with Isom and his executive team over the past year, engagement with the full board is the "necessary next step." This most recent flare-up comes after a late-January winter storm that led to widespread flight cancellations and tested American's recovery system. Data from aviation analytics firm OAG shows American's reliability lagged key rivals in January. It trailed Southwest, Alaska Airlines, United and Delta in on-time performance and posted the highest cancellation rate among those airlines. Unions have portrayed the disruption as evidence of deeper weaknesses in preparation and execution.

> "At the end of the day, our management team, we feel, has failed us. We don't want to be left with a company that isn't competitive."
> *APFA President Julie Hedrick*

AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

EGYPTAIR welcomes first A350-900

EGYPTAIR has taken delivery of its first A350-900 aircraft
© Airbus

EGYPTAIR has taken delivery of the first of 16 Airbus A350-900 aircraft on order, becoming the launch operator of the type in North Africa. The A350 will support the airline's long-haul fleet modernisation and network expansion, enabling new non-stop routes from its Cairo hub to key destinations including the US West Coast and North Asia. EGYPTAIR currently operates an Airbus fleet comprising eight A320neo aircraft, seven A321neo aircraft and 11 A330-family aircraft, including five A330-200P2F freighters. The aircraft features a two-class configuration, with 30 business-class suites offering direct aisle access and 310 economy-class seats. The latest-generation Airspace cabin is designed to enhance the long-haul experience for both passengers and crew, with improved ergonomics and increased comfort. The A350 is capable of flying up to 9,700 nautical miles (18,000 kilometres) non-stop, setting new standards for intercontinental travel. It incorporates advanced technologies and aerodynamics, delivering outstanding levels of efficiency and comfort. Powered by the latest-generation Rolls-Royce engines and built using lightweight materials, the A350 offers a 25% reduction in fuel burn, operating costs and carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions compared with previous-generation competitor aircraft.

Orders and deliveries – Boeing and Airbus

Airbus v Boeing: Orders and Deliveries
January 2026 YTD (net orders)

Airbus			Boeing		
Type	Orders	Deliveries	Type	Orders	Deliveries
A220	0	3	737	71	37
A320 Family	48	15	767	0	1
A330	1	0	777	0	3
A350	0	1	787	32	5
Total	**49**	**19**	**Total**	**103**	**46**

Source: Airbus Source: Boeing

Vista orders 40 Challenger 3500 jets from Bombardier

Challenger 3500 jet *© Bombardier*

Vista, the private aviation group, has announced a major fleet agreement with Bombardier, comprising 40 firm orders for the Challenger 3500 aircraft, along with 120 additional purchase options. The agreement secures long-term capacity for Vista's rapidly expanding member base, as global demand for premium private aviation continues to grow. Deliveries will begin in 2026 and be phased over the following ten years, ensuring fleet expansion remains aligned with utilisation levels and regional demand across Vista's distinctive global network of silver aircraft with a red stripe. The structure provides Vista with significant flexibility, while ensuring it remains well positioned to serve members worldwide as travel patterns evolve. It also consolidates Vista's super-midsize fleet on a single common platform, delivering a consistent client experience anytime, anywhere. Operationally, scaling one unified platform will further enhance efficiency across the network.

Frontier agrees early return of 24 A320neos in AerCap deal

Frontier Airlines Airbus A320neo *© AirTeamImages*

Frontier Group Holdings, the parent company of Frontier Airlines, has announced a non-binding agreement with AerCap for the early return of 24 A320neo aircraft currently in service. The aircraft are subject to lease agreements due to expire within the next two to eight years, with the returns expected to be completed during the second quarter of 2026. In return, AerCap will agree to ten future sale-and-leaseback transactions covering aircraft deliveries scheduled for 2028 and 2029. The agreement forms part of Frontier's wider fleet initiatives aimed at boosting productivity and strengthening the airline's competitive position. "This agreement is a testament to the strong and enduring relationship between Frontier, AerCap and CFM International," said Jimmy Dempsey, President and CEO of Frontier Airlines. "It represents a significant milestone in our new strategy to improve the productivity of the airline through disciplined rightsizing of our fleet. We are pleased that AerCap will remain one of our largest lessors, and we look forward to expanding our partnership through an additional ten sale-and-leaseback transactions.

AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

GOAL sells A350-900 aircraft to AviLease

The A350-900 sold from GOAL to AviLease is currently on long-term lease to Fiji Airways *© GOAL*

GOAL Aircraft Leasing (GOAL), a joint venture between KGAL GmbH & Co. KG, a German investment and asset manager and Deutsche Lufthansa AG, has sold and delivered one Airbus A350-900 aircraft to global aircraft lessor AviLease. The aircraft is subject to a long-term lease agreement with Fiji's national carrier, Fiji Airways. The aircraft was delivered to AviLease at the end of December 2025. The A350 was originally placed on lease with Fiji Airways in 2023 and has since been held by a KGAL fund. GOAL structured and managed both the initial purchase and lease transaction in 2023, as well as the subsequent sale with the lease attached. Christian Schloemann, Managing Director of GOAL, commented: "We are pleased to have successfully completed the first divestment of an aircraft from the KGAL fund. We congratulate AviLease on this acquisition and thank them for their professional and cooperative approach. GOAL applied its full range of capabilities to acquire this A350-900 aircraft without a lessee and place it with a reputable airline such as Fiji Airways. This transaction clearly demonstrates the success of the opportunistic investment strategy pursued by KGAL's equity investors. We look forward to identifying further aircraft opportunities to reinvest the available liquidity." GOAL currently owns and manages a portfolio of 64 aircraft with a total investment volume of approximately US$2.6 billion. With more than 25 years of experience, GOAL has established a strong track record in operating leasing, technical asset management and aircraft remarketing, underpinned by deep industry expertise and professional excellence.

AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

Air Canada orders eight A350-1000s to power long-haul growth

Image of an Airbus A350-1000 in Air Canada livery *© Airbus*

Air Canada has confirmed a firm order for eight Airbus A350-1000 aircraft, marking a significant upgrade to its long-haul fleet strategy and reinforcing its commitment to Airbus wide-body aircraft. The order had previously been recorded as undisclosed in November 2025. The A350-1000's strong operating economics and lower unit costs are expected to provide Air Canada with a clear competitive edge. With an industry-leading range of up to 9,000 nautical miles, the next-generation wide-body will underpin the airline's global expansion plans, enabling seamless non-stop services from Canada to high-growth markets across the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia and Australia. "Air Canada's continued global ambitions are reinforced by the selection of the Airbus A350-1000, a natural next step in the evolution of our fleet. The aircraft delivers state-of-the-art capability and enhanced efficiency, unlocking new long-haul opportunities worldwide," said Mark Galardo, Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer, and President of Cargo at Air Canada. "With the Maple Leaf on the tail, the Airbus A350-1000 will play a central role in defining Air Canada's next chapter, connecting our customers, our hubs and our country to the world." The A350 incorporates advanced technologies and aerodynamic design to deliver leading standards of efficiency and passenger comfort. Powered by the latest-generation Rolls-Royce engines and constructed using lightweight materials, it offers a 25% reduction in fuel burn and emissions compared with previous-generation competitor aircraft.

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Pem-Air widens LEAP engine support

Pem-Air has announced an expansion of its engine maintenance capabilities, adding support for the CFM International LEAP-engine family under a General Support Licence Agreement (GSLA) for the overhaul of LEAP-1A, LEAP-1B and LEAP-1C engines. Pem-Air Turbine Engine Services will now provide maintenance, repair, overhaul (MRO) and field support services for the LEAP-1A and LEAP-1B engines that power the latestgeneration of single-aisle aircraft. This expansion reinforces Pem-Air's commitment to helping operators improve reliability, minimise downtime and optimise life-cycle operating costs. The company's LEAP capabilities are centred on the two primary commercial variants. The LEAP-1A, the exclusive engine option for the Airbus A320neo family, is already supported by Pem-Air through selected MRO services, with capabilities actively being scaled towards a broader offering. Services include routine and advanced maintenance, targeted repair work and comprehensive on-wing support. Pem-Air's field service teams are available for rapid deployment to respond to aircraft-on-ground (AOG) events, enabling operators to return aircraft to service quickly and maintain operational continuity. The LEAP-1B, developed exclusively for the Boeing 737 MAX series, is optimised for aerodynamic integration and operational efficiency. Together, both engine variants deliver up to 15% improved fuel efficiency compared with previous-generation engines, directly supporting airlines' sustainability objectives and cost-reduction strategies.


Pem-Air is widening its LEAP 1A and LEAP 1B engine support *© CFM International*

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

EFW lands new A330 freighter conversion customer in China

Official contract signing between EFW and Hengqin Winglet © EFW

Elbe Flugzeugwerke (EFW), the joint venture between ST Engineering and Airbus, has expanded its footprint in the fast-growing Chinese aviation market through the signing of a new freighter conversion contract with Hengqin Winglet Aircraft Technology (Hengqin Winglet). The agreement marks the lessor's first Airbus A330 passenger-to-freighter (P2F) programme with EFW. EFW will undertake the A330P2F conversion at its partner facility in China, with work set to commence in mid-2026. The programme will be supported by technical planning and certification from EFW's headquarters in Dresden, Germany. "As a company with extensive expertise in leasing, trading and technical aircraft management, we are pleased to collaborate with EFW on the conversion of our A330 aircraft into a state-of-the-art freighter," said James Huang, Chief Executive Officer of Hengqin Winglet. The contract further strengthens EFW's growing customer base in China, a key driver of global freighter demand. Robust growth in express logistics and cross-border e-commerce continues to spur fleet expansion among operators and lessors. "We are excited to welcome a new customer into the EFW family of converted Airbus freighters," said Jordi Boto, CEO of EFW. "The A330P2F stands out as the future of the medium-sized air freighter segment, and we look forward to working with Hengqin Winglet in the near future to grow their A330P2F fleet."

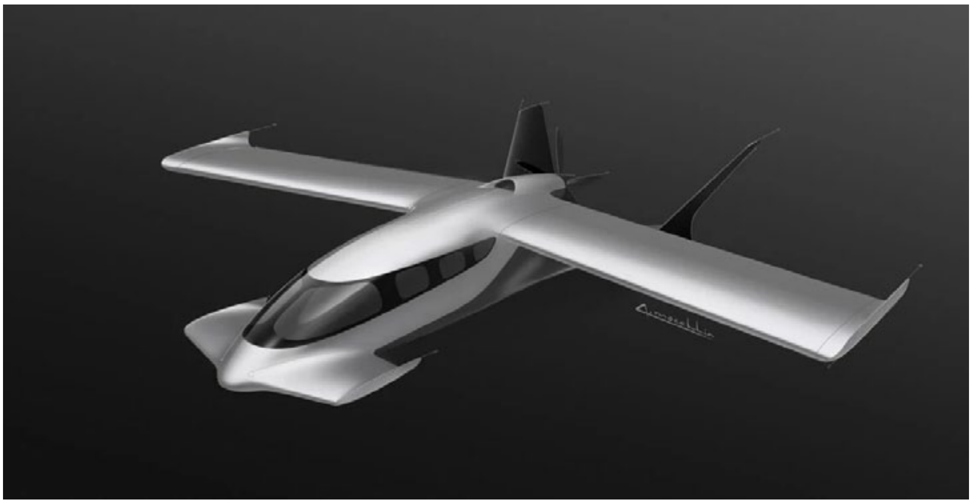
Embraer deepens India supply chain push

Embraer has completed another executive-level visit to India as it continues to expand and strengthen its supply chain footprint in the country. The visit reinforces the company's commitment to deepening industrial cooperation between Brazil and India, while exploring new business opportunities across its portfolios. "We reaffirm our strong commitment to working with India's aerospace industry. Our focus is on advancing joint initiatives in defence and civil aviation, contributing to technological innovation, operational excellence and long-term strategic partnerships," said Roberto Chaves, Executive Vice President of Global Procurement and Supply Chain at Embraer. "India is a key partner in shaping the future of aerospace, and we are dedicated to building sustainable cooperation that supports both the domestic industrial base and global initiatives." The visit builds on Embraer's longstanding presence in India and follows ongoing discussions with local industry players and government stakeholders. During the visit, Embraer assessed a range of potential suppliers, including capabilities in aerostructures assembly, machining, metal forming, composites, wiring systems, and hardware and software development. Embraer considers India a key strategic partner in the Asia-Pacific region and plans to implement an extensive local supply chain programme in the country. Recently, the company opened its office in New Delhi, further strengthening its Asia-Pacific presence. A dedicated local procurement team has also been established to support Embraer's supply chain initiatives in India. India is a strategic market for Embraer across all of its business segments. The company currently has more than 44 aircraft operating in the country, serving customers in Commercial Aviation, Executive Aviation, and Defence & Security. This includes five Embraer VIP jets operated by the Indian government and three EMB 145 AEW "Netra" aircraft operated by the Indian Air Force.

Embraer has concluded another executive-level visit to India © Embraer

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Horizon Aircraft to partner with NAI to build Cavorite X7 wings



North Aircraft Industries to build Cavorite X7 wings © Horizon Aircraft

New Horizon Aircraft (Horizon Aircraft) has partnered with North Aircraft Industries (NAI) to manufacture and test the custom-designed wings for the Company's full-scale VTOL (vertical take-off and landing) aircraft, the Cavorite X7. NAI is internationally recognised for its expertise in complex aerospace composite engineering, manufacturing, and testing. Its highly skilled engineering and production teams, combined with industry-leading technologies, produce lightweight, high-strength aircraft components that support faster, longer-range, and more efficient flight. Notably, NAI will carry out wing structural testing in-house once manufacturing is complete. The Cavorite X7 features an innovative wing design that allows vertical take-off and landing by opening wing covers to expose 12 embedded electric lift fans. During forward flight, the covers close seamlessly, converting the aircraft into an efficient fixed-wing configuration. Horizon Aircraft co-founder and CEO Brandon Robinson commented on the partnership, "Building our proprietary wing demands an exceptional composite manufacturing team with deep experience in complex structures. North Aircraft Industries has the experience, skill, and agility to keep our production of the Cavorite X7 on track. We are proud to partner once again with a leading Canadian aerospace company that will play a critical role in completing the X7 and prepare it for testing in 2027."

FL Technics completes Job Air Technic acquisition

Job Air Technic hangar © FL Technics

FL Technics has completed its acquisition of Job Air Technic, formally bringing the Central European maintenance specialist into its expanding international network. The transaction, first announced last year, has now closed after all required conditions were met. The acquisition is positioned as a capacity and capability boost for FL Technics as it continues to scale its European operations. Job Air Technic's experienced workforce, established infrastructure and day-to-day operational expertise will be integrated into FL Technics Group, enabling the combined organisation to undertake a broader range of maintenance work and deliver greater flexibility to airlines, lessors and aircraft operators. As integration begins, both companies have emphasised a focus on practical collaboration rather than disruption. The aim is to widen customer access to maintenance solutions across FL Technics' wider network while maintaining the safety, quality and reliability standards expected from both organisations. Job Air will continue operating during the transition, with gradual alignment to FL Technics' organisational and operational framework. Zilvinas Lapinskas, Chief Executive Officer of FL Technics, said the acquisition strengthens the group's footprint in Central Europe and provides additional maintenance capacity in a region of increasing importance to customers. He noted that Job Air's strong technical capabilities and established operation align well with FL Technics' growth strategy across Europe. With the transaction now completed, the next phase will centre on integrating teams, aligning processes and ensuring customers see direct benefits from the expanded scale and enhanced expertise.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MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

WLFC completes first in-house core engine restoration

© WLFC

Willis Lease Finance Corporation (WLFC) has completed its first core engine restoration at its U.S.-based Willis Engine Repair Center®. The milestone project involved the successful restoration of a CFM56-7B core engine module and formally establishes the company's new in-house capability, branded Willis Module Shop™. This development represents a significant step in WLFC's broader strategy to deepen its technical and operational integration. By bringing core module restoration in-house, the company strengthens its control over engine lifecycle management while validating the commercial and technical viability of the module shop model. Post-maintenance testing of the restored module demonstrated strong recovery in exhaust gas temperature (EGT) margin — a critical performance indicator — underscoring the precision and effectiveness of the restoration process. The achievement comes at a pivotal moment for the aviation sector, as airlines and lessors transition from legacy aircraft and engine platforms to next-generation fleets. Against this backdrop, WLFC's enhanced restoration capability reinforces its vertically integrated service offering. Willis Module Shop™ complements the company's established programmes, including ConstantThrust® and ConstantAccess®, both designed to support customers through fleet transitions by providing predictable engine performance, improved asset availability and disciplined value recovery. According to Chief Executive Officer Austin C. Willis, although WLFC has long undertaken module swaps and exchanges, internalising core module restoration delivers tangible advantages. These include reduced maintenance expenditure, shorter turnaround times and greater operational control — benefits that strengthen both cost competitiveness and customer value.

WLFC and CFM launch CFM56 life-extension programme

Willis Lease Finance Corporation (WLFC) has announced the launch of an industry-first programme, developed in collaboration with CFM International (CFM), aimed at extending the operational life of CFM56-5B and CFM56-7B engines. The programme enables WLFC to keep CFM56-5B and CFM56-7B engines in service for longer by restoring core components, rather than fully dismantling the engine. WLFC is the first commercial aircraft engine lessor to partner with the OEM on an initiative of this kind for these engine types, underlining the company's commitment to extending engine lifecycles. "This programme represents a meaningful evolution in how we manage engine assets," said Austin C. Willis, Chief Executive Officer of Willis Lease Finance Corporation. "By using this programme to perform shop visits in our own facilities as well as others, we expect to offer our customers a high-quality product at a reasonable price." "With this agreement, WLFC will benefit from OEM material to support the servicing of its CFM56 engines," said Gaël Méheust, President and CEO of CFM International. "CFM56 engines have set standards for reliability and time on wing — benefits which this contract will extend well into the future for WLFC's customers." WLFC has already identified and inducted an initial group of engines into the programme and plans to expand participation across additional assets over time.

FDH Aero deepens COMAC ties to support C919 programme

FDH Aero (FDH), a global supplier of aerospace and defence supply chain solutions, has signed a strategic partnership agreement with the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC) and a long-term contract with COMAC's wholly owned subsidiary and manufacturing centre, Shanghai Aircraft Manufacturing (SAMC), to support the development of the C919 platform. Already among a small number of distributors supplying the C919 programme, FDH is expanding its role beyond the traditional buying and selling of hardware. Under the new agreements, the company will provide a broader range of technology and engineering support services directly to COMAC and SAMC. As part of the multi-commodity contract, FDH will supply hardware, electrical products, and chemical solutions, alongside engineering management support and additional value-added services aimed at strengthening the programme's supply chain capability. The COMAC C919 is a narrow-body, twin-engine commercial aircraft developed as China's domestic alternative in the global single-aisle market. The programme has reportedly secured more than 1,000 aircraft orders, underlining its growing strategic importance. Fred Short, FDH Aero's Executive Vice President of Global Sales, said the partnership aligns with FDH's strategy of delivering global support to key customers. He highlighted the company's continued investment in the Asia-Pacific region, noting that FDH began expanding its regional presence during the COVID period and has since established offices and stocking capabilities in Shanghai, Singapore and Guangzhou, among other locations.

Cathay selects Thales for new A330neo fleet avionics

The Cathay Group has selected Thales to provide a comprehensive suite of advanced avionics systems for its upcoming fleet expansion, covering 30 Airbus A330neo aircraft to be operated by Cathay Pacific and 18 A321neo/A320neo aircraft to be flown by HK Express. The agreement strengthens Thales' position as a key technology partner for the Hong Kong-based airline group and reflects a continued focus on equipping new aircraft with modern, future-ready cockpit solutions. Under the deal, both airlines will benefit from Airbus' latest-generation Flight Management System (FMS), based on Thales' PureFlyt FMS. The system is designed to improve flight efficiency through highly accurate trajectory computation, an intuitive pilot interface and enhanced operational reliability. Thales highlights that the PureFlyt FMS can support more optimised flight planning and execution, helping airlines reduce pilot workload, minimise airspace congestion and lower fuel consumption. A notable feature is its dedicated DIRECT TO page, which displays only the most relevant information for pilots, supporting quicker decision-making in dynamic flight conditions. The aircraft will also be equipped with Thales' 5G-Immune Low-Range Radio Altimeter (LRRA), designed to enhance flight safety and ensure resilience against potential interference from 5G networks. In addition, the fleet will feature the integrated T3CAS traffic collision avoidance system from ACSS, providing advanced alerting functions to improve situational awareness and strengthen safety margins during flight operations. Further enhancing cockpit capability, Thales will supply a Head-Up Display (HUD), allowing pilots to access critical flight data while keeping their eyes focused outside the cockpit, supporting safer operations during approach, landing and low-visibility conditions. Cathay Pacific will also install Thales' AVIATOR S cockpit satellite communications system on its A330neo aircraft, providing high-speed and reliable connectivity to improve communications, operational responsiveness and overall flight efficiency.

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Ryanair inks major engine support MoU with CFM

Olivier Andriès (l), CEO of Safran and Michael O'Leary (r), CEO of Ryanair
© CFM International

Ryanair and CFM International (CFM) have signed an MoU for a long-term material services agreement to support Ryanair's entire fleet of approximately 2,000 CFM56 and LEAP engines powering its Boeing 737 aircraft. The MoU, announced by Michael O'Leary, CEO of Ryanair, and Olivier Andriès, CEO of Safran, one of CFM's two parent companies, covers the supply of spare parts and component repairs from CFM for two new engine MRO facilities that Ryanair plans to establish in Europe from 2029. CFM will also provide interim support through a services agreement for both CFM56 and LEAP engines until Ryanair's MRO sites become fully operational. The agreement marks a new milestone in the long-standing partnership between Ryanair and CFM, which dates back to 1998. Ryanair operates the world's largest fleet of CFM-powered Boeing aircraft and Europe's largest fleet of CFM56 engines, powering more than 400 Boeing Next-Generation 737 aircraft. The airline currently has more than 200 LEAP-1B-powered Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft in service and has placed an order for 150 Boeing 737 MAX 10 aircraft, with a further 150 options. Michael O'Learysaid: "We are pleased to extend our long-term partnership with CFM through this multi-billion-dollar spares support agreement. For the last 30 years, CFM has maintained all of Ryanair's CFM56 engines under a long-term 'power by the hour' contract. However, from 2029 onwards, Ryanair expects to bring the maintenance of its engines in-house, and we are pleased to do so with the help and support of our partner CFM. Ryanair will place substantial initial spare parts orders with CFM to support the opening of each of these two engine maintenance facilities. Once Ryanair brings all engine maintenance in-house, we expect this contract to be worth in excess of $1bn annually to CFM in spare engines and spare parts supply. This new agreement extends our 30-year partnership with CFM, and we look forward to working closely with CFM, Safran and GE to support what will be one of the world's largest commercial aircraft fleets and one of the largest Boeing 737 engine portfolios globally."

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

China Airlines signs Rolls-Royce TotalCare deal for 36 Trent XWB engines

China Airlines, the Taiwan-based carrier, has signed TotalCare agreements with Rolls-Royce covering 36 Trent XWB engines — comprising 30 Trent XWB-97 and six Trent XWB-84 — to power 15 Airbus A350-1000 and three A350-900 aircraft respectively. The A350-1000 order was announced by Airbus in 2025. Under the agreement, China Airlines has once again selected Rolls-Royce's comprehensive TotalCare service to provide long-term engine health monitoring and maintenance support. China Airlines currently operates 15 Trent XWB-powered A350 aircraft. With this latest addition, its total A350 fleet will increase to 33 aircraft. The Trent XWB-97 has demonstrated strong reliability and durability across seven years of service, accumulating more than four million engine flying hours. It has already incorporated the first two phases of its three-stage durability enhancement programme, delivering a 60% increase in time on wing. The third phase, due to enter service in 2028, will result in a doubling of time on wing in demanding operating environments and a 50% improvement under less challenging conditions.

Official signing of the TotalCare agreement © Rolls-Royce

FINANCIAL NEWS

Bombardier acquires Velocity Maintenance Solutions

© Velocity Maintenance Solutions hangar

Bombardier has released that it has acquired Velocity Maintenance Solutions, a maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services provider. Completed through Bombardier's U.S. subsidiary, Learjet Inc., the strategic acquisition marks a further milestone in the expansion of Bombardier's Services business. Velocity Maintenance Solutions adds valuable expertise and a strong reputation for service excellence to Bombardier's industry-leading service network. The company operates a 35,000 ft² hangar at Wilmington Airport, Delaware, and is supported by a fleet of 14 mobile repair trucks across the United States. This footprint will further strengthen Bombardier's ability to offer a broad range of maintenance, support and service solutions close to where customers fly. "Velocity Maintenance Solutions' capabilities and customer-focused culture make it an excellent fit for Bombardier. We are delighted to welcome their talented team and to support them as they continue to deliver exceptional service to their customers," said Paul Sislian, Executive Vice President, Aircraft Sales and Bombardier Aftermarket Services. "This acquisition reflects our ongoing commitment to continuously raising our service standards — an approach that has earned us number one rankings in industry surveys for two consecutive years." Bombardier continues to enhance its services offering through targeted investments, infrastructure expansion and strategic acquisitions. The addition of Velocity Maintenance Solutions strengthens Bombardier's U.S. presence and underlines its long-term commitment to providing operators with unrivalled service coverage and quality.

Chorus signs agreement to acquire Kadex Aero Supply

Chorus Aviation Inc. has announced an agreement to acquire Kadex Aero Supply (Kadex), a well-established independent distributor of aircraft parts, supplies, and repair and overhaul services. The transaction, which is subject to customary closing conditions, is expected to complete in the second quarter of 2026. Kadex, founded in 1994 by John Lavery and Ken Blow, has built a strong reputation within the aviation supply chain over more than three decades. The privately held company generated approximately US$60 million in revenue in 2025 and employs around 50 staff across two Canadian locations: its headquarters in Peterborough, Ontario, and a regional supply operation in Calgary, Alberta. Kadex maintains partnerships with more than 70 original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), enabling it to provide customers with a comprehensive, value-added procurement solution supported by deep technical expertise. For Chorus, the acquisition represents a strategic move to broaden and diversify its aviation, aerospace and defence services portfolio. President and Chief Executive Officer Colin Copp described the deal as a significant milestone in advancing the company's growth strategy. He emphasised Kadex's strong OEM and customer relationships, alongside its proven operating model and growing revenue base, as factors expected to contribute to more resilient and durable earnings over the long term. Kadex will also complement Chorus' existing used serviceable materials (USM) business by adding a synergistic distribution platform capable of delivering consistent cash flows. This alignment supports Chorus' stated objective of enhancing shareholder value through disciplined capital allocation and expansion into adjacent aviation services markets. From Kadex's perspective, joining Chorus marks a new chapter in its development. John Lavery, President and CEO of Kadex, noted that the company has spent over 30 years building a leading aviation supply enterprise focused on customer service and reliability. Becoming part of the Chorus group is viewed as an opportunity to accelerate growth, leverage broader resources, and strengthen its market position while preserving the brand and operational foundation established by its founders.

Chorus Aviation has agreed to acquire Kadex Aero Supply © Shutterstock

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

GE Aerospace and TAI set sights on Thailand engine support hub

The MoU was signed by Rita Flaherty VP Strategy and Business Development, Defense & Systems, GE Aerospace and Air Chief Marshal Piboon Vorravanpreecha, Managing Director of Thai Aviation Industries *© GE Aerospace*

GE Aerospace and Thai Aviation Industries (TAI) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to explore opportunities to deliver MRO support for GE Aerospace engines used on platforms operated by the Royal Thai Government and the Royal Thai Armed Forces. The MoU was signed at the Singapore Airshow 2026, with the ceremony attended by Rita Flaherty, Vice President of Strategy and Business Development, Defense & Systems at GE Aerospace, and Air Chief Marshal Piboon Vorravanpreecha, Managing Director of Thai Aviation Industries. The agreement includes the potential for TAI, Thailand's established MRO centre, to open a dedicated engine maintenance facility to support Thai government and military customers. The initiative would strengthen local repair capability and reduce reliance on overseas support, improving operational readiness and fleet availability. Air Chief Marshal Piboon Vorravanpreecha said the signing marks an important first step in evaluating the structures, capabilities and opportunities needed to meet increasing demand for GE Aerospace engine maintenance and repair services. He added that the long-term goal is to deliver innovative in-country support solutions that significantly enhance customer readiness and aircraft availability. Rita Flaherty said the partnership with TAI offers strong potential to provide timely and advanced engine maintenance services for military operators, including the possible establishment of a dedicated MRO shop in Thailand. She also highlighted that the agreement supports GE Aerospace's broader ambitions to expand its footprint across the Asia-Pacific region, where fleet modernisation and optimisation remain key priorities. Under the MoU, GE Aerospace and TAI will initially focus on identifying repair and service opportunities for several GE Aerospace engine families, including the T700/CT7, F404, F414 and LM2500 fleets.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

RSAF PC-21 fleet surpasses 100,000 flight hours

RSAF Pilatus PC-21 training aircraft, powered by Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A engines © RTX

The Royal Saudi Air Force's (RSAF) fleet of 54 Pilatus PC-21 training aircraft, powered by Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A engines, has surpassed 100,000 flight hours. "The PT6A engine has powered commercial and defence aircraft around the world for decades, offering customers versatility and reliable performance," said Anthony Rossi, Vice President, Customer Service, Pratt & Whitney Canada. "The Pilatus PC-21 plays a critical role in advanced military pilot training, and our long-standing work with the RSAF to support this fleet will enable safe, reliable and mission-ready operations." This milestone reinforces the PT6 engine family as the benchmark turboprop platform, supporting demanding military, training and general aviation missions worldwide. Pratt & Whitney Canada continues to expand its established presence in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and across the Middle East, supporting customers through long-term collaboration, local capabilities and sustained regional engagement. The company remains focused on strengthening its footprint by investing in people, infrastructure and sustainable industrial initiatives aligned with national and regional development objectives. Through its global support network, Pratt & Whitney Canada provides comprehensive maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) solutions, technical expertise and customer support to help ensure mission readiness and long-term fleet performance for operators worldwide.

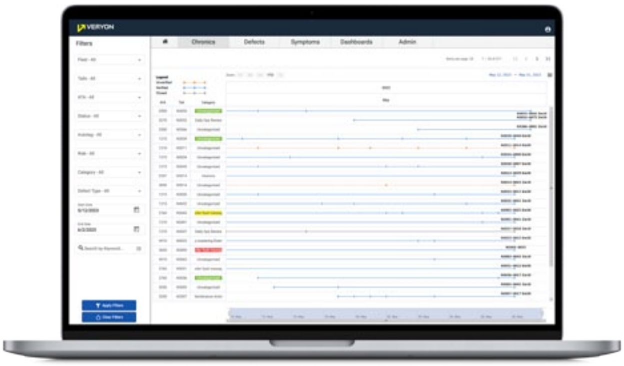
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

EXSYN Aviation Solutions (EXSYN) has announced the deployment of its predictive spare parts planning capability at **Volotea**, enhancing the airline's ability to forecast material demand months and even years in advance. Built on EXSYN's modular aviation data platform, the solution is set to transform the way Volotea plans, procures and positions spare parts across its maintenance network. Developed in close collaboration between EXSYN and Volotea, the new capability leverages the company's long-term forecasting functionality to combine data from the airline's maintenance programme with historical unscheduled maintenance events. This integrated approach enables Volotea to allocate materials more strategically, optimise procurement cycles and reduce unplanned AOG exposure across multiple bases. "Data-driven material planning is a key enabler for efficient and resilient maintenance operations," commented Sander de Bree, CEO of EXSYN. "Working together with Volotea, we've connected forecasting intelligence directly to logistics workflows, turning trusted operational data into tangible cost and reliability gains." The capability introduces a long-term, data-driven approach to material forecasting, reshaping how airlines plan and manage spare parts throughout their maintenance operations. The initiative is expected to improve forecasting accuracy and significantly reduce annual spare parts purchasing costs by minimising AOG-related surcharges and enabling more efficient material allocation. Volotea will use the Long-Term Forecasting capability to anticipate material requirements based on maintenance patterns and fleet utilisation. These insights feed directly into EXSYN's Logistics & Supply Chain application, which manages stock positions and part movements between maintenance locations, ensuring that critical components are available ahead of demand.

Volotea implements EXSYN's predictive spare parts planning © Volotea

Veryon, the provider of software solutions for the aviation industry, has announced an expanded partnership with **Jazz Aviation**. The agreement broadens Jazz's use of Veryon's platform and incorporates Veryon Guided Troubleshooting, a solution developed in collaboration with **De Havilland**, supporting a comprehensive fleet-wide diagnostics strategy. Jazz Aviation has long relied on Veryon Defect Analysis and Veryon Reliability. As the airline planned the next phase of its reliability programme, Veryon collaborated closely with Jazz Aviation to highlight the benefits of a more integrated diagnostics approach across its complex operations. Veryon's expertise in AI-driven maintenance solutions is built on decades of aviation data, extensive industry knowledge, and analytics designed specifically for maintenance and engineering teams. By integrating structured defect data, historical maintenance records, and intelligent diagnostics, Veryon enables operators to move from reactive troubleshooting to proactive, fleet-wide insight. Through on-site collaboration, product demonstrations, and strategic planning sessions, Jazz Aviation gained a clearer understanding of recent improvements to Veryon Reliability and how Veryon Guided Troubleshooting enhances repair effectiveness and accuracy across the fleet. The airline has also joined Veryon's Customer Advisory Board, offering operational insights to help inform the future development of Veryon Guided Troubleshooting.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



© Veryon Defect Analysis

Saudia Group has selected **Veryon Defect Analysis** as part of its wider drive to strengthen digital maintenance analytics across its passenger and cargo fleet. As the Group continues to expand its fleet and route network in line with the Kingdom's aviation strategy, it is investing in advanced analytical tools to complement existing maintenance systems and improve operational reliability and efficiency. With more than 160 aircraft operated across multiple business units, Saudia Group manages a complex maintenance environment requiring continuous data review and close coordination across technical teams. Veryon Defect Analysis applies artificial intelligence and natural language processing to group related defect reports and corrective actions across aircraft types, giving maintenance teams clearer visibility of recurring issues and emerging trends. Airlines already using defect analytics platforms have reported tangible gains in defect tracking efficiency, faster troubleshooting, and improved maintenance planning. Veryon Defect Analysis integrates with established maintenance and engineering systems, delivering near-real-time insights to support decision-making and optimise technical performance. The rollout will support maintenance and engineering teams across relevant Saudia Group entities.

OTHER NEWS

A330 cockpit © B&H

B&H Worldwide has successfully completed a highly specialised aerospace logistics project, transporting a decommissioned Airbus A330 cockpit from the United Kingdom to New Zealand for **Pacific Simulators** (PacSim). The cockpit will be converted into an advanced A330 flight training device, supporting PacSim's global portfolio of fully tactile, fixed-base training solutions. The project required a fully customised, end-to-end logistics strategy designed around PacSim's specific technical and operational requirements. Given the size, sensitivity and value of the asset, B&H Worldwide selected sea freight as the optimal transport solution, ensuring a secure, controlled and reliable journey while maintaining cost efficiency. Throughout the process, B&H provided full visibility and careful coordination to minimise risk and ensure schedule integrity. Operations began in West Sussex, where B&H's UK transport and warehouse team collected the cockpit and prepared it for international shipment. The unit was professionally packed into a 20-foot sea freight container at B&H's secure Heathrow facility, using specialist handling procedures to protect the structure and systems during transit. The shipment was then routed through the Port of Southampton and closely monitored throughout its ocean voyage to New Zealand. On arrival in Christchurch, B&H Worldwide's New Zealand team assumed responsibility for the final stages of the operation. This included managing customs clearance, coordinating delivery to the destination site, and overseeing devanning at an approved transitional facility (ATF) in full compliance with New Zealand's stringent Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) biosecurity regulations. The successful completion of the project highlights B&H Worldwide's ability to manage complex, non-standard aerospace logistics challenges beyond its well-known time-critical aircraft-on-ground (AOG) services. It also demonstrates the company's strength in delivering tailored project logistics solutions through close collaboration between international teams. For PacSim, a long-established manufacturer of EASA-, FAA- and ICAO-compliant flight training devices, the arrival of the A330 cockpit represents another milestone in its proven approach of integrating decommissioned aircraft components into high-fidelity simulator platforms.

BlueFive Capital has announced the launch of **BlueFive Leasing**, a new aircraft leasing and asset management business based in Muscat, Oman. The initiative is positioned as one of the first dedicated aircraft leasing asset management platforms in the **Gulf Cooperation Council** (GCC), representing a notable step forward for the region's aviation finance sector. BlueFive Leasing aims to take advantage of strong and sustained growth in air travel across the Middle East, Asia and Africa. The platform will focus on leasing both narrow-body and widebody aircraft across the full age spectrum and throughout the market cycle, serving a global customer base of established airlines. By offering a new source of aviation capital from the GCC, the business intends to provide airlines with competitive leasing solutions while giving investment partners access to a scalable, institutionally governed product designed to deliver attractive risk-adjusted returns. The platform has been established through a strategic partnership between BlueFive Capital and an Omani sovereign institution. As part of its launch programme, BlueFive Leasing will begin fundraising for its first investment vehicle, BlueFive Wings Fund I. The fund is targeting more than US$1.0 billion in commitments to invest in commercial aircraft assets. Hazem Ben-Gacem, Founder and Chief Executive of BlueFive Capital, said the creation of BlueFive Leasing reflects a broader strategic ambition to diversify regional investment portfolios and strengthen the GCC's participation in the global aviation value chain. He added that the platform's capital base and experienced management team will enable it to navigate aviation market cycles and capture opportunities as they emerge. The launch follows six months after BlueFive Capital opened its Muscat office, underlining Oman's growing appetite for new investment products that can strengthen domestic portfolios while attracting international capital.

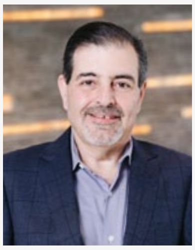
INDUSTRY PEOPLE


Olivier Piette

• Air France-KLM has announced the appointment of **Olivier Piette** as Executive Vice-President Strategy & CEO Office, effective February 1, 2026. In this expanded role, Piette will join the Air France-KLM Group Executive Committee (GEC) while continuing to report directly to Group CEO **Benjamin Smith**. His remit will now include oversight of strategy, Group communications, brand portfolio strategy and the Group network. The appointment is intended to strengthen alignment between the group's long-term strategic direction, global network governance, communications activities and the consistency of its brand portfolio. Olivier Piette holds a master's degree in engineering from Mines de Nancy and has spent 24 years with Air France and Air France-KLM. He has built extensive experience across flight operations, network planning, global sales and corporate strategy. He served as Air France Senior Vice-President Network from 2020 to 2024, before being appointed Chief of Staff to the Group CEO in September 2024.


José Antonio Barrionuevo

• International Airlines Group (IAG) has released that its Chief Financial Officer (CFO) **Nicholas Cadbury** has decided to step down from his current role and will leave the Group with effect from June 2026. **José Antonio Barrionuevo** has been appointed CFO, effective from June 2026. Barrionuevo brings a strong track record in financial leadership and transformation within the aviation sector. He currently serves as Chief Financial and Transformation Officer at British Airways, a position he has held since July 2023. He joined the Group in 2013 as Director of Strategy and Transformation at Iberia and has held a range of senior roles, including seven years as Chief Financial Officer of Iberia. Prior to joining IAG, he worked at JP Morgan and McKinsey. José Antonio Barrionuevo said: "I am looking forward to continuing my career within IAG as Group CFO. IAG is well-positioned to deliver sustainable long-term growth, industry-leading profitability and value creation for our shareholders." The appointment follows IAG's succession planning process, which supports the development of senior leadership talent across its operating companies and businesses. Cadbury will remain with the business over the next six months to support a smooth transition to Barrionuevo.


Len Corrado

• Flair Airlines has disclosed a planned change in leadership, with **Len Corrado** appointed Chief Executive Officer effective February 9. The transition follows the completion of a defined transformation phase under **Maciej Wilk**, who will be stepping down. Wilk departs the airline with the business on a solid footing, having overseen a multi-year transformation focused on reinforcing operational discipline, improving reliability, and adapting the carrier's business model to align more closely with the dynamics of the Canadian market. Under his leadership, Flair also delivered sustained, tangible improvements in on-time performance and operational execution, becoming Canada's most reliable and punctual airline in 2025, while continuing to expand its customer value proposition through the Flair FWD strategy. Wilk commented on the transition "my mandate was always clear: bring discipline, reliability, and cost efficiency into the business, and be rigorously honest about what works and what doesn't." He added, "Together, we built a more reliable airline, strengthened operational and financial performance, repositioned the business for long-term sustainability and created a solid foundation ready for the next phase of growth. This transition has been thoughtfully planned, and I'm proud to pass the CEO baton to Len Corrado, a highly respected industry leader with extensive Canadian aviation experience and perspective. I leave with full confidence in the team, the strategy, and what comes next." Corrado brings extensive experience in Canadian aviation, with decades spent across airline operations, commercial strategy and leisure travel, most recently serving as President of Sunwing Airlines. His expertise aligns closely with Flair's next phase, including the growth of Flair Vacations, as the airline continues to develop its value-carrier model.


Dylan Wolin

• AAR CORP.'s Board of Directors has appointed **Dylan Wolin** as Chief Financial Officer, effective February 23, 2026. In the role, Wolin will oversee finance, accounting, tax, treasury, investor relations and corporate development. Wolin will return to AAR from Federal Signal Corporation, where he served from 2024 to 2026 as president of Elgin, Trackless and Vactor, the company's municipal-focused specialty vehicle businesses. Between 2017 and 2024, Wolin led AAR's strategic and corporate development, treasury and investor relations functions. During this period, he played a key role in the company's portfolio repositioning, capital markets activity and strategic planning, including the acquisitions of Trax and Triumph Product Support. Prior to joining AAR and Federal Signal, Wolin was a director in Boeing's Corporate Development group, leading merger, acquisition and joint venture transactions. Earlier, he served as a vice president in Deutsche Bank's Global Industrials Group within its investment banking division and began his career as an Associate at McManus & Miles, a boutique investment bank specialising in financial advisory and private placements. Wolin holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Tufts University and an MBA in Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

AVITRADER AVIATION NEWS PUBLICATIONS

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THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

Commercial Jet Aircraft

Aircraft Type	Company	Engine	MSN	Year	Available	Sale / Lease	Contact	Email	Phone
B737-800 SF	GA Telesis		33814	2004	Now	Sale / Lease		aircraft@gatelesis.com	

Commercial Engines

CF34 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) CF34-10E6	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) CF34-10E6	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717

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) CFM56-5B2/P	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(1) CFM56-5B3/3	Now - Lease				
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Sale / Lease	GA Telesis		engines@gatelesis.com	
(1) CFM56-7B26	Now - Sale / 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				

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
(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
(1) PW1524G-3	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717

V2500 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(2) V2527-A5	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
(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					
(3) A340 LG Shipset, (1) B777 LG Shipset (4) B737 LG Shipset,		GA Telesis		landinggearsales@gatelesis.com	
(10) A320 LG Shipset, (3) B757 LG Shipset, (1) 767 Shipset, (1) 737 Shipset					
(14) 131-9A, (10) 131-9B (Max compliant), (1) 331-350,		GA Telesis		apu@gatelesis.com	+1-954-849-3509
(3) 131-9B, (2) 331-200, (3) 331-500, (1) PW901					
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				