

# Weekly Aviation Headline News

“easyJet are now effectively in negotiations with Castlelake, which means the business is for sale at the right price.”  
*Dudley Shanley, analyst with Goodbody Stockbrokers*”



© easyJet

## Latest Castlelake bid for easyJet knocked back, but potential for deal remains strong

Board rejects offer, suggesting it seriously undervalues the company, but will grant limited access to books in hopes of enticing better offer.

easyJet, the British low-cost carrier, has said that it would grant U.S. investment firm Castlelake limited access to commercial data in the hopes of drawing a higher takeover bid after rejecting a fourth sweetened £4.93 billion proposal on Thursday. Shares in easyJet, which operates more than 350 aircraft on over 1,200 routes in 37 countries, jumped by as much as 8% to around £5.80. However, they were still well below Castlelake's latest offer of £6.50 per share. The carrier's board unanimously rejected the new proposal, saying it substantially undervalued the company, but said that giving Castlelake limited access to its books might produce a "more attractive proposal". The latest proposal was higher than Castlelake's previous £6.25-per-share offer, but it means it tracking towards the £7 apiece price tag easyJet investors were hoping to get, according to a Financial Times report from last week. "The narrative has definitively changed," said Dudley Shanley, an analyst with Goodbody Stockbrokers. "EasyJet are now effectively in negotiations with Castlelake, which means the business is for sale at the right price".

Castlelake's deadline to table a firm offer has been extended to July 5 under UK takeover rules and easyJet has said that Castlelake had indicated it hoped up its bid following limited access to the commercial information. Castlelake said in a statement it welcomed the constructive engagement from the easyJet board and the deadline extension. According to Reuters news agency, analysts had questioned whether Castlelake could structure a deal that would comply with European Union ownership rules requiring carriers to be majority EU-owned and controlled, while also satisfying easyJet investors on price. An easyJet Airbus A319 aircraft takes off from Nantes Atlantique Airport in Bouguenais. An easyJet Airbus A319 aircraft takes off from Nantes Atlantique Airport in Bouguenais near Nantes, France, April 30, 2026. Samuel Ziff, a portfolio manager at Oldfield Partners, an easyJet investor, said that any new bid price would need to be "significantly higher" than the rejected proposal. "EasyJet has got a very valuable fleet, they've got very valuable slots, and management has got this clear target that they

want to hit by 2030 in terms of profitability," Ziff said. Castlelake has also named New York-based Brookfield Asset Management as a co-investor, along with two previously disclosed partners, former Malaysia Airlines CEO Peter Bellew and senior industry executive Mark Breen. Under the proposed terms, the bidding vehicle would be owned 49% by Castlelake and co-investors including Brookfield. The remaining 51% would be owned by EU nationals Bellew and Breen. "The reality is price is much more important than who's actually buying," analyst Shanley said, adding that concerns over ownership structure and an absence of a European airline investor might be ignored for the right price. Brookfield was also part of a consortium that acquired one of the world's largest aircraft lessors Air Lease in a US\$7.4 billion cash deal last year. EasyJet, which competes with other low-cost carriers such as Ryanair, last month warned its full-year forecast remained uncertain as the Iran conflict drove up fuel costs, while summer bookings were behind last year. (£1.00 = US\$1.32 at time of publication).

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**AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS**

**Global 8000 makes Asia debut**

Bombardier has delivered the first Global 8000 business jet in Asia to an undisclosed customer based in Shanghai, marking a significant milestone in the expansion of ultra-long-range business aviation across the region. Designed to meet the demands of Asian operators, the Global 8000 combines exceptional speed, range and operational flexibility, enabling nonstop travel between major global financial centres. The aircraft can connect city pairs such as Shanghai–New York, Shanghai–Dublin and Shanghai–Sydney, allowing passengers to travel farther and faster while remaining productive in flight. The flagship business jet offers a top speed of Mach 0.95 and a range of 8,000 nautical miles. It also features the lowest cabin altitude of any production aircraft at 2,691ft (820m), helping passengers arrive more refreshed after long-haul journeys. In addition, its ability to access a wider range of airports provides operators with greater flexibility when planning missions across Asia and beyond.

**Willis Lease Finance completes acquisition of A330-300 aircraft**

Willis Lease Finance has completed the acquisition of three Airbus A330-300 aircraft, which will be leased to China Airlines and EVA Air. The company said the deal reflects continued strong demand for aircraft assets and aftermarket services, as operators manage fleet growth, delivery delays and constrained maintenance capacity. Chief Executive Austin C. Willis said the current market offers a strong opportunity to invest in high-quality assets, adding that the purchase supports the continued expansion of WLFC’s portfolio and its commitment to customers worldwide. Willis Lease Finance Corporation leases large and regional spare commercial aircraft engines and aircraft to airlines, engine manufacturers and maintenance, repair and overhaul providers globally. Its leasing activities are supported by engine and aircraft trading, engine lease pools, asset management services through Willis Mitsui & Co. Asset Management Limited, and end-of-life solutions for engines and aviation materials through Willis Aeronautical Services.

**Ethiopian Airlines receives first Twin Otter Classic 300-G**



Ethiopian Airlines has taken delivery of its first Twin Otter Classic 300-G

© De Havilland Canada

De Havilland Aircraft of Canada (De Havilland Canada) has delivered the first of two Twin Otter Classic 300-G aircraft to Ethiopian Airlines, Africa’s largest carrier. The aircraft will support Ethiopian Airlines’ plans to strengthen regional connectivity and improve access to remote communities, tourism destinations and lake regions across Ethiopia and East Africa. “We appreciate Ethiopian Airlines’ confidence in De Havilland Canada and the Twin Otter Classic 300-G,” said Ryan DeBrusk, Vice President, Sales and Marketing at De Havilland Canada. “The Twin Otter’s proven reliability, versatility and ability to operate in demanding environments make it ideally suited to the varied missions Ethiopian Airlines will undertake across the region. We value the trust the airline has placed in us and look forward to supporting its continued growth and commitment to connecting communities throughout East Africa.” The Twin Otter Classic 300-G combines the aircraft’s renowned short take-off and landing (STOL) performance and enhanced payload capability with a modern Garmin G1000 integrated flight deck, lightweight cabin seats, upgraded electrical systems and improved cockpit ergonomics. Building on decades of operational success, the 300-G delivers greater efficiency and mission flexibility while retaining the rugged characteristics that allow operators to reach destinations beyond the capabilities of many other aircraft. “The delivery of our first Twin Otter Classic 300-G marks an important step in our regional growth strategy,” said Mesfin Tasew, Group Chief Executive Officer of Ethiopian Airlines. “This aircraft will help us serve remote areas more effectively while supporting tourism, economic development and essential air services across the region.” The delivery marks the start of Ethiopian Airlines’ Twin Otter Classic 300-G fleet expansion programme, with a second aircraft due to enter service later in 2026.

**THAI takes delivery of first GE-powered B787-9**

Thai Airways International (THAI) has taken delivery of its first new GE-powered Boeing 787-9 from AerCap during a ceremony at Boeing’s Delivery Center in Everett, Seattle. The aircraft marks a milestone in the long-standing partnership between AerCap and THAI and will support the airline’s fleet renewal programme by improving operational efficiency and



Thai Airways International Boeing 787-9

© THAI

sustainability. THAI said the new B787-9 will help expand its route network while enhancing passenger comfort with a more modern travel experience. AerCap, one of the world’s largest aircraft lessors, continues to provide fleet solutions to around 300 customers worldwide.

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**AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS**

**Werner Aero acquires A321ceo for asset recovery**



Airbus A321ceo

© Werner Aero

Werner Aero has acquired an Airbus A321ceo (MSN 544) from FTAI Aviation, further expanding its portfolio of Airbus assets for the global aviation aftermarket. The aircraft is currently at Tarbes-Lourdes Airport in France, where TARMAC Aerosave will carry out disassembly and asset recovery. TARMAC Aerosave is a leading provider of aircraft storage, maintenance and recycling services. The acquisition reinforces Werner Aero's commitment to supplying high-quality Airbus material and components to airlines, MROs and leasing companies worldwide. The tear-down of MSN 544 will recover a broad range of serviceable airframe and engine components, providing reliable, cost-effective replacement parts for customers across the industry. "We are pleased to add this Airbus A321ceo to our growing portfolio of aviation assets," said Tony Kondo, President and CEO of Werner Aero. "This acquisition strengthens our ability to deliver valuable Airbus material to the market while supporting sustainable aircraft lifecycle management." Werner Aero continues to grow its commercial aircraft component inventory through strategic acquisitions and partnerships, ensuring comprehensive support for operators throughout the aviation sector.

**Air Serbia adds A320 to growing fleet**

Air Serbia has expanded its fleet with the addition of an Airbus A320, registered YU-APV, as the carrier continues to increase capacity and support the growth of its route network. The 180-seat aircraft, built in 2008, arrived at Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport after undergoing a full repaint in the Netherlands into Air Serbia's latest livery. Chief Executive Jiří Marek said the acquisition forms part of the airline's long-term fleet expansion strategy, aimed at strengthening operational resilience, improving scheduling flexibility and supporting the continued development of services from Belgrade. Air Serbia expects to add a second Airbus A320 in the near future, further boosting its ability to meet growing demand while maintaining reliable operations across its network. Powered by two IAE engines, the A320-232 is designed for short- and medium-haul operations and will complement Air Serbia's existing fleet of more than 30 aircraft. The airline currently operates Airbus A330-200, A320-200 and A319-100 aircraft, alongside Embraer E195s and ATR 72-600 turboprops, as it continues to modernise its fleet and expand destinations and frequencies.



Air Serbia has added an Airbus A320 to its fleet

© AirTeamImages

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**AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS**

**ABL Aviation delivers A220-300 to Air France**

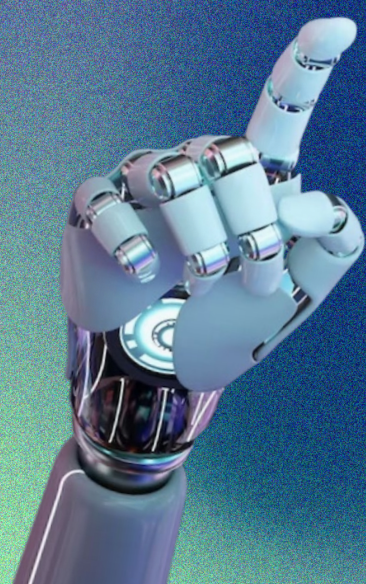
ABL Aviation, a global independent aircraft investment management firm, has delivered the 16th A220-300 aircraft to Air France. The Airbus A220-300 is powered by Pratt & Whitney PW1521G-3 engines. It is the first aircraft delivered under a new three-aircraft mandate agreed with Air France and supports the airline's ongoing fleet renewal strategy and commitment to operating a modern, fuel-efficient narrow-body fleet. Two additional Airbus A220-300s are scheduled for delivery later this year, increasing ABL Aviation's total deliveries to Air France to 18 aircraft. The A220-300 is a key part of the airline's fleet modernisation programme, offering lower fuel consumption, reduced emissions and improved operating economics compared with previous-generation aircraft. The latest transaction also highlights ABL Aviation's expertise in structuring and executing phased, multi-aircraft leasing programmes tailored to the requirements of leading global airlines, while supporting customers with flexible, long-term fleet solutions.



ABL Aviation has delivered the 16th out of 18 A220-300 jets to Air France

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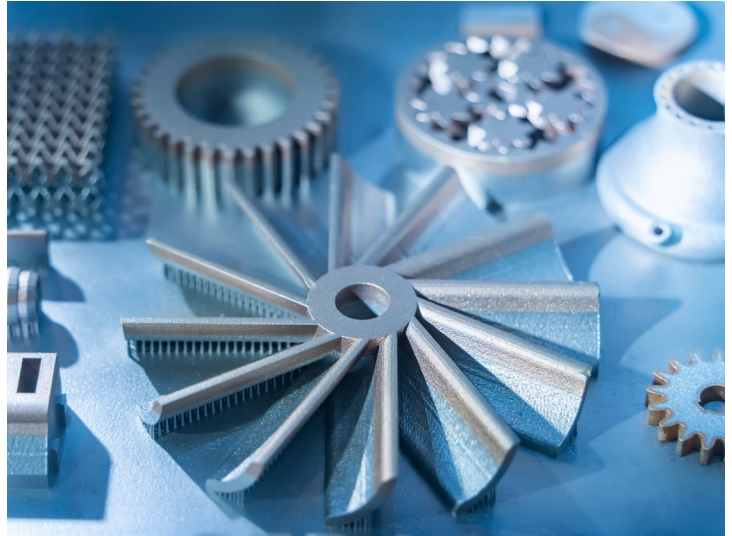
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**MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS**

**AACS expands A330 component portfolio with airframe acquisition**

AMTRA Aero Component Solutions (AACS), a US-based aircraft component supplier headquartered in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has acquired an Airbus A330-200 airframe, MSN 529, from Cargo Aircraft Management (CAM). The aircraft will be dismantled and harvested for serviceable material to support the growing global fleet of Airbus A330 operators. The acquisition marks a major expansion of AACS's wide-body component portfolio and reinforces the company's commitment to supplying high-quality used serviceable material (USM) to airlines, maintenance organisations and aviation asset owners worldwide. Components recovered from the aircraft will be added to AACS's inventory and distributed through its global sales network. "The Airbus A330 remains one of the most widely operated wide-body aircraft in commercial service today," said Pablo Aguirre, Chief Commercial Officer of AMTRA Aero Component Solutions. "This acquisition reflects our continued investment in high-demand aviation assets and strengthens our ability to support operators with reliable, fully traceable material that helps reduce maintenance costs and improve fleet availability. We are delighted to add a substantial inventory of A330 components to our expanding product offering."



AACS will dismantle and harvest the A330 airframe for serviceable material © Shutterstock

**Vallair cleared for A330neo base maintenance at Châteauroux facility**



Vallair has attained A330neo maintenance approval at its Châteauroux facility in France © Vallair

Vallair has secured regulatory approval to perform base maintenance on the Airbus A330neo at its advanced maintenance facility in Châteauroux, France. The approval marks a key step in the company's ongoing expansion of its wide-body maintenance capabilities, positioning Vallair to support the growing global fleet of next-generation A330neo aircraft. As airlines continue to adopt the A330neo for its fuel efficiency, extended range and operational flexibility, demand for approved maintenance providers is increasing. The new certification enables Vallair to deliver scheduled heavy maintenance checks, structural inspections, modifications and related technical services for both the A330-800 and A330-900 variants. Grégoire Lebigoit, President and CEO of Vallair Group said: "This approval reflects our continued investment in technical expertise, training and infrastructure. It reinforces our position as a trusted maintenance partner for airlines operating modern wide-body fleets. Adding A330neo capability broadens Vallair's service offering and creates new opportunities to support existing customers while attracting operators seeking approved maintenance capacity for the aircraft type." Vallair's 8,500m<sup>2</sup> facility in Châteauroux is dedicated to Airbus aircraft support and can accommodate up to five A321-sized aircraft, or a mix of A330s and A321s. The site provides a comprehensive range of maintenance services, including non-destructive testing (NDT), lease transitions, LOPA modifications and cabin refurbishments. These services complement Vallair's existing aerostructures, engine repair and teardown, logistics, parking and storage capabilities.

**GA Telesis wins first South Korean engine MRO contract**

GA Telesis Engine Services (GATES) has secured its first engine maintenance contract from a South Korean airline following its recent certification by the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT). Under the agreement, GATES will provide maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services for CFM56-7B engines operated by Jeju Air, one of South Korea's leading low-cost carriers. The contract marks the company's first engagement with a South Korean operator since obtaining MOLIT Approved Maintenance Organisation (AMO) certification. Earlier this year, GATES received approval to maintain CFM56-5B, CFM56-7B and CF6-80C2 engine platforms, enabling it to offer certified engine maintenance services to airlines in South Korea. Jeju Air said the partnership would strengthen the reliability of its fleet by drawing on GATES' global technical expertise and MRO capabilities, while supporting the carrier's operational performance and service quality.



GATES has landed its first engine MRO contract in South Korea © AirTeamImages

MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

**BeauTech and Lufthansa's GEM sign engine leasing deal**



BeauTech and GEM have signed a ten-year engine leasing framework agreement

© BeauTech

BeauTech Power Systems (BeauTech), a provider of aircraft engine leasing, asset management and trading solutions, has signed a ten-year engine leasing framework agreement with Group Engine Management GmbH (GEM), the Lufthansa Group's dedicated engine management company. GEM oversees engine allocation, maintenance coordination and lifecycle management across the Lufthansa Group's airline portfolio. Under the agreement, GEM will gain access to BeauTech's engine leasing capabilities as part of its strategy to secure dependable engine availability and maintain fleet flexibility. The framework is expected to create future leasing opportunities across a range of commercial aircraft engine platforms, including CF34, CFM56, GTF and LEAP engines. The agreement establishes a long-term foundation for future engine lease transactions and reflects both companies' commitment to supporting airline operations in an increasingly demanding aviation market. "This agreement marks an important milestone in the relationship between BeauTech and GEM," said Tobias Konrad, Chief Operating Officer at BeauTech. "The Lufthansa Group has been a valued partner since our early years and has played a key role in the growth of our business. We are proud to support GEM with flexible, reliable engine leasing solutions, and this agreement reflects the strong trust built between our organisations through many years of successful collaboration."

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**Ontic signs lease on new Florida facility**

Ontic has strengthened its manufacturing footprint with the signing of a long-term lease for a 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> facility in Weston, Florida, its tenth site worldwide. Located less than 20 miles from the company's Miramar facility, which opened in 2025, the new site will provide additional capacity for original equipment (OE) production, while Miramar remains focused on maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) activities. The expansion supports Ontic's growing portfolio of licensed product lines and increasing demand for manufacturing space as the company continues to acquire new licences. The move follows Ontic's recent investment in a new MRO facility in Tewkesbury, UK, which is expected to become fully operational by September 2026. Chief Operating Officer Brian Sartain said the Weston facility would provide the capacity needed to support future growth while maintaining the availability and reliability customers expect. The site will undergo significant upgrades ahead of operations beginning in 2027.



Ontic's new Weston, Florida facility

© Ontic

**FINANCIAL NEWS**

**Investec arranges US\$870m aircraft financing deal**

Investec Bank has arranged an approximately US\$870 million senior debt facility for a fund advised by BC Partners Credit, supporting a portfolio of 11 wide-body aircraft managed by FPG Amentum. The portfolio includes Boeing 777-300ERs, Boeing 787-9s, Boeing 787-10s and an Airbus A350-900 leased to Emirates, Etihad, Singapore Airlines and another leading Middle Eastern carrier. Investec acted as Mandated Lead Arranger and Bookrunner alongside CaixaBank and Mashreq Bank, while also serving as Swap Counterparty for the facility's interest rate hedging. Kookmin Bank participated as Co-Arranger on part of the portfolio. The financing structure was tailored to accommodate multiple aircraft types, varying lease terms, multi-currency revenue streams and a challenging geopolitical environment. The senior secured facility provides lease-matched financing and supports FPG Amentum's long-term management of the assets on behalf of investors. Dublin-based FPG Amentum is a global aviation asset manager specialising in sourcing, structuring and managing aircraft investments across a range of asset classes and strategies.



Investec has arranged an US\$870m aircraft portfolio financing © FPG Amentum

**Bristow lands US\$105m Berry Aviation takeover**



Bristow bolsters government services with the acquisition of Berry Aviation © Bristow Group

Bristow Group (Bristow) has agreed to acquire Berry Aviation from Acorn Capital Management for US\$105 million in an all-cash transaction, subject to customary purchase price adjustments and closing conditions. The acquisition will strengthen Bristow's Government Services business by adding specialist mission capabilities and long-established relationships with US defence and government customers. The company expects the deal to improve the quality and resilience of its earnings through greater exposure to contracted government services and multi-mission aviation operations. Based in San Marcos, Texas, Berry Aviation operates a fleet of more than 20 aircraft, primarily supporting government and defence customers in multiple countries. Around 72% of its revenue is generated from Government Services activities, including special missions, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) operations, maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, training, mission support, and unmanned aerial systems (UAS) design and development. The remainder of Berry Aviation's revenue comes from on-demand cargo logistics services and aftermarket aviation supply chain solutions. Bristow expects Berry Aviation's leadership team to remain in place following completion of the transaction and plans to maintain operations across the company's existing facilities. The acquisition is expected to close in the third quarter of 2026, subject to customary approvals and conditions. Bristow intends to fund the purchase using existing cash reserves.

**Airbus, Safran take full control of Aubert & Duval**

Airbus and Safran have agreed to acquire Tikehau Capital's stake in Aubert & Duval, with each company taking an equal share, subject to regulatory approval. The move will give Airbus and Safran full ownership of the French metals specialist, which supplies advanced steel, titanium, aluminium and superalloys for the aerospace, defence, energy and healthcare sectors. Since acquiring Aubert & Duval in 2023 alongside Tikehau Capital, the partners have overseen a major transformation of the business, strengthening its role in securing critical material supplies for Europe and supporting industry decarbonisation through initiatives such as titanium recycling. The transaction will not affect the company's operations, with Aubert & Duval continuing to operate independently and maintain its existing workforce and customer relationships.



© Safran

**FINANCIAL NEWS**

**Greybull acquires Genesys Industries**



CNC Swiss machining

© Genesys Industries

Greybull Stewardship (Greybull), a private investment firm focused on helping established small businesses grow and scale, has acquired Genesys Industries, Inc., a leading manufacturer and supplier of aerospace, commercial aviation and specialist industrial products. Genesys Industries brings together three long-established American manufacturing brands under a single platform. Avia Marine Company has supplied aircraft interior hardware, latches, handles and electromechanical products to

the commercial aviation sector since 1960. Latrobe Foundry, founded in 1933 and one of the oldest aluminium foundries still operating in the United States, produces cast and machined aluminium fittings and hardware. Sterner Screw Machine, established in 1986, manufactures high-volume precision fastener components for the aviation, fluid power, hydraulic and industrial automation markets. Together, the businesses form a growing manufacturing platform producing a wide range of special-

ist components, from raw aluminium castings to certified flight hardware and proprietary product lines. Their products serve customers across aerospace, power generation, data centres, medical, maritime and emerging industrial sectors. Genesys Industries also holds sole-source positions for many of its components. The acquisition comes amid sustained demand across the aerospace and defence sectors. Airbus and Boeing currently hold aircraft order backlogs stretching to around 12 years, while supply chains continue to face pressure to increase production capacity. At the same time, domestic sourcing remains a strategic priority for manufacturers throughout the industry. Founder and CEO Tony Lyons has steadily developed the platform to meet these market requirements, and Greybull plans to build on that foundation. The firm is also actively pursuing further acquisitions of US-based precision manufacturers and suppliers to support its long-term growth strategy.

**FL Technics acquires Sensus Aero to expand MRO software**

FL Technics, a global provider of aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, has integrated Sensus Aero into its group, strengthening its aviation software and digital capabilities. Sensus Aero is the developer of Sensus MRO, a software platform designed for MRO providers specialising in base and heavy airframe maintenance. The platform replaces disconnected systems and manual workflows with a single integrated solution, enabling aviation organisations to improve operational efficiency, enhance visibility across maintenance activities and make more informed decisions using real-time data. The integration marks the next phase for Sensus Aero, which has already been supporting aviation maintenance activity across the wider Avia Solutions Group ecosystem. As part of FL Technics Group, the Sensus MRO platform will be developed further and made available to aviation organisations looking to digitalise and optimise their maintenance operations. "Having worked closely with FL Technics from the very beginning, Sensus Aero has developed a deep, practical understanding of the challenges aviation maintenance organisations face in a competitive market. Joining FL Technics Group allows us to build on that experience and bring proven, industry-focused technology solutions to a wider market," stated Paulius Cegis, CEO of Sensus Aero. The aviation MRO sector is under growing pressure to improve efficiency, shorten turnaround times and increase visibility across maintenance operations. As organisations accelerate their digital transformation strategies, demand continues to rise for integrated software platforms that streamline workflows, connect maintenance processes and deliver real-time operational insights. "Sensus Aero combines deep aviation expertise with technology capabilities developed specifically for the needs of the MRO industry. Integrating the platform into FL Technics Group allows us to further develop its capabilities while creating additional value for customers both within and outside our organisation," added Žilvinas Lapinskas, CEO of FL Technics.



Žilvinas Lapinskas, CEO of FL Technics (l) and Paulius Cegis, CEO of Sensus Aero (r)  
© Avia Solutions Group

**ITOCHU targets mid-life aircraft market through Sirius investment**

ITOCHU Corporation has invested in Sirius Aviation Capital, an Abu Dhabi-based aviation investment manager focused on acquiring and managing mid-life aircraft leased to airlines worldwide. Through the transaction, ITOCHU joins existing shareholder Abu Dhabi Catalyst Partners, the strategic investment platform jointly owned by Mubadala Capital and Alpha Wave Global. The investment comes amid continued growth in global passenger traffic and ongoing constraints in new aircraft deliveries, which have strengthened demand for leased

aircraft capacity, particularly in the mid-life segment. As a result, investor interest in aircraft leasing has increased, alongside demand for specialist asset managers capable of overseeing aircraft acquisition, lease management and remarketing activities. Founded in 2019, Sirius provides a full range of aviation investment management services, including aircraft acquisitions, debt financing arrangements, lease management, remarketing and asset sales. Led by an experienced management team with deep expertise in aircraft leasing

and aviation investments, the company has built a strong position in the mid-life aircraft market and has delivered consistent risk-adjusted returns to investors. ITOCHU plans to leverage Sirius's industry expertise, airline relationships and investment management capabilities alongside its own aviation portfolio, which includes more than 90 aircraft and engines. The company also expects the partnership to create new opportunities across the broader aviation sector, including aftermarket and aerospace-related businesses.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**First H135 helicopter delivered to Canada's FAcT programme**

Airbus has delivered the first H135 helicopter for Canada's Future Aircrew Training (FAcT) programme, marking a major step in modernising pilot training for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Known in RCAF service as the CT-153 Juno, the twin-engine helicopter will be used to train future rotary-wing pilots. Selected by SkyAlyne, the prime contractor for the FAcT programme, the aircraft features Airbus' Helionix avionics suite and is designed to support training from basic flying through to advanced instrument and tactical operations. SkyAlyne said the delivery was a key part of ensuring the RCAF maintains world-class aircrew training, while Airbus highlighted its long-term commitment to supporting Canadian defence with in-country expertise. The H135 is already widely used for military training, with more than 200 aircraft delivered or on order worldwide and over 650,000 flight hours accumulated in training roles. With the CT-153 Juno entering service, Canada joins 12 other military operators using the H135 to train future aircrew. The Juno fleet will be based at 15 Wing Southport and operated by the 3 Canadian Forces Flying Training School.



H135 helicopter for the FAcT programme

© Airbus

**Embraer backs FAB KC-390 fleet**



Embraer will provide support solutions for FAB's KC-390 Millennium fleet

© Embraer

Embraer has signed a new long-term agreement with the Brazilian Air Force (FAB) to provide support solutions for its KC-390 Millennium fleet. Signed in São José dos Campos, Brazil, on June 18, 2026, the agreement deepens the partnership between Embraer and the FAB, with a focus on maximising the operational availability of the multimission aircraft. It covers full lifecycle support for the KC-390 fleet, including aircraft already in service and those still to be delivered. "The signing of this logistics support agreement reinforces the Brazilian Air Force's commitment to operational readiness and fleet availability," said Lieutenant-Brigadier Valter Malta, Brazilian Air Force General Support Commander. "Through this contract, we will provide the maintenance and logistical sustainment required to support the KC-390 Millennium, a strategic asset for the country's mobility, defence and rapid response capabilities. "In addition, the agreement contributes to improving operational efficiency across the Brazilian Air Force, while strengthening reliability and ensuring continuity for a programme that has become a global benchmark in military aviation." The agreement includes component

repair and overhaul, spare parts supply, engineering services, technical publications and additional contingency support. Its scope is designed to improve logistics performance, increase operational predictability and allow a faster response to FAB requirements.

**Embraer and WZL 2 deepen KC-390 partnership**

Embraer has signed a memorandum of agreement (MoA) with Poland's Wojskowe Zakłady Lotnicze Nr 2 (WZL 2), paving the way for closer industrial collaboration centred on the KC-390 Millennium transport aircraft. The agreement establishes a framework for future cooperation across a range of services and support activities, including aircraft completion and conversion, external painting, systems integration, and maintenance capabilities. Signed at Embraer's facilities, the MoA marks a significant step in strengthening the company's partnership with WZL 2, one of Poland's leading aerospace maintenance providers and a key subsidiary of Polska Grupa Zbrojeniowa (PGZ). The collaboration is intended to support future KC-390 operations while expanding in-country aerospace and defence expertise. WZL 2 said the partnership aims to develop long-term industrial and maintenance capabilities in Poland, supporting the operation of the KC-390 Millennium while enhancing the country's aerospace and defence sector. The company added that combining Embraer's expertise with WZL 2's capabilities is expected to deliver lasting benefits for the Polish Armed Forces and the wider domestic defence industry.



Signing of the MoA between Embraer and WZL 2

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MILITARY AND DEFENCE

**CAE upgrades German Navy NH90 simulators with Prodigy visual technology**



Example of CAE Prodigy's immersive visual

© CAE

CAE has secured a contract from the NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) to modernise the visual systems of the German Navy's NH90 NTH Sea Lion full-mission simulators. The upgrade will introduce CAE Prodigy, the company's next-generation image generator, enhancing the realism and effectiveness of naval aviation training while reinforcing CAE's long-standing partnership with Germany's armed forces. Designed to deliver highly

detailed synthetic environments, CAE Prodigy represents a significant advance in military simulation technology. The system provides exceptional visual fidelity and responsiveness, helping bridge the gap between live operations and virtual training. By enabling aircrews to move seamlessly between real-world and simulated environments, the technology is intended to improve mission preparedness and operational effectiveness. The upgrade

covers two NH90 full-mission simulators and brings major improvements to visual immersion, particularly for rear-crew training scenarios. Beyond the cockpit, the system integrates synchronised high-resolution external visuals and Mixed Reality (MR) environments tailored to rear-crew operations. These enhancements support complex mission profiles such as hoisting operations, door gunnery and cargo handling, providing crews with a more realistic representation of operational conditions. According to Pascal Grenier, President of CAE Defense & Security, the integration of CAE Prodigy narrows the divide between simulated and live training environments. He said the enhanced visual capabilities support more effective mission rehearsal, faster decision-making and stronger operational readiness for demanding missions. Grenier also highlighted CAE's ongoing commitment to supporting the Bundeswehr through advanced mission and operational training solutions. The latest award builds on CAE's recent deployment of Prodigy across several European defence programmes. These include the German Army's CH-53GS helicopter simulator and Eurofighter training systems delivered to Austria. The growing adoption of the technology highlights its ability to provide scalable, highly realistic training across a range of military platforms and operational environments.

**OGMA concludes first C-390 overhaul**

Embraer and OGMA have successfully completed the first scheduled 24-month maintenance inspection on a C-390 Millennium operated by the Hungarian Air Force. The work was carried out at OGMA's facilities in Portugal, marking a significant milestone for the programme and further strengthening the C-390 Millennium support network across Europe. The achievement follows the recent signing of a services agreement between Embraer and the Hungarian Air Force to support its C-390 fleet. Brigadier General Tamás Bali PhD, Commander of the Hungarian Air Force, said: "The completion of this first C-390 Millennium maintenance at OGMA marks an important milestone for our operations. We are very pleased with the overall execution and the high level of technical expertise demonstrated by the teams. The close collaboration between the Hungarian Air Force, OGMA and Embraer ensured a smooth and well-coordinated process. We are highly satisfied with the outcome and the support provided throughout the activity." The services agreement covers maintenance, logistics and technical support, drawing on Embraer's Euro-



The Hungarian Air Force's C-390 Millennium at OGMA's hangar in Portugal

© Embraer

pean services network. Hungary, the second NATO operator of the C-390 Millennium, received its full fleet of two aircraft in November 2025. Since entering service in late

2024, the aircraft have delivered strong operational performance, supporting a wide range of transport and military missions for the Hungarian Air Force.

OTHER NEWS



New agreement signing with IATP

© IATA

The **International Air Transport Association** (IATA) and the **International Airlines Technical Pool** (IATP) have signed a cooperation agreement aimed at improving airlines' access to aircraft parts and enhancing supply chain transparency. The initiative comes as the aviation industry continues to grapple with supply chain disruption, component

shortages and the rising costs associated with delays. Stuart Fox, IATA Director, Flight and Technical Operations commented on the new partnership: "Supply chain constraints continue to create operational and financial pressure for airlines. Addressing these challenges requires practical cooperation across the industry. By combining IATP's technical

pooling expertise with IATA's technical expertise, we can help airlines access serviceable materials and strengthen maintenance resilience." "For decades, IATP has enabled airlines to share critical technical resources through pooling. The validity of the IATP pool model is even more evident during the current critical situation. This cooperation with IATA recognizes that pooling and digital materials visibility are complementary tools, helping airlines access the parts and support they need to maintain operations during supply chain disruption," said Giorgio Pietra, IATP CEO. The partnership will focus on improving airlines' access to serviceable aircraft parts and strengthening collaboration on technical operations, safety and quality. By combining IATP's materials pooling programmes with IATA's MRO SmartHub, airlines will benefit from greater access to shared components, equipment and maintenance resources, alongside improved visibility of available parts. The two organisations will also expand the exchange of technical expertise and industry best practice. This includes collaboration on safety and quality initiatives, supported by IATA programmes such as the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) and the IATA Safety Connect community.

**BETA Technologies** and **Surf Air Mobility** have launched a six-to-eight-week electric aircraft demonstration programme in Hawai'i, marking a key milestone in the development of commercial electric aviation for regional passenger and cargo services. The initiative supported by Hawaiian Airlines, will see BETA's ALIA CTOL electric aircraft conduct demonstration flights across the islands to assess the operational, economic and infrastructure requirements for future commercial deployment. The programme combines BETA's aircraft technology with Surf Air Mobility's regional airline expertise through Mokulele Airlines, existing airport infrastructure and the company's SurfOS software platform. Hawaiian Airlines is supporting the initiative by sharing operational insights on inter-island passenger and cargo routes, contributing to feasibility studies and helping engage local stakeholders and communities. The flight campaign will generate operational data on aircraft performance across Hawai'i's diverse weather conditions and route network, alongside direct operating costs, battery performance, energy consumption, maintenance requirements and servicing needs. It will also evaluate crew training, ground handling procedures, safety protocols and charging infrastructure to help establish the foundations for future electric aircraft operations at commercial scale.



BETA's ALIA CTOL electric aircraft is conducting demonstration flights across Hawai'i

© JHook

BETA said Hawai'i's short inter-island routes and strong demand for regional air travel make it an ideal proving ground for electric aviation. The company expects the trials to demonstrate the economic and operational potential of the ALIA aircraft while providing valuable insights for future high-frequency, low-emission passenger and cargo services. Following FAA certification, Surf Air Mobil-

ity intends to deploy BETA aircraft across its Hawai'i operations. The company is also planning a factory-authorised maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility in the state to support long-term electric aircraft operations and help build the technical infrastructure needed to scale commercial electric aviation.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

This June, **Royal Brunei Airlines** successfully went live with AMOSmobile/EXEC from **Swiss-AS**. This marks another big step in the airline’s digital transformation journey and supports its ambition to remove paper-based workflows from all maintenance activities. As a long-standing AMOS user, Royal Brunei Airlines has continued to invest in modernising its maintenance and engineering operations. With a young fleet of Airbus A320neo and Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft, the airline identified mobile maintenance execution as a key driver of operational efficiency and improved data quality. With AMOSmobile/EXEC, tech-

nicians can now execute and document maintenance tasks directly at the aircraft. This reduces reliance on paper-based processes, helps minimise manual data entry and ensures that maintenance records are available in AMOS without delay. “We are pleased to mark this important milestone in Royal Brunei Airlines’ digital transformation journey with the successful implementation of AMOSmobile/EXEC. This project reflects our continued commitment to embracing smarter ways of working that support both operational excellence and our broader sustainability goals.

**INDUSTRY PEOPLE**



Lee McConnellogue (l) and Simon Nolan (r)

ecube has announced the departure of Chief Executive Officer **Lee McConnellogue** and Chief Operating Officer **Simon Nolan**, with both stepping down from their roles with immediate effect as the company enters a new phase of integration. The company paid tribute to the pair for their leadership, commitment and contribution to ecube’s growth and success over the years. Their departure comes as ecube advances its integration within the Satair, Unical and VAS ecosystem, a strategy designed to create a more connected aircraft lifecycle offering. The combined platform aims to provide customers with a seamless service covering aircraft disassembly and storage, repair management and global parts distribution. To oversee the transition, **Pete Allwood**, currently Senior Vice President EMEA at Unical Aviation, has been appointed interim CEO. He brings nearly two decades of aviation experience, including extensive expertise in aircraft disassembly, component harvesting, USM management, programme development and global supply chain solutions. “Our goal is to deliver a simplified, powerful flow of material for our customers,” said Allwood. “I look forward to working with the talented teams across all our entities to ensure that we are moving in the same direction, leveraging our combined strengths to provide unmatched value in the aircraft lifecycle market.”

• Thales has appointed **Robert Geckle** as



Robert Geckle

Chief Executive Officer of Thales USA and Thales North America, effective July 1, 2026. The appointment follows the planned retirement of **Alan Pellegrini**, who will step down as CEO of Thales USA and Thales North America on June 30, after nearly two decades with the company. During his tenure, Pellegrini led Thales North America through a period of significant growth and transformation, strengthening its market position and expanding its presence across aerospace, defence, digital identity and cybersecurity. He will remain with the company through the end of 2026 to support a smooth leadership transition. Geckle brings extensive industry experience to the role, having previously served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Airbus U.S. Space & Defense, Inc. He will lead Thales’ operations and strategy across North America as the company continues to expand in both the United States and Canada. “This is an exciting time for Thales. With a 130-year legacy in North America, and more than US\$5 billion in annual global R&D investment driving our innovation, we have a powerful platform for continued growth and investment in the region,” said Robert Geckle.



Eduardo Amato

• STS Aviation Group has appointed **Eduardo Amato** as Chief Financial Officer, strengthening its executive team as the global aviation services provider continues to expand. Amato brings more than 20

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years of senior finance leadership experience, with expertise in scaling finance operations, integrating acquisitions, enhancing enterprise systems, strengthening financial controls and supporting sustainable business growth. Before joining STS Aviation Group, Amato served as Chief Financial Officer at MRS-CMC and American Elevator Group. He also held several senior finance positions at Schindler Elevator Corporation. His experience spans ERP implementation, acquisition integration, shared services, treasury management, executive reporting, financial planning, pricing strategy, working capital optimisation and operational restructuring. Amato holds an MBA from Penn State University, a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Brigham Young University and completed postgraduate studies in Finance and FP&A at UniFae in Brazil. He is fluent in Portuguese, English and Spanish.

**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

CFM Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) CFM56-5C4	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717

(1) CFM56-7B26					
(1) CFM56-7B26E					

(2) CFM56-7B26	Now - Sale / Lease	GA Telesis		engines@gatelesis.com	
(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Sale / Lease				

(1) CFM56-5B4/P	Now - Sale	BBAM	Steve Zissis	info@bbam.com	+1 787 665 7040
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(1) CFM56-7B26	Now - Lease				
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(1) CFM56-7B26/3	Now - Lease				
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(4) CFM56-5B6/P	Now - Sale				
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(3) CFM56-5B5/P	Now - Sale				
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GENx Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(2) GENx-1B74/75/P2	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950

LEAP Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) LEAP-1B	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717

(1) LEAP-1B28	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950
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(1) LEAP-1B27					
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**Commercial Engines**

PW1000 Engines	Sale / Lease	Company	Contact	Email	Phone
(1) PW1133GA-JM	Now - Lease	Willis Lease	Jennifer Merriam	leasing@willislease.com	+1 (561) 349-8950

(1) PW1524G-3					
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(1) PW1100G-JM	Now - Lease	Engine Lease Finance	Declan Madigan	declan.madigan@elfc.com	+353 61 291717
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**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 Now - Sale	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	
(3) 131-9A, (9) 131-9B (Max compliant) (1) 331-500, (1) PW901, (1) 131-9B	GA Telesis		apu@gatelesis.com	+1-954-849-3509
Engine stands: CF6-80C2, 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			

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