

Weekly Aviation Headline News

“It’s going to separate the winners and force the weaker players to take some pretty significant steps to either get better or something else will happen.”

Delta Air Lines CEO, Ed Bastian



© Delta Air Lines

Hike in fuel costs sees Delta shelve all growth plans while other carriers enact contingency plans

The Middle Eastern conflict has shattered cost assumptions for the entire airline industry, with massive swings in jet fuel prices forcing carriers to curb growth plans and re-examine previous forecasts.

On Wednesday of last week, Delta Air Lines announced that it had shelved all current expansion plans for this quarter and has now forecast a profit well below Wall Street expectations. The carrier estimates the current conflict in the Middle East will add approximately US\$2 billion to its costs for the June quarter. As an additional consequence, Delta will not currently be giving an updates full-year outlook. According to Reuters news agency, company CEO Ed Bastian suggested that uncertainty over how long the fuel-price spike would last made that “imprudent.” The Middle Eastern conflict has shattered cost assumptions for the entire airline industry, with massive swings in jet fuel prices forcing carriers to curb growth plans and re-examine previous forecasts. Jet fuel was priced at US\$4.81 a gallon on Tuesday, April 7, up from about US\$2.50 just before February’s first U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran, according to trade group Airlines for America. Delta said it expects to pay about US\$4.30 a gal-

lon in the June quarter. Late on Tuesday a two-week ceasefire with Iran was announced, which instantly resulted in a rally in airline shares plus a drop in the price of oil to below US\$100 a barrel. “We woke up this morning with a very different set of fuel assumptions than we had when we went to bed,” Bastian told analysts on Delta’s earnings call. Fuel typically makes up about a quarter of airline operating costs, leaving carriers particularly exposed when prices jump faster than fares, which are often set weeks or months in advance. The speed of the current price surge marks the industry’s first major post-pandemic stress test, inflating costs and testing how much airlines can pass on to travellers. Bastian said it would accelerate structural change across the industry. “It’s going to separate the winners and force the weaker players to take some pretty significant steps to either get better or something else will happen,” he said. Delta said it would cut capacity by about 3.5 percentage points from

its original plan, noting that its growth outlook now has a “downward bias” until fuel prices improve. The capacity reductions will primarily affect lower-revenue flying, such as overnight red-eye flights and some midweek services. Other carriers have also begun trimming schedules, particularly on lower-margin routes and less time-sensitive travel, to conserve fuel and protect margins. Since March 13, U.S. airlines have cut planned domestic capacity growth by more than half a percentage point. Bastian said Delta aims to recover about 40% to 50% of higher fuel costs in the second quarter. The airline also announced plans on Tuesday to raise checked-bag fees for new bookings, following similar moves by United Airlines and JetBlue Airways. Unlike its major rivals, Delta has a buffer in the form of a subsidiary-owned refinery in Pennsylvania. It expects a US\$300 million benefit from the refinery in the second quarter, up from about US\$60 million in the March quarter.

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AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

VNH orders Airbus H225 trio to boost offshore operations

Vietnam Helicopter Corporation (VNH), through its subsidiaries Southern Vietnam Helicopter Company and Northern Vietnam Helicopter Company, has placed an order for three Airbus H225 helicopters. The acquisition supports the continued expansion of its offshore energy operations while enabling the gradual replacement of ageing aircraft within its fleet. According to VNH leadership, the H225 has consistently demonstrated strong performance across offshore missions, delivering the reliability, safety and operational flexibility required. The aircraft is expected to play a central role in the operator's future fleet, supporting both capacity growth and enhanced mission versatility. Once delivered, the new helicopters will complement VNH's existing Airbus fleet, which includes Super Puma and H155 models. They will be deployed across a range of operations, including offshore energy



H225 helicopters

© Airbus

transport, utility services, search and rescue, and general transport missions. As the latest evolution of the Super Puma family, the H225 is recognised for its capability in demanding environments, offering significant range and payload advantages. Its advanced avionics and autopilot systems further enhance operational safety while reducing pilot workload, making it well suited to complex offshore operations.

Boeing 777-9 endures extreme brake test



Crews respond to cool the brakes and wheels after a five-minute waiting period had passed

© Paul Weatherman

Boeing's 777-9 programme has completed a critical maximum brake energy test at Edwards Air Force Base, simulating one of the most demanding scenarios the aircraft could encounter. As part of certification requirements, the aircraft was loaded to its maximum take-off weight and accelerated to around 190 knots before pilots aborted the take-off and relied solely on braking to bring it to a halt, without the use of thrust reversers. The test is deliberately designed as a worst-case scenario, using brakes that have been machined to represent fully worn conditions. Under these extreme parameters, the braking system generated over a billion foot-pounds of torque, with temperatures exceeding

2,500 degrees Fahrenheit. The intense heat caused the wheels' fuse plugs to melt, safely releasing air pressure from the tyres as intended in such conditions. Although such circumstances would not occur in normal airline operations, they are mandated under certification standards to ensure safety margins are robust. Emergency crews were positioned on standby but delayed intervention for five minutes to replicate real-world response conditions before cooling the brakes and wheels. This test forms part of the broader certification campaign conducted by Boeing and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration to validate the aircraft's safety, reliability and performance. Programme officials emphasised that extensive testing has been carried out across all systems, with teams working collaboratively to meet stringent regulatory requirement.

AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

BOC Aviation signs A321XLR lease deal with SKY

BOC Aviation has signed an agreement to purchase and lease back three Airbus A321XLR aircraft to new customer SKY Airline (SKY) under long-term operating leases. All aircraft will be powered by Pratt & Whitney GTF engines, with deliveries scheduled for 2026 and 2027. Steven Townend, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of BOC Aviation, said the company is pleased to welcome SKY as a new customer as it continues to build a fleet of latest-generation, highly fuel-efficient aircraft. He noted that the Airbus A321XLR exemplifies this, with the aircraft marking the first of the type currently scheduled for delivery into BOC Aviation's fleet. Daniel Belaunde, CEO of SKY Airline, said the agreement supports the airline's continued growth and its commitment to operating one of the youngest and most fuel-efficient fleets in the region. He added that the A321XLR will enable further network expansion, offer more direct and affordable travel options while maintain a focus on efficiency, sustainability and a high-quality customer experience. SKY is a Chilean low-cost carrier with a 24-year history, operating in seven countries across the Americas, with bases in Chile and Peru. Since its inaugural flight in 2001, the airline has carried more than 70 million passengers. It is currently the only airline in South America operating a fleet composed entirely of Airbus A320neo and A321neo aircraft, enabling it to reduce emissions per seat by approximately 30% since 2018.



SKY Airline has signed long-term lease agreements with BOC Aviation for three Airbus A321XLR aircraft © Airbus/Lutz Borck

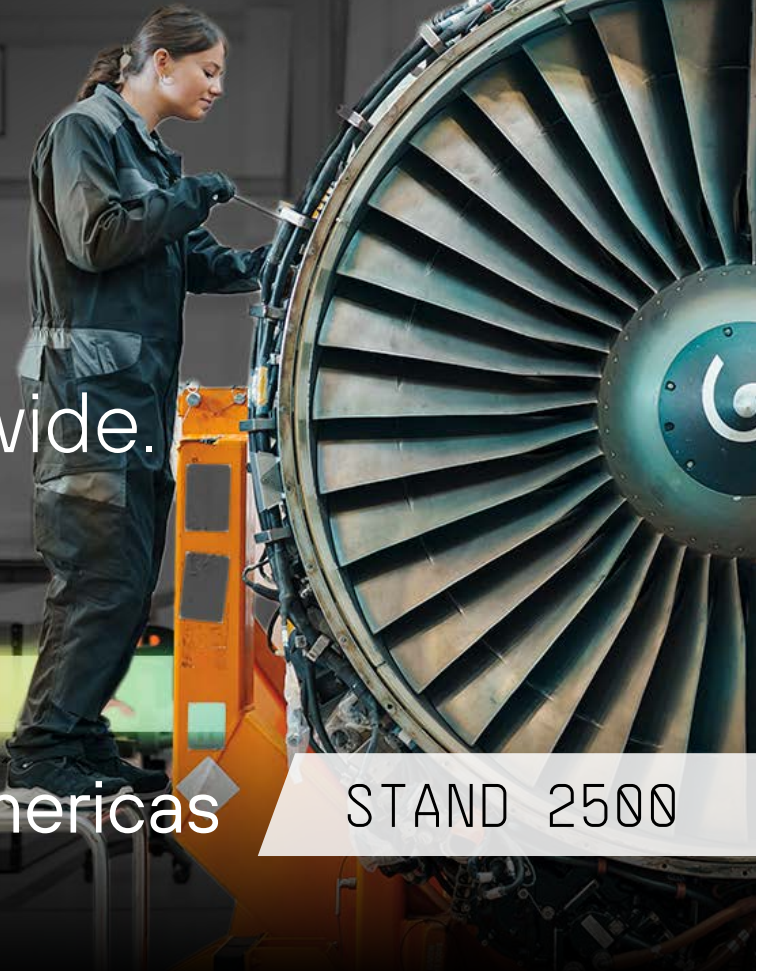
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AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

DAE and BXCI launch aircraft investment platform ‘Equator’



DAE and BXCI launch aircraft investment platform ‘Equator’

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Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE) and Blackstone Credit & Insurance (BXCI) have signed an agreement to partner on the launch of a new long-term global investment programme, branded ‘Equator’, which will invest in aircraft leased to commercial airlines, with a target annual deployment of approximately US\$1.6 billion. Equator will build a diversified portfolio of commercial aircraft leased to leading airlines worldwide. DAE will source assets from third parties, while its Aircraft Investor Services (AIS) division will manage the assets owned by Equator. BXCI is expected to provide a full spectrum of capital to support the programme, enabling flexible and reliable financing solutions across market cycles and investment opportunities. The BXCI investor group will also include capital from funds managed by ITE Management, L.P., a strategic partner of BXCI. With a fleet of approximately 700 aircraft—including more than 100 aircraft valued at over US\$4 billion under man-

agement as of 31 December 2025—DAE is one of the world’s largest aircraft lessors. The company also acts as servicer across seventeen servicing and management agreements for institutional and financial investors, providing its aircraft management expertise.

APOC expands teardown programme with A320 acquisition

APOC Aviation (APOC) has acquired an Airbus A320-200 from FTAI for teardown, as part of efforts to expand its component supply offering. The 15-year-old aircraft, most recently operated by Jetstar Pacific Airlines, is scheduled for dismantling in May at Tarmac Aerosave’s Toulouse-Francazal facility in France. The move supports APOC’s strategy to grow its inventory of both mature and newer assets, serving a wide range of operators from leading carriers to those maintaining legacy fleets. Components recovered from the aircraft will feed into the company’s expanding exchange programme, alongside stock from a recent A319 teardown in the UK, following repair and recertification. APOC said demand for used serviceable material (USM) remains strong, particularly in the narrow-body segment, which forms the core of its customer base. The company also offers landing gear and engines across both narrow-body and wide-body platforms, including CFM56 and V2500 variants, for exchange, lease and parts support. The transaction was coordinated by APOC’s major assets team and forms part of a broader push to scale up its disassembly activities, backed by continued investment and supported by an expanding team of aviation specialists.



Jetstar Pacific Airlines Airbus A320

© APOC

Werner Aero acquires A320-200 from AerCap



Airbus A320-200

© Werner Aero

Werner Aero has acquired an Airbus A320-200 (MSN 3366) from AerCap, reinforcing its strategy to grow a robust inventory of high-quality aftermarket aircraft components. The aircraft is set to be delivered to Greenwood–Leflore Airport, where it will undergo disassembly. This process will enable Werner Aero to extract a wide range of serviceable parts to support global airline and MRO customers operating A320-family aircraft. The acquisition aligns with the company’s ongoing focus on providing dependable and cost-efficient solutions across the aviation aftermarket. Chief Executive Officer and President Tony Kondo highlighted the importance of the transaction, noting the value of collaboration with AerCap and the opportunity to maximise the asset’s potential. Once dismantled, MSN 3366 is expected to yield significant material to meet demand for components, further strengthening Werner Aero’s position as a trusted supplier within the secondary aviation parts market.

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Marubeni secures full control of DASI



© DASI warehouse

Marubeni Corporation has completed the acquisition of the remaining 50% stake in DASI, a prominent global provider of commercial aviation inventory solutions, thereby making it a wholly owned subsidiary. The transaction was executed through Marubeni Aviation Asset Investment LLC, its U.S.-based aviation aftermarket and asset trading arm. This move reflects Marubeni’s strategic intent to strengthen its position in a growing aviation maintenance and aftermarket sector. The acquisition comes at a time when global demand for aircraft maintenance is rising steadily. This growth is being driven by increasing passenger and cargo traffic, a larger global aircraft fleet, and extended use of older aircraft due to ongoing supply chain constraints and delays in new aircraft deliveries. As a result, the aircraft maintenance market is projected to expand at a compound annual growth rate of approximately 3.3%, reaching around US\$215 billion by 2035. In parallel, the aviation aftermarket parts segment is expected to grow significantly, reaching approximately US\$23.5 billion by the same year—around 1.5-times its 2024 size. DASI plays a central role in this ecosystem as a leading distributor of aviation aftermarket parts. The company manages around 2.5 million stock keeping units, including both factory-new and surplus components, and serves over 3,500 customers globally. Its competitive advantage lies in its data-driven pricing capabilities, efficient inventory monetisation services for suppliers, and an integrated operational platform combining warehouses, an online marketplace, and proprietary systems. This enables rapid delivery and a broad product offering tailored to diverse customer requirements. Within Marubeni’s Mid-Term Management Strategy GC2027, businesses with scalability and high value-added services—termed “Strategic Platform Businesses”—are prioritised. Aviation aftermarket and asset trading is identified as a core pillar, alongside Magellan Aviation Group, another wholly owned subsidiary specialising in used serviceable materials from retired aircraft. By fully integrating DASI, Marubeni aims to unlock synergies with Magellan, combining expertise in surplus and used parts with a wide inventory of new components. This is expected to enhance its overall platform and competitiveness in the aviation aftermarket. Ultimately, Marubeni seeks to support the aviation industry’s sustainable growth through reliable parts supply and more efficient procurement systems, while continuing to strengthen its corporate value.

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Skymark deal extends ST Engineering MRO partnership

ST Engineering Commercial Aerospace has secured a Boeing 737 MAX component maintenance-by-the-hour (MBH) programme, alongside a 737NG landing gear overhaul contract, from Skymark Airlines—Japan’s first Boeing 737 MAX operator. The award marks a fresh milestone in a longstanding partnership that began in 2013, built on trust and delivery performance. ST Engineering looks forward to supporting Skymark Airlines’ component MRO requirements as it continues to make high-quality air travel widely accessible in the Japanese aviation market and progresses into the next phase of its fleet development. Its component MBH programmes and landing gear MRO solutions provide predictable cost structures and high fleet availability, supported by AI-driven analytics, automation and advanced MRO capabilities. Together, they form part of ST Engineering’s integrated aviation lifecycle solutions, designed to support airlines over the long term.



Representatives from Skymark Airlines and ST Engineering Commercial Aerospace

© ST Engineering

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

InSight flight deck certified for DHC L-415 waterbombers

Universal Avionics (Universal) has announced that its InSight Flight Display System has received Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) approval for the De Havilland Aircraft of Canada (De Havilland Canada) CL-415 amphibious firefighting aircraft. The certification, issued by Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA), provides a retrofit pathway for aerial water bombers currently in service, enabling the replacement of legacy equipment—much of it decades old—with the Universal InSight upgrade. “With InSight installations across the amphibious aircraft family, operators now have a clear route to bring legacy fleets up to a modern digital standard, complete with next-generation cockpit capabilities,” said Dror Yahav, Chief Executive Officer of Universal Avionics. Universal’s aerial firefighting flight deck solution incorporates five glass cockpit displays with dual touchscreen controllers, dual flight management systems, and KAPTURE voice and flight data recorders, supporting 25-hour recording of voice and datalink. The system also integrates with the UniLink Communications Management Unit (CMU) and UA FlightPartner cloud applications, enabling enhanced digital communications and data automation.



The InSight Flight Display System has received STC approval for the DHC CL-415 amphibious firefighting aircraft © De Havilland Canada

Horizon Aircraft partners with MHIRJ on Cavorite X7 development



Horizon Aircraft and MHIRJ will join forces to advance the development of the Cavorite X7

© Horizon Aircraft

New Horizon Aircraft has announced an agreement with MHIRJ Aviation Group (MHIRJ), a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, to support the continued development of its hybrid-electric VTOL (vertical take-off and landing) aircraft, the Cavorite X7. Under the collaboration, MHIRJ will deliver specialist engineering services focused on the design and development of flight test instrumentation for the Cavorite X7—an essential component for capturing critical data during the aircraft’s flight test programme, which is expected to commence in early 2027. In addition, MHIRJ will provide broader engineering support and apply its regional aviation expertise to help advance the programme. “We’re excited to partner with Horizon Aircraft on their innovative Cavorite X7 project. With our expertise in engineering and regional aviation, we believe we can make a significant impact as they lead the way in hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft,” said Elio Ruggi, Senior Vice-President, Chief Engineer and Head of Aircraft Development, Quality & Flight Operations at MHIRJ. “This collaboration not only opens up opportunities for business growth but also allows us to leverage our engineering strengths to drive this cutting-edge initiative forward. We are committed to contributing to the value chain and supporting sustainable technology in regional aviation.”

Under the collaboration, MHIRJ will deliver specialist engineering services focused on the design and development of flight test instrumentation for the Cavorite X7—an essential component for capturing critical data during the aircraft’s flight test programme, which is expected to commence in early 2027. In addition, MHIRJ will provide broader engineering support and apply its regional aviation expertise to help advance the programme. “We’re excited to partner with Horizon Aircraft on their innovative Cavorite X7 project. With our expertise in engineering and regional aviation, we believe we can make a significant impact as they lead the way in hybrid-electric VTOL aircraft,” said Elio Ruggi, Senior Vice-President, Chief Engineer and Head of Aircraft Development, Quality & Flight Operations at MHIRJ. “This collaboration not only opens up opportunities for business growth but also allows us to leverage our engineering strengths to drive this cutting-edge initiative forward. We are committed to contributing to the value chain and supporting sustainable technology in regional aviation.”

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Daher wins new Safran logistics and MRO contracts

Daher has been awarded two new logistics contracts by Safran, covering operations in Germany and France, with activities set to begin in April 2026. The agreements include managing a warehouse for Safran Nacelles in Hamburg and establishing a dedicated MRO and AOG logistics platform for Safran Electronics & Defense in the Île-de-France region. These projects build on Daher's long-standing partnership with Safran, including an expanded contract with Safran Helicopter Engines supporting more than 150 employees across multiple French sites. In Hamburg, Daher will oversee logistics for the integration of engines and nacelles for the Airbus A320neo final assembly line, deploying a team of 20 staff. The scope includes receiving, storage, parts preparation, handling and shipping, following a transition from a previous provider. The project strengthens Daher's production logistics capabilities and reinforces its presence in Germany, where it already employs around 1,100 people. In France, the new 3,000m² facility in Tremblay-en-France will support MRO and aircraft-on-ground operations for Safran Electronics & Defense, benefiting from its proximity to Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport. The site will handle thousands of shipments annually and includes rapid-response AOG services, supported by Daher's warehouse management system to ensure full traceability and real-time operational control. Daher and Safran are jointly advancing automation initiatives across their logistics operations, including the deployment of automated guided vehicles (AGVs), automated storage systems and enhanced control technologies. At the same time, the Tremblay-en-France contract represents a key step in developing Daher's AOG Desk offering, which is focused on rapid-response spare parts support for grounded aircraft, where downtime carries significant costs for airlines. This comes as demand for such services continues to grow, driven by the expanding global aircraft fleet and a buoyant MRO market, currently valued at over US\$90 billion and expected to exceed US\$150 billion by 2035.



© Daher

Mammoth secures FAA approval for 777-200LR Freighter



Mammoth Freighter 777-200LRMF

© Mammoth Freighters

Mammoth Freighters has received Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification for its 777-200LR Mammoth Freighter (777-200LRMF), marking a significant step in expanding its next-generation wide-body freighter portfolio. The certification confirms the aircraft's design, engineering and performance, clearing it for commercial service. The platform combines long-range capability with payload efficiency and operational reliability, positioning it as a flexible

option for global cargo operators. Built on the Boeing 777 platform, the converted freighter features a large main-deck cargo door, reinforced flooring and an advanced cargo handling system, optimised for both long-haul and regional operations. Launch customer Jetran said the aircraft meets expectations and is expected to deliver strong value for end users including DHL, Qatar Airways and Ethiopian Airlines. With approval secured, Mammoth is preparing for entry into service and deliveries, while continuing development of its 777-300ER freighter conversion, which is expected to receive FAA certification later this year.

GE Aerospace and Waygate launch AI engine inspection Tech

Waygate Technologies, a Baker Hughes business specialising in non-destructive testing (NDT), and GE Aerospace have introduced new automated inspection templates designed to modernise engine maintenance processes. The Menu Directed Inspection (MDI) templates, developed for GENx-1B and -2B engines, mark an important step towards greater standardisation and automation in borescope inspections. The rollout forms part of an ongoing Joint Technology Development Agreement (JTDA) between the two companies, initiated in 2023. The new functionality is integrated into Waygate's Mentor Visual IQ+ video borescope, building on earlier AI-assisted capabilities to enhance defect detection and inspection accuracy in commercial aviation engines. At the core of the innovation is a guided, structured workflow supported by artificial intelligence (AI). This ensures inspectors consistently capture high-quality images during each inspection, reducing variability between operators and accelerating skill development. The result is a more efficient and reliable inspection process, with improved confidence in maintenance assessments. The MDI templates also introduce advanced visual guidance features, specifically tailored to critical engine components such as High-Pressure Turbine (HPT) stage 1 and stage 2 blades. By aligning directly with Aircraft Maintenance Manual requirements, the system helps inspectors achieve precise, standardised views. On-screen overlays and reference imagery further support consistency, while reducing the likelihood of human error. In addition, the system incorporates both automated and manual 3-D measurement tools, enabling detailed analysis of component condition. Inspectors can assess parameters such as line, area, depth, and surface profiles, streamlining both defect identification and subsequent maintenance decisions. Overall, the collaboration between Waygate Technologies and GE Aerospace demonstrates how AI and automation are reshaping maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) operations. By improving efficiency, consistency, and data quality, these advancements are setting new benchmarks for safety, productivity, and digital transformation in engine inspection.



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MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

Elysian completes second design iteration of E9X aircraft

Elysian Aircraft (Elysian) has reached a new milestone in the development of its all-electric E9X aircraft, completing its Conceptual Design Review and progressing towards the next phase of engineering. This achievement confirms the soundness of the aircraft’s core design principles, following several years of targeted research and development, and marks the transition from early feasibility work into more detailed preliminary design. Alongside this, the company has conducted an initial test flight of its Scaled Flight Demonstrator (SFD), providing early real-world validation of key systems. This includes aerodynamic performance, flight control behaviour, and the integration of electric propulsion technologies—critical elements underpinning the E9X programme. The updated aircraft design reflects continued technical refinement, incorporating insights from extensive system-level studies and research. These advancements are not limited to the aircraft itself but extend to broader electrification technologies, some of which have potential dual-use applications across the aerospace sector. According to Elysian’s leadership, industry engagement with airlines, suppliers, and partners has indicated strong and growing interest in both the aircraft and its underlying technologies. Key improvements in the latest iteration include enhancements to distributed electric propulsion, high-voltage architecture, and the integration of batteries within the wing structure. The introduction of modular battery systems further strengthens the aircraft’s energy efficiency and operational flexibility. Collectively, these developments support the viability of large-scale battery-electric aviation, a segment often challenged by energy density and range limitations. The E9X is designed to carry between 88 and 100 passengers over distances exceeding 750 kilometres, with ambitions to extend this to around 1,000 kilometres as battery technology evolves. With zero in-flight emissions, the programme positions itself at the forefront of sustainable aviation. It also serves as a central platform for integrating Elysian’s electrification architecture, supported by earlier demonstrators that are already enabling initial operational applications.



© Elysian Aircraft E9X

JetBlue deal anchors Punta Cana’s rise as MRO powerhouse



© JetBlue

located near one of the Caribbean’s busiest airports, the MRO centre is designed to serve both airlines and aircraft leasing firms. Its presence is expected to enhance operational efficiency by allowing carriers to conduct heavy maintenance locally rather than sending aircraft abroad. This shift could significantly reduce downtime, lower logistical costs, and improve fleet reliability across the region. More broadly, the agreement highlights Punta Cana’s growing strategic importance within global aviation maintenance networks. By establishing a high-capacity, modern MRO hub in the Dominican Republic, FL Technics and its partners aim to strengthen regional self-sufficiency while integrating the Caribbean more deeply into international aerospace service chains.

FL Technics has secured a landmark agreement to service JetBlue aircraft at its forthcoming maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility in Punta Cana, signalling a major step in the Dominican Republic’s emergence as a regional aviation hub. The deal not only provides an early commercial anchor for the new site but also reflects a shared commitment by both companies to expand their operational footprint in the Caribbean. The Punta Cana facility is being developed through a US\$70 million joint investment between FL Technics and Grupo Puntacana, a prominent player in tourism and financial development. Conceived as a phased project, the infrastructure will scale progressively, beginning with the creation of around 300 skilled jobs and ultimately expanding to as many as 2,000 roles in technical and support functions. This staged growth underscores a long-term strategy to build sustainable aviation capabilities within the region. Strategically

Setna iO boosts 737 parts supply with new teardown

Setna iO (Setna) has acquired an additional Boeing 737-800 airframe for teardown, with dismantling scheduled at ecube’s facility in Castellón, Spain. The move forms part of the company’s ongoing strategy to expand its inventory of serviceable material and ensure a steady supply of certified components for airline and MRO customers. The latest acquisition reinforces Setna’s focus on strengthening aftermarket support by increasing the availability of high-demand parts. By leveraging its internal MRO network, the company aims to maximise asset value while improving operational efficiency throughout the teardown process. Tom Boulcott, Partner and Chief Strategy Officer at Setna, highlighted the importance of the programme, noting that the company continues to build depth in its material inventory to ensure ready-to-use certified stock for customers worldwide. He also emphasised the role of Setna’s integrated MRO capabilities in optimising both turnaround times and

overall asset utilisation. The Boeing 737-800 remains one of the most widely operated and commercially successful narrow-body aircraft, sustaining strong global demand for replacement parts and maintenance support. This enduring popularity underpins continued activity in the teardown market, particularly for well-supported platforms such as the 737NG family. Setna’s growing presence in Spain reflects its broader global acquisition and disassembly strategy, supported by an international footprint exceeding 700,000 ft² of operational space. With strategically located hubs and an expanding MRO network, the company continues to scale its capabilities in sourcing, processing, and distributing aircraft components. Overall, the latest teardown underscores both sustained demand for 737-800 material and Setna’s ongoing commitment to supporting the aviation aftermarket through targeted asset acquisition and efficient material recovery.

FINANCIAL NEWS

GetJet secures US\$31m in external financing from volofin



© GetJet Airlines

GetJet Airlines (GetJet) has secured US\$31 million in external financing from London-based volofin Capital Management, providing fresh momentum to its 'Growth Strategy 2026'. The funding is aimed at expanding the group's fleet and scaling its aviation asset management capabilities. The capital will support the acquisition of up to five additional narrow-body aircraft, with integration into the fleet planned by the second quarter of 2026. This expansion is intended to meet a strong pipeline of client demand and increasing requirements for ACMI services. Chief Executive Darius Viltrakis stated that the financing highlights the confidence of key financial partners in GetJet's operational performance and positions the company to respond rapidly to growing demand from airline customers. Volofin Capital Management also expressed its commitment to the partnership, noting its intention to continue supporting GetJet through tailored asset-based financing solutions as further opportunities arise. GetJet Airlines

has recently strengthened its commercial position with new contracts from Eurowings and Etihad Airways, while continuing operations for carriers including Air Senegal and Wizz Air. During the previous summer season, the airline also supported national carriers such as Royal Jordanian and TAP Air Portugal. In addition to fleet expansion, the financing will bolster the development of the group's aviation asset management and component trading activities through its affiliated company, Airhub Aviation. Based in Northern and Central Europe, Airhub manages an aviation asset portfolio valued at approximately €200 million (US\$232 million) and operates an MRO facility at Šiauliai International Airport in Lithuania.



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FINANCIAL NEWS

Sumitomo completes Air Lease take-over, creates Sumisho Air Lease

Sumitomo Corporation has completed the acquisition of US-based aircraft leasing company Air Lease Corporation, alongside co-investors SMBC Aviation Capital, Apollo and Brookfield. The transaction, first announced in September 2025, closed on April 8, (EDT), with Air Lease delisted from the New York Stock Exchange and rebranded as Sumisho Air Lease. The deal creates one of the world's largest aircraft leasing businesses by fleet size, positioning the group to capitalise on sustained growth in global air travel and rising demand for more fuel-efficient, next-generation aircraft. Airlines are increasingly turning to leasing to improve capital efficiency and accelerate fleet renewal, reinforcing the strategic importance of lessors. Sumisho Air Lease will combine Air Lease's established customer base and asset management capabilities with Sumitomo Corporation's aviation expertise and global network. The company aims to expand investment in advanced, environmentally efficient aircraft, strengthen earnings stability and enhance access to global capital markets. Led by an experienced management team, the business will deepen collaboration with Sumitomo Corporation Group and SMBC Aviation Capital, building an integrated operating model spanning aircraft procurement, lease structuring, portfolio management and sustainability initiatives to boost global competitiveness. The acquisition is not expected to affect Sumitomo Corporation's results for the financial year ending 2025. Any financial impact will be reflected in its 2026 full-year earnings forecast.



Air Lease has been delisted from the New York Stock Exchange and taken private. The business has been renamed "Sumisho Air Lease" © Sumitomo Corporation

Setna expands credit facility to fuel global growth

Setna iO has announced the successful amendment and expansion of its commercial credit facility, increasing total borrowing capacity to US\$550 million. This development underscores the company's strong financial position, characterised by robust earnings, low leverage, and a scalable global platform. The expanded facility reflects the continued confidence of six leading commercial banks in Setna's long-term strategy, operational model, and consistent execution. It provides additional financial flexibility to support ongoing investment across key business units, including Setnix, Setnix UK, PartsLab, Zulu, and LGT, while further strengthening the company's global parts trading and MRO capabilities. The anticipated addition of J&C Aero to the group is also set to enhance Setna's international

reach and broaden its service offering. Setna remains focused on disciplined, sustainable growth, maintaining high standards of operational excellence and delivering reliable value to customers and partners. Over the past decade, the company has evolved from an initial concept into a scaled global platform, supported by a committed and high-performing team. Looking ahead, Setna views its current position as an early stage in a longer growth trajectory. Its ambition is to establish itself as a global leader within the aviation aftermarket and services sector. The company has expressed appreciation for the continued support of its banking partners, business collaborators, and employees, whose collective efforts underpin its ongoing success.

ATC expands MRO footprint with PAS MRO acquisition

Air Transport Components (ATC Group) has announced the acquisition of PAS MRO, a specialised provider of bearing repair services. The strategic move strengthens ATC Group's expanding portfolio of capabilities and broadens its presence in high-value component repair, enhancing service offerings to airline, OEM and aftermarket customers worldwide. PAS MRO, based in Bristow, Oklahoma, brings a strong reputation for technical expertise, quality and customer responsiveness. The addition complements ATC Group's existing operations in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Gilbert, Arizona, creating operational synergies and extending repair capabilities across key product lines. "PAS MRO is a natural fit for ATC Group," said Jimmy Newman, Chief Executive Officer of ATC Group. "Their technical depth, customer relationships and commitment to quality align closely with our platform. This acquisition enables us to broaden our capabili-

ties while continuing to deliver the speed, reliability and service our customers expect." "Joining ATC Group marks an exciting new chapter for PAS MRO," said Jim Agee, President of PAS MRO. "ATC Group has built a strong reputation for operational excellence and customer focus. By combining our expertise and capabilities, we are well positioned to deliver even greater value to our customers while continuing to grow our business." PAS MRO will continue to operate with its existing team and leadership, ensuring continuity for customers and employees while benefiting from ATC Group's broader infrastructure and resources. The acquisition represents a further step in ATC Group's strategy to build a scaled, diversified MRO platform, supported by AE Industrial Partners, positioning the company for continued growth across the aerospace aftermarket.

FINANCIAL NEWS

HEICO takes majority stake in Sherwood



HEICO Flight Support Group has acquired 80% of the stock of Sherwood Avionics and Accessories

© HEICO Flight Support Group

HEICO's Flight Support Group has acquired an 80% stake in Sherwood Avionics and Accessories (Sherwood), with the remaining ownership retained by members of Sherwood's management team. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed. HEICO said it expects the acquisition to be earnings accretive within the first year following completion. Founded in 1992 and headquartered near Miami's Opa-locka Airport, Sherwood is an FAA and EASA Part 145 repair station specialising in the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) of complex, mission-critical mechanical and electromechanical components for defence and selected commercial aviation platforms. Its capabilities span auxiliary power units (APUs), landing

gear systems, wheels and brakes, pneumatics, hydraulics, fuel and lighting systems, avionics components and related accessories. The company also provides OEM-authorized distribution, engineering services and manufacturing capabilities. Sherwood supports a broad range of fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, including the C-130, CH-47, F-15, F-16 and UH-60, among other defence platforms. It operates from two adjacent facilities totalling around 70,000 square feet and employs approximately 150 staff. Bryan Farrell, a member of Sherwood's leadership team, will continue to lead operations from the company's current facilities. HEICO Corporation focuses on the design, production, servicing and distribution of products and services for niche segments within the aviation, defence, space, medical, telecommunications and electronics sectors, through its Hollywood, Florida-based Flight Support Group and Miami-based Electronic Technologies Group.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE

Belgium picks SkyCourier for special mission aircraft

Belgium has selected Textron Aviation's Cessna SkyCourier as its newest special mission aircraft, placing an order for five multirole platforms to support the nation's Special Operations Forces. The selection marks the SkyCourier's entry into the global defence market and enhances Belgium's airlift capability with a robust, flexible aircraft designed for demanding missions. Belgium's SkyCourier fleet will enable rapid movement of personnel and equipment, while supporting logistics, medical evacuation and crisis response operations. Deliveries to prime contractor Sabena Engineering are expected throughout 2027, followed by in-country military modifications ahead of final transfer to



Rendering of a Cessna SkyCourier configured for military operations

© Textron

the Belgian Special Operations Forces. The SkyCourier's debut in the global defence market builds on its growing international footprint. Designed for reliability and mission adaptability, the twin-engine, high-wing turboprop offers flexible cabin configurations, substantial payload capacity and proven performance in austere environments. Belgium's decision reflects increasing government demand for cost-effective, multirole aircraft capable of supporting rapidly evolving mission requirements. The selection also strengthens local industry through Sabena's modification and design work in Belgium, reinforcing defence ties across the region.

OTHER NEWS

Embraer and Colombia's Aeronautical Industry Corporation (CIAC) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at the FIDAE airshow, signalling a potential expansion of industrial and technical collaboration aimed at strengthening Colombia's aerospace sector. The agreement builds on an established relationship between the two organisations and opens the door to deeper cooperation



Signing of the MoU between Embraer and CIAC

© Embraer

across Embraer's defence and aviation portfolio. According to Fabio Caparica, Vice-President of Contracts at Embraer Defense & Security, the MoU represents a strategic step towards enhancing joint capabilities. He emphasised that the partnership could extend to key platforms such as the A-29 Super Tucano and the KC-390 Millennium. A central objective is to integrate CIAC more closely into Embraer's global production and supply chains, thereby boosting Colombia's industrial participation in international aerospace programmes. From the Colombian perspective, the agreement is viewed as a significant milestone. Colonel Oscar Francisco Zúñiga Martín, President of CIAC, described the MoU as instrumental in advancing knowledge transfer, strengthening technical expertise, and positioning CIAC as a competitive player on the global stage. He highlighted that the collaboration could support the development of local capabilities in maintenance, innovation, and aeronautical engineering, while also enhancing Colombia's standing as a regional hub for aerospace development. Colombia is already a key market for Embraer, with approximately 50 of its aircraft currently in operation across defence, commercial, and executive aviation segments. Notably, the Colombian Aerospace Force operates a fleet of 24 A-29 Super Tucano aircraft, underscoring the longstanding defence relationship between the two parties. Overall, the MoU reflects a mutual commitment to industrial growth, capability development, and deeper integration into global aerospace value chains, with potential long-term benefits for both Embraer and Colombia's aviation industry.

INDUSTRY PEOPLE



Martijn de Vries

• Air France Industries KLM Engineering & Maintenance (AFI KLM E&M) has announced the appointment of **Martijn de Vries** as Senior Vice President Commercial, effective April 1, 2026.

He succeeds **Pierre Teboul**, who is set to retire following a long and distinguished career with the group. De Vries brings extensive experience, having spent 25 years with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines in a range of finance, commercial and operational leadership roles. He began his career as a finance trainee after completing a master's degree in business economics at VU University Amsterdam, later strengthening his expertise with an MSc in Finance and Control. Over the past decade, he has held several senior finance positions across KLM's Corporate, Cargo, and Engineering & Maintenance divisions. His

career subsequently evolved into broader commercial and operational leadership, with around 20 years spent within the Engineering & Maintenance business in roles of increasing responsibility. Most recently, de Vries served as Managing Director of EPCOR B.V., a wholly owned MRO subsidiary of AFI KLM E&M, and since September 2021 has held the position of Vice President of KLM Engine Services. His appointment reflects a strong internal succession and continued focus on commercial growth within the organisation.



Jakub Dvořák

• Job Air Technic a.s., a European provider of aircraft MRO services and part of the FL Technics Group, has appointed **Jakub Dvořák** as Chief Executive Officer with effect from May 1. He succeeds current CEO **Imrich Czére**. Dvořák will assume full

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leadership responsibilities, bringing more than 18 years of experience in aviation maintenance, spanning both technical and senior leadership roles across operations and strategy. He has spent the past seven years at Job Air Technic, holding several key positions, including Technical Director, and currently serves as a Member of the Management Board of Job Air Technic a.s. "I look forward to working closely with the team at Job Air Technic and ensuring a smooth transition, while maintaining the high standards of service our customers expect," said Jakub Dvořák. Job Air Technic will continue normal operations, maintaining its focus on delivering base maintenance services to airline customers across Europe. The company remains an integral part of FL Technics' European MRO network, with ongoing efforts to ensure operational continuity and consistent service quality.

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				

(2) CFM56-7B26	Now - Sale / Lease	GA Telesis		engines@gatelesis.com	
(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



THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

Aircraft and Engine Parts, Components and Misc. Equipment

Description	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(2) GTC331-200ER, (2) GTC131-9A, (1) GTC131-9B	Setna IO	David Chaimovitz	david@setnaio.com	+1-312-549-4459
(1) A321 Enhanced Landing Gear 2020 OH				
(3) A340 LG Shipset, (1) B777 LG Shipset (3) B737 LG Shipset, (11) A320 LG Shipset, (1) B757 LG Shipset, (1) 767 Shipset	GA Telesis		landinggearsales@gatelesis.com	
(10) 131-9A, (10) 131-9B (Max compliant)	GA Telesis		apu@gatelesis.com	+1-954-849-3509
(3) 331-500, (1) PW901				
Engine stands: CF6-80C2, CFM56-5A/B/C, PW4000			stands@gatelesis.com	+1-954-676-3111
(2) APU GTC131-9B	Willis Lease	Gavin Connolly	gconnolly@willislease.com	+44 1656 765 256
Engine stands now available	Now - Lease			

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