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# Weekly Aviation Headline News

> After the demonstrator flies... that opens up the window for an aircraft order book because the airline industry will say: 'This is real.'
> *Tom O'Leary, CEO JetZero*

*© JetZero*

## JetZero starts building demonstrator for its Airbus and Boeing challenger in the Mojave Desert

### All eyes are on the new blended-wing aircraft design that has the potential to reduce fuel costs by up to 50% in the competitive 200-270-seat market sector

California start-up JetZero has begun work in the Mojave Desert on the assembly of a full-size demonstrator of its 200-plus-seat jet. It is anticipated the plane will be ready to fly by the end of next year and is of a radical 'blended wing' design, where the fuselage and wings merge into one single lifting surface. The plane is making a long-shot bid to infiltrate the 200-270-seat market segment that is seen as the optimum size jet for both Airbus and Boeing where their future plane strategies are concerned. According to JetZero, the manta ray-shaped plane has the potential to reduce fuel consumption by up to 50% and according to Reuters news agency, early investment and interest has been shown by both United Airlines and Alaska Airlines. The demonstrator is being built by Scale Composites, a Northrop Grumman-owned aircraft developer. It will likely use the same Pratt & Whitney engines that power the Boeing 757. With a successful first flight further investment could be unlocked, enabling JetZero to develop commercial jets for first production from 2030 at its newly launched manufacturing campus in Greensboro, North Carolina. Of course, this will all be dependent on the certification timeline for the novel design. It is understood that the design could also be adapted for military transport or aerial refuelling purposes. "Nobody's ever done this before," JetZero CEO Tom O'Leary told Reuters of the construction of the first full-size blended-wing demonstrator, a concept NASA has researched for decades, and Boeing once came close to developing. The idea behind the concept is to establish whether the shape can generate lift with less drag, reducing the thrust — and fuel — needed in cruise conditions. Only the cockpit will be pressurized, and the fuel tanks will go where the passengers would be. JetZero's Z4 aircraft will be aimed at the "middle of the market" once served by Boeing's 757 and 767, typically 200 to 270 seats on medium- and long-haul routes. The startup's design replaces the conventional tube fuselage with a wide, flat cabin, opening the door to new seating layouts, larger windows and more flexible interiors, with space for reconfigured galleys and lavatories. Engines mounted above the rear are intended to reduce noise on the ground and improve efficiency. Founded in 2020, JetZero was initially met with widespread scepticism. The U.S. Air Force gave the project a major boost in August 2023, selecting JetZero for a US$235 million, four-year effort to build a demonstrator. Airlines, whose biggest cost is fuel, have added momentum with investments and orders for aircraft conditional on the ambitious concept becoming reality. In January, JetZero raised US$175 million in a funding round led by B Capital, with participation from United Airlines Ventures, Northrop Grumman and RTX Ventures. United Airlines' investment included a path to buy up to 100 aircraft and options for another 100. A further funding round is planned by the end of this year, with a public listing potentially to follow by 2028, O'Leary said, as the company seeks to ride a surge of investor interest in aerospace innovation. "You won't find any aerospace company CEO in the world who's not thinking about public markets right now after the SpaceX IPO," O'Leary said. He acknowledged that a great deal rests on the test flight. "After the demonstrator flies… that opens up the window for an aircraft order book because the airline industry will say: 'This is real.'"

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## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### AerCap delivers first A321neo to Azerbaijan Airlines

AerCap has delivered the first of three new Airbus A321neo aircraft to Azerbaijan Airlines (AZAL), marking the type's debut in the airline's fleet. The aircraft was handed over at Airbus' Delivery Centre in Hamburg. The delivery forms part of a 2024 agreement covering three A321neos and three A320neos. Two A320neos have already entered service, with the remaining aircraft due for delivery by November 2026. Peter Anderson, Chief Commercial Officer at AerCap, said the fuel-efficient A321neo would support AZAL's fleet modernisation, network expansion and passenger offering. AZAL Chief Commercial Officer Jamil Manizade described the aircraft as another milestone in the airline's long-term fleet renewal strategy, strengthening operational efficiency and supporting sustainable growth.

Image of an Airbus A321neo aircraft *© Airbus*

### WSA hands over second B737-400SF to Skyway Airlines

Image of Boeing 747-400F *© World Star Aviation*

World Star Aviation (WSA) has announced the successful delivery of a second Boeing 737-400SF freighter to Skyway Airlines. Following the successful delivery of the first aircraft, the latest addition will support the continued expansion of Philippines-based Skyway Airlines across the Asia-Pacific region, enhancing its cargo capabilities in one of the world's fastest-growing air freight markets. "This second delivery reflects the strong relationship WSA has built with Skyway Airlines since its launch as a cargo carrier," said André Abreu, Vice President, Marketing & Sales, World Star Aviation. "We are grateful for Skyway's continued trust in our team and proud to support the airline's growth with cost-effective freighter solutions. We look forward to building on this successful partnership in the years ahead."

### Airbus Helicopters lands Nigeria H135 HEMS order

Airbus Helicopters and Kasi Healthcare have signed an agreement for the purchase of up to two Airbus H135 helicopters to support emergency medical services (EMS) in Nigeria, marking a significant step forward in the country's aeromedical capabilities. Announced at the third Nigeria Airlift 2026 Forum, the agreement makes Kasi Healthcare the first operator in Nigeria to order the HEMS-configured Airbus H135, a purpose-built helicopter designed for emergency response, patient transfers and other critical medical missions. The partnership extends beyond the aircraft acquisition, with Airbus Helicopters providing comprehensive support to help develop Nigeria's emergency medical aviation sector. This includes pilot and HEMS crew training, aircraft engineer training, maintenance support infrastructure and operational assistance to ensure international standards of safety, reliability and technical capability.

Digital rendering of Kasi Healthcare's Airbus H135 *© Airbus*

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Praetor 500E earns triple certification

Praetor 500E © Embraer

Embraer's Praetor 500E has received triple certification from Brazil's National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC), the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), clearing the aircraft for operation in key global markets. Unveiled in February 2026 alongside the Praetor 600E as the first evolution of the Praetor family, the Praetor 500E follows the Praetor 600E, which achieved triple certification in April 2026. The latest milestone marks another step forward for Embraer's next-generation midsize and super-midsize business jets, confirming compliance with stringent international safety and performance standards. "Achieving triple certification ahead of schedule is a strong endorsement of our engineering expertise, operational efficiency and disciplined execution," said Michael Amalfitano, President and CEO of Embraer Executive Jets. "With the Praetor 500E now certified, we are well positioned to deliver the aircraft to customers worldwide and build on the strong market response already seen for both the Praetor 500E and Praetor 600E." The Praetor 500E offers a transcontinental range of 3,340nm (6,186km) with four passengers and NBAA IFR reserves, enabling nonstop routes including Miami–Seattle and Los Angeles–New York. It also features increased payload capability and an extensively redesigned cabin, with new Embraer-designed seats, an upgraded cabin management system and enhanced connectivity and productivity features.

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Qatar Airways signs lease agreement for A350-1000s

Qatar Airways A350-1000 aircraft *© AirTeamImages*

BOC Aviation Limited has agreed a sale-and-leaseback transaction with long-standing customer Qatar Airways for three Airbus A350-1000 aircraft on long-term operating leases. All three aircraft have now been delivered to Qatar Airways and are powered by Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 engines. Steven Townend, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of BOC Aviation, said: "We are pleased to finance our first A350-1000 aircraft for Qatar Airways, further strengthening a partnership built over many years. We proactively enhanced our liquidity position earlier this year to support high-quality transactions such as this and are delighted to deploy that capital in support of one of our largest and most valued customers."

### STARLUX adds eight A321neos to fleet

STARLUX Airlines (STARLUX) will add eight Airbus A321neo aircraft to its fleet under a new agreement with aircraft lessor BOC Aviation. The aircraft, powered by CFM LEAP-1A engines, are scheduled for delivery from 2028. The addition will support the Taiwanese carrier's continued network expansion as it strengthens its position in the long-haul and regional markets. STARLUX currently serves 32 destinations across Asia and North America and is set to launch its first European route, linking Taiwan with Prague, on August 1, 2026. The A321neo, known for its fuel efficiency and operational flexibility, will play a key role in supporting STARLUX's growth strategy while enhancing capacity across its network.

STARLUX A321neo aircraft *© AirTeamImages*

### CDB Aviation seals Lufthansa B787 sale-and-leaseback deal

Lufthansa B787-9 *© AirTeamImages*

CDB Aviation, the Irish leasing subsidiary of China Development Bank Financial Leasing (CDB Leasing), has completed a sale-and-leaseback transaction with Lufthansa covering two Boeing 787-9 aircraft. The aircraft, delivered to Lufthansa in late 2025 and early 2026, will operate on the airline's long-haul network and feature its new Allegris cabin, including upgraded business, premium-economy and economy cabins. The agreement marks CDB Aviation's first direct leasing transaction with Lufthansa, having previously worked with the group's engine leasing business and completed aircraft sales to Austrian Airlines and Eurowings. The lessor said the deal supports its strategy of expanding its portfolio with new-generation aircraft operated by leading airline customers.

### Air Peace takes delivery of first Embraer E175 jet

Nigerian carrier Air Peace has taken delivery of its first brand-new Embraer E175 jet. The delivery further strengthens the partnership between Embraer and Air Peace alongside the airline's existing E195-E2 and ERJ145 fleets. The E175 will support the carrier's plans to expand connectivity across Nigeria and the wider region, providing greater fleet flexibility while reinforcing its position as one of West Africa's leading airlines. According to Embraer's 2026 African Connectivity Report, 55 intra-African city pairs still lack direct air services, up from 45 identified in 2025, highlighting the need for right-sized aircraft such as the E175 to open new routes and improve regional connectivity. The addition of the E175 is expected to boost Air Peace's domestic and regional operations through increased frequencies on key Nigerian routes and the launch of services to four additional destinations across Africa. The aircraft also offers improved fuel efficiency, lower emissions, favourable operating economics on thin- and medium-density routes, and enhanced passenger comfort.

Air Peace Embraer E175 jet *© Embraer*

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### SAS backs international expansion with 18 A330neos


SAS orders 18 Airbus A330neos to fuel fleet renewal © Airbus

Scandinavian carrier SAS has ordered 18 Airbus A330-900 aircraft to support its fleet renewal and long-haul growth strategy. The agreement was signed in Copenhagen by SAS CEO Anko van der Werff and Benoît de Saint-Exupéry, Airbus Executive Vice President Sales, Commercial Aircraft. The new aircraft will enable SAS to expand its international network, increase capacity on existing long-haul routes and launch new destinations. "On behalf of SAS, I am delighted to announce this order for the Airbus A330-900. Combining outstanding economics with improved environmental performance, the aircraft will play a key role in our long-term fleet strategy. It will allow us to deliver an exceptional customer experience, expand our network, and offer greater flexibility and convenience for our passengers. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with Airbus well into the future," said van der Werff. Powered by Rolls-Royce Trent 7000 engines, the A330-900 has a range of up to 15,000 km and delivers a 25% reduction in fuel burn, $CO_2$ emissions and operating costs compared with previous-generation competing aircraft. The aircraft also features Airbus' Airspace cabin, offering the latest in-flight comfort and passenger amenities.

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Embraer posts strongest second-quarter deliveries in 16 years

| Deliveries by Segment | 2Q26 | 1Q26 | 2Q25 | 1H26 | 1H25 | 2026 Guidance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Executive Aviation** | **45** | **29** | **38** | **74** | **61** | **160-170** |
| Phenom 100 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| Phenom 300 | 20 | 15 | 17 | 35 | 29 | |
| **Small Jets** | **24** | **16** | **21** | **40** | **35** | |
| Praetor 500 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 18 | 11 | |
| Praetor 600 | 12 | 4 | 9 | 16 | 15 | |
| **Medium Jets** | **21** | **13** | **17** | **34** | **26** | |
| **Commercial Aviation** | **20** | **10** | **19** | **30** | **26** | **80-85** |
| E175 | 10 | 6 | 9 | 16 | 13 | |
| E190-E2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | |
| E195-E2 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 12 | |
| **Total Executive Av. & Commercial Av.** | **65** | **39** | **57** | **104** | **87** | **240-255** |
| **Defense & Security** | **—** | **5** | **4** | **5** | **4** | |
| KC-390 Millennium | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | |
| A-29 Super Tucano | — | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| **Total Executive Av & Commercial Av. & Defense** | **65** | **44** | **61** | **109** | **91** | |

© Embraer

Embraer delivered 65 aircraft in 2Q26, marking its strongest second-quarter delivery performance in 16 years. Deliveries increased by 48% quarter on quarter (qoq) and 7% year on year (yoy). In 1H26, the company delivered 109 aircraft, around 20% more than the 91 aircraft delivered in 1H25, supported by continued progress in its production levelling initiatives. Commercial Aviation delivered 20 aircraft in 2Q26, including six E195-E2s, Embraer's largest aircraft currently in production. Deliveries doubled from 10 aircraft in 1Q26 and increased 5% from 19 aircraft in 2Q25. Executive Aviation delivered 45 aircraft during the quarter, up 55% qoq from 29 aircraft in 1Q26 and 18% yoy from 38 aircraft in 2Q25. The increase was driven by higher deliveries across both the light and midsize jet segments, reflecting sustained demand and continued operational execution. The Defence & Security segment recorded no deliveries during the quarter. Embraer continues to expect Commercial Aviation deliveries of 80–85 aircraft in 2026 (midpoint up 6% yoy) and Executive Aviation deliveries of 160–170 aircraft (midpoint up 6% yoy).

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Rolls-Royce brings real-time engine insights to Bombardier jets

Rolls-Royce is launching its next generation of engine monitoring © Rolls-Royce

Rolls-Royce has launched an advanced aircraft and engine health monitoring programme for Bombardier Global 5500 and Global 6500 business jets, combining its Pearl engine Engine Vibration & Health Monitoring Unit (EVHMU) with Bombardier's Smart Link Plus system. Available to operators enrolled in Rolls-Royce CorporateCare® Enhanced, the integrated solution provides real-time, automatic transmission of engine performance and health data, enabling predictive maintenance, faster troubleshooting and improved aircraft availability. The system monitors up to 10,000 engine health parameters, giving operators and Rolls-Royce actionable insights to optimise maintenance planning and maximise operational uptime. The new service forms part of Rolls-Royce's ongoing investment in digital technologies, reinforcing its commitment to predictive maintenance, customer support and operational excellence in the business aviation market.

### Daher expands aircraft support hub in France

Daher Aircraft has opened a new spare parts, maintenance, equipment overhaul and logistics centre in western France, significantly expanding its support capabilities for a wide range of aircraft, from helicopters and training aircraft to legacy general aviation types produced by its predecessor companies. The purpose-built 6,000 m² facility at Jonzac-Neulles Airport (LFCJ) in the Charente-Maritime department replaces the company's previous operation in Merpins, 25 km to the north. The larger site ensures continuity for Daher Aircraft's existing support and services contracts while providing additional capacity for future growth. Its direct access to Jonzac-Neulles Airport's 1,370-metre runway also creates new opportunities for on-aircraft maintenance and technical support. The facility was built by the Communauté des Communes de Haute Saintonge under the leadership of its then-president, Claude Belot, who attended the opening ceremony. Also present were Christophe Cabri, current president of the Communauté des Communes de Haute Saintonge and Mayor of Jonzac, together with other elected officials and government representatives.

Image of the new Daher Aircraft support and logistics facility in France © Daher

# MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

## AFI KLM E&M extends LOT support deal


AFI KLM E&M will extend its service agreement with LOT to include the carrier's fleet of 737 MAX aircraft © AirTeamImages

Air France Industries KLM Engineering & Maintenance (AFI KLM E&M) has extended its long-standing component support agreement with LOT Polish Airlines, expanding coverage to the carrier's fleet of 31 Boeing 737 MAX aircraft through to 2033. The renewed agreement builds on the companies' longstanding partnership and reflects LOT's continued confidence in AFI KLM E&M's Boeing 737NG/MAX component support services. Under the deal, AFI KLM E&M will continue to provide component pooling, logistics and maintenance support to help maximise fleet availability and operational performance. Dorota Dmuchowska, Chief Operating Officer of LOT Polish Airlines, said: "In an increasingly demanding environment for the aviation industry, strengthening cooperation with a trusted and experienced partner is more important than ever. Extending our long-term agreement with KLM enables us to build on a proven cooperation model and secure stable component support for our operations. We believe this collaboration will continue to support the safe, reliable and cost-effective performance of LOT's fleet, while creating a strong foundation for its continued growth."

## Lufthansa Technik breaks ground on major MRO hub in Portugal

Rendering of Lufthansa Technik Portugal's new facility © Lufthansa Technik

Lufthansa Technik has officially broken ground on its new 55,000 m² facility in Santa Maria da Feira, south of Porto, marking a major milestone in its expansion in Portugal. Established in 2024, Lufthansa Technik Portugal is expected to create up to 700 highly skilled jobs over the coming years. Portuguese Prime Minister Luís Montenegro joined representatives from government, business and partner organisations at the groundbreaking ceremony, underlining the project's strategic importance for the country. Prime Minister Luís Montenegro said: "We are here for the benefit of the country, promoting a development strategy alongside our partners, Lufthansa Technik and the Lufthansa Group. We are the primary stakeholders in ensuring the longevity of this partnership. I am confident that we will reinforce our political, economic and working relationship with Germany." The new facility, operated by Lufthansa Technik Portugal, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lufthansa Technik, will specialise in the repair of engine parts and aircraft components. As the world's leading provider of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, Lufthansa Technik is investing a three-digit million-euro sum in the project, expanding its global network and capabilities. Operations are scheduled to begin in 2028. Carsten Spohr, Chief Executive Officer of Lufthansa Group, said: "Today's groundbreaking in Santa Maria da Feira is a powerful symbol of the Lufthansa Group's long-term commitment to Portugal. This investment by Lufthansa Technik will create 700 highly skilled jobs and establish Portugal as a key hub for European aviation maintenance. Portugal has become one of the most strategically important locations for our Group beyond our home markets, and this facility reflects our confidence in the country's talent, expertise and ambition. It also reinforces our longstanding partnership with Portugal and supports our broader strategic interest in TAP Air Portugal, with the country serving as Europe's gateway to South America, Africa and the Portuguese-speaking world."

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Safran inaugurates LEAP MRO in Querétaro, Mexico

Official inauguration of Safran's new engine maintenance facility in Querétaro, Mexico © Alex Marc, Safran

Safran Aircraft Engines has inaugurated a new engine maintenance facility in Querétaro, Mexico, dedicated to CFM LEAP engines. The US$140 million investment strengthens Safran Aircraft Engine Services Americas as a comprehensive maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) hub for the region. The 50,000 m² site brings together two MRO shops for CFM56 and LEAP engines, an engine test cell and a repair facility. By 2030, the two maintenance shops will be capable of carrying out up to 350 LEAP engine shop visits each year. The investment forms part of Safran Aircraft Engines' wider €1 billion (US$1.14 billion) expansion of its global MRO network. Together with recently opened facilities in India, Morocco and Belgium, the new shop will help support the rapidly growing global fleet of LEAP engines. Safran Aircraft Engine Services Americas will also house one of the world's most advanced engine test cells for CFM engines. The facility is expected to carry out up to 350 engine tests annually by 2030, with additional capacity planned in the years ahead. At full capacity, the new LEAP maintenance shop will employ more than 450 people. Across its four facilities in Querétaro, Safran Aircraft Engine Services Americas currently employs around 1,450 people, with the workforce expected to grow to almost 2,000 by 2030. An on-site training centre, developed in partnership with local educational institutions, will train more than 300 inspectors and technicians each year, supporting skills development and job creation. The LEAP engine family powers many of the latest generation narrowbody aircraft, including the Airbus A320neo and Boeing 737 MAX families. Around 10,000 LEAP engines are currently in service worldwide, with the fleet expected to double by 2030. Safran has operated in Mexico for 35 years and today has 21 facilities across the country, employing more than 16,000 people. The Group is the largest employer in Mexico's aerospace industry.

### Aviation Technology launches interiors division


Aviation Technology launches Aviation Technology Interiors © Aviation Technology

Aviation Technology has launched Aviation Technology Interiors following the acquisition of a turnkey aircraft interiors facility at Anderson Municipal Airport in Indiana. The move marks one of the company's biggest expansions to date and its flagship growth initiative as it celebrates its 25th anniversary, broadening its capabilities beyond aircraft maintenance and inspections. The new division enables Aviation Technology to offer a full range of interior refurbishment and customisation services for business aircraft operators, corporate flight departments, charter companies and private owners. Interior work can also be coordinated with maintenance projects at the company's headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, allowing customers to complete multiple tasks during a single maintenance visit and reduce aircraft downtime. The acquisition expands the company's presence into the Indianapolis market and includes a fully operational 10,000 ft² facility equipped with specialised production equipment, woodworking and finishing capabilities, a paint booth, inventory and an experienced workforce. The new division is led by General Manager Gary Lykins, who has 19 years of aircraft interiors experience, supported by a team with nearly 50 years of combined expertise. By acquiring an established operation rather than building a new business from scratch, Aviation Technology said it can enter the market immediately while supporting regional job creation and future growth.

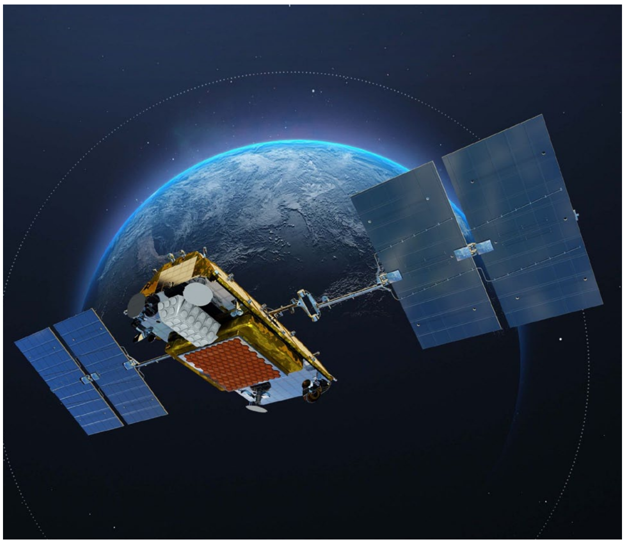
## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Honeywell Aerospace completes spin-off, begins new chapter

Honeywell Aerospace's spin-off from Honeywell Technologies is completed © Honeywell Aerospace

Honeywell Aerospace has officially begun trading as an independent, publicly listed company on the Nasdaq following the completion of its spin-off from Honeywell Technologies. The company launches with more than 36,000 employees serving over 10,000 customers worldwide, building on more than a century of aerospace innovation dating back to the invention of the first autopilot in 1914. Honeywell Aerospace develops mission-critical systems and technologies for the aerospace and defence sectors, applying a "develop once, deploy everywhere" approach across multiple platforms and markets. The spin-off was completed through the distribution of Honeywell Aerospace shares to Honeywell Technologies shareholders, with eligible investors receiving one Honeywell Aerospace share for every two Honeywell Technologies shares held as of June 15, 2026. Jim Currier, Chief Executive Officer of Honeywell Aerospace, said: "Today marks the start of a new era for Honeywell Aerospace. As an independent aerospace and defence company, we are fully focused on protecting and advancing the promise of flight. Backed by a strong balance sheet, we are well positioned to strengthen our market leadership, invest in innovation and our supply chain, and deliver long-term value for customers and shareholders alike."

### Rocket Lab to acquire Iridium in landmark US$8bn space deal


Rocket Lap to acquire Iridium © Rocket Lap

Rocket Lab has agreed to acquire satellite communications provider Iridium in a cash-and-stock transaction valuing the company at approximately US$8 billion, creating one of the most significant vertically integrated businesses in the global space industry. Under the agreement, Rocket Lab will acquire all outstanding Iridium shares for US$54 per share. The combined company will bring together Rocket Lab's launch services, satellite manufacturing and space systems expertise with Iridium's global low Earth orbit (LEO) satellite network, L-band spectrum and ecosystem of more than 500 partners. The acquisition gives Rocket Lab an immediate presence in fast-growing space-based applications, including satellite Internet of Things (IoT), direct-to-device (D2D) communications, positioning, navigation and timing (PNT), and critical safety services. The company also plans to build on Iridium's existing network by expanding into new markets and developing next-generation satellite services. Iridium currently serves more than 2.55 million subscribers worldwide, providing resilient satellite communications and alternative PNT services for government, defence, aviation, maritime and commercial customers. Rocket Lab said the combination will accelerate the deployment of Iridium's next-generation constellation, including direct-to-device capabilities designed to strengthen national security, emergency response and resilient communications where terrestrial networks are unavailable or compromised.

### Embraer takes full control of EZ Air Interior

Embraer has completed the acquisition of the remaining 50% stake in EZ Air Interior, its joint venture with Safran Cabin, as well as selected cabin interior assets in Brazil. The transaction gives Embraer full ownership of the Mexico-based operation, which has exclusively supported the manufacturer's aircraft programmes since its establishment in 2012, producing components including overhead luggage bins, galleys, lavatories and floor panels for the E-Jets family. The agreement also includes the integration of part of Safran Cabin's Jacareí operation in Brazil, which is dedicated to Embraer programmes, while Safran will retain its non-Embraer engineering services activities in the country. Embraer said the acquisition supports its long-term strategy to strengthen its industrial capabilities and create additional value for the business. The transaction was completed following the required regulatory approvals and the fulfilment of customary closing conditions


Galley of Embraer E2 aircraft © Shutterstock

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Aquila expands credit facility to US$400 million

Aquila Air Capital (Aquila), the Ireland-based aircraft lessor backed by funds managed by global alternative asset manager Wafra Inc., has announced the successful refinancing and expansion of its warehouse facility with ATLAS SP Partners (ATLAS), the warehouse finance and securitised products business majority owned by Apollo funds. The facility has been increased to US$400 million. The expanded financing strengthens Aquila's capacity to grow its diversified engine portfolio and capitalise on new market opportunities, including commercial aircraft powered by its target engine types. ATLAS acted as structuring agent and lead lender. "We are delighted to significantly expand our existing facility as we accelerate our growth alongside our trusted partners at ATLAS," said Gary Lew, Chief Financial Officer of Aquila Air Capital. "The increased capacity, flexible structure and competitive pricing reflect our lender's confidence in both our existing portfolio and the long-term strength of our platform." Aquila owns more than 130 assets leased to 25 customers worldwide. Its portfolio includes both wide-body and narrow-body commercial aircraft and engines, supported by a high-quality customer base with strong credit profiles. By focusing on in-demand asset types, Aquila is well positioned to capture opportunities in aircraft and engine leasing, trading and remarketing.

### Rcapital completes acquisition of Adams Aviation

Rcapital has completed the acquisition of Adams Aviation Supply Company from Incora, securing one of Europe's leading distributors of parts and accessories for the general and business aviation maintenance sector. Founded in 1968, Adams Aviation has built a strong reputation for rapid parts delivery, industry-leading traceability and technical expertise. Headquartered in Crawley, West Sussex, the company holds ISO 9001:2015 certification, as well as UK CAA Part 145 and EASA Part 145 maintenance approvals. It also operates a specialist repair centre for aviation headsets, helmets and emergency locator transmitters. As a first-line distributor with direct relationships with major component manufacturers, Adams Aviation maintains extensive inventory for immediate dispatch to airlines, operators, maintenance providers, armed forces and aircraft manufacturers worldwide. The existing management team will remain in place, with Rcapital providing strategic and operational support to accelerate the company's next phase of growth.

### Setna completes acquisition of majority stake in J&C Aero

Setna iO, LLC (Setna), a Chicago-based global supplier of aftermarket aircraft parts, has completed its acquisition of a majority stake in J&C Aero (J&C), a Vilnius, Lithuania-based specialist in cabin interior engineering. First announced in February, the transaction strengthens Setna's global maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) network and adds J&C's certified cabin interior design, manufacturing, maintenance and continuing airworthiness capabilities to its portfolio. J&C provides certified design and modification services under EASA Part 21J, manufactures proprietary OEM and aftermarket cabin interiors under EASA Part 21G, delivers cabin interior maintenance, repair and overhaul services under EASA Part 145, and manages engineering and regulatory compliance through its EASA Part CAMO continuing airworthiness organisation. "We are proud to partner with a founder-led company that shares our passion for the aviation industry," said David Chaimovitz, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Setna. "J&C brings a rare combination of engineering expertise, production capability and certification know-how in cabin interiors. As Setna continues to grow, these are exactly the MRO and proprietary engineering capabilities we want to add to our platform. Together, we can offer customers a broader, more integrated aftermarket solution across the aircraft lifecycle."

## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### Honeywell wins T55 engine repair contract

Honeywell Aerospace has secured a three-year Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract from the U.S. Army, to repair and overhaul its T55-GA-714A turboshaft engines, which power CH-47 Chinook helicopters operated by the US Army and military customers worldwide. The agreement will help sustain high fleet readiness and performance across US and international Chinook operators. All repair and overhaul work will be carried out at Honeywell's Engine Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Centre at the company's Aerospace headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona. Honeywell has applied proven commercial best practices at its Phoenix facility to increase T55 repair and overhaul capacity while reducing turnaround times. "For the T55 repair and overhaul line, we use the same proven, robust processes as our FAA-certified operation supporting industry-leading turbofan engines for premium business jets," said Brian Laughton, Senior Director and Site Leader of Honeywell Aerospace's Phoenix MRO facility. "Applying these commercial processes has enabled us to double capacity and significantly reduce cycle times, helping us consistently meet our delivery commitments." The CH-47 Chinook is the world's leading heavy-lift helicopter, serving the US Army, more than 15 international military operators and a number of commercial customers. Since 1961, Honeywell has tripled the T55 engine's horsepower while improving fuel efficiency and reducing maintenance requirements for operators.


Honeywell Aerospace has secured a T55 engine repair and overhaul contract with the U.S. Army
*© Honeywell Aerospace*

## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### Saab secures Gripen order for Ukraine

Saab has signed a contract with the Swedish Defence Materiel Administration (FMV) to supply 16 Gripen E fighter aircraft to Ukraine. Valued at approximately SEK24.6 billion (US$2.55 billion), the order will be booked in the third quarter of 2026, with deliveries scheduled for 2029-2030. The contract also covers spare parts, associated equipment and support items. Designed to counter advanced threats in demanding operational environments, the Gripen E can operate from short runways, temporary airstrips, and roads, enabling dispersed operations and high availability. Its software-based architecture supports continuous upgrades to meet evolving operational requirements, while low maintenance needs and rapid turnaround times provide a cost-effective fighter capability that is straightforward to operate and maintain.


Saab will supply 16 Gripen E fighter aircraft to Ukraine © Saab

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### Vietjet Qazaqstan completes AMOS roll-out


DeHavilland Canada Dash 8-400 aircraft © DeHavilland Canada

Vietjet Qazaqstan has successfully gone live with Swiss-AS's AMOS Airline Edition, completing the implementation in April 2026 and now fully utilising the maintenance software following a stable post-implementation phase. The carrier, which operates five De Havilland Canada Dash 8-400 aircraft across 16 destinations in Kazakhstan and the surrounding region, said the system will support the digitalisation of its maintenance and engineering operations. AMOS Airline Edition integrates maintenance planning, engineering, logistics, inventory management, technical records and compliance into a single platform, helping improve operational efficiency, data accuracy, regulatory compliance and aircraft availability while reducing administrative workload. Vietjet Qazaqstan has also adopted AMOS Hosting Services, providing a managed hosting environment designed to enhance system reliability, security and scalability while reducing internal IT requirements. The implementation marks another milestone in the airline's transformation following its acquisition by Vietnam's Sovico Group, co-founder and owner of Vietjet Air. The carrier has rebranded as Vietjet Qazaqstan as it aligns with the wider Vietjet network and operating standards. The project also extends Swiss-AS's long-standing relationship with Vietjet, which has used the AMOS platform since 2012 and has expanded its fleet from six aircraft to more than 100 during that period. The new system is expected to support Vietjet Qazaqstan's future growth, including the potential introduction of Boeing 737 aircraft.

## OTHER NEWS

**dnata**, a global air and travel services provider, has secured a new seven-year ground handling licence at **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol** (AMS), reinforcing its long-term position at one of Europe's busiest aviation hubs. The licence was awarded following a competitive public tender by Schiphol and enables dnata to continue delivering high-quality ground handling services as the airport enters the next phase of its ground handling operations. dnata has served airline customers at Schiphol for more than a decade, providing passenger, baggage, ramp and cargo handling services to a diverse portfolio of international and specialist carriers. Today, the company supports more than 20 passenger and cargo airlines with a team of over 1,200 employees, handling around 16,000 flights and approximately 500,000 tonnes of cargo each year. The renewed licence also underlines dnata's long-term commitment to Amsterdam and the Netherlands, where it continues to invest in its people, infrastructure and operational capabilities. This includes dnata Cargo City Amsterdam, one of the largest cargo facilities of its kind, representing a €70 million (US$80 million) investment and offering annual handling capacity of 600,000 tonnes. The facility forms a key part of dnata's long-term strategy at Schiphol, complemented by continued investment in ground support equipment, environmental initiatives, operational excellence and strong customer partnerships.


© Schiphol Amsterdam Airport

## OTHER NEWS

**Lufthansa Cargo** has completed the ALPHA construction phase of its LCCevo infrastructure programme at **Frankfurt Airport**, marking a major milestone in the modernisation of its cargo hub. Covering around 80,000 m² – roughly the size of 11 football pitches – the project will transform the Lufthansa Cargo Center (LCC) into Europe's most modern air cargo hub by 2030. The €600 million (US$684 million) investment is being carried out while maintaining uninterrupted 24/7 operations. At the heart of the upgrade are intelligent material handling and conveyor systems that will seamlessly connect every stage of the cargo process, improving efficiency and throughput. The new infrastructure includes a fully automated, 42-metre-high high-bay warehouse with almost 3,000 storage positions for large cargo pallets, alongside an automated warehouse for temperature-sensitive and specialised shipments. The high-bay facility alone will handle more than 300 storage and retrieval operations per hour, doubling current capacity. "With the completion of the ALPHA phase, our vision is becoming reality," said Ashwin Bhat, Chief Executive Officer of Lufthansa Cargo. "LCCevo is one of the most significant investments in our company's history and a clear commitment to Frankfurt as a leading air cargo hub. Lufthansa Cargo handles almost every second tonne of air freight at Frankfurt Airport, making this a strategic investment in our long-term performance. Through intelligent cargo flows, advanced infrastructure and automated processes, we are strengthening our competitiveness, supporting Germany's position in global logistics and creating the foundation for future growth."

## INDUSTRY PEOPLE


Andreas Erber

• RECARO Aircraft Seating (RECARO) has appointed **Andreas Erber** as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and Member of the Executive Board, effective September 2026, as the company steps up its focus on innovation, engineering and sustainable growth. Erber, who holds a degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Stuttgart, brings extensive experience in aviation and advanced composites. He began his career at a carbon fibre specialist, where he spent nearly a decade in senior leadership roles, including Head of Thermoplastic Composites, Director of the Lightweight and Application Center, and Vice President Aerospace. Most recently, he served as Managing Director at a major automotive and aerospace supplier, leading aviation-focused engineering and advanced composite technology programmes. The appointment comes as the aviation sector continues to expand, with RECARO supported by an order book of around €3bn (US$3.42). The company also continues to prioritise innovation, investing at least 10% of its annual revenue in research and development.

• AJW Group, an independent provider of aircraft component support and MRO services, has appointed **Louis Philippe Mallette** as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of AJW Technique. Based at the Group's Montreal MRO facility, Mallette will lead the strategic and operational direction of AJW Technique while working closely with **Clyde Buntrock**, Chief Executive Officer of AJW Aviation, as part of AJW Group's integrated leadership structure across its global operations. Reporting to **Christopher Whiteside**, Chairman of AJW Group, Mallette's appointment reflects the company's confidence in his strategic vision and leadership within the business. "Louis Philippe's appointment marks an important step for AJW Technique," said Christopher Whiteside, Chairman of AJW Group. "His strategic vision positions us well for continued growth and excellence in the global aviation MRO sector."


Louis Philippe Mallette


Sandesh Bilagi

• Ramco Systems has appointed **Sandesh Bilagi** as Chief Executive Officer, succeeding from his previous role as President and Chief Operating Officer. He takes charge after leading the company's operational turnaround, which delivered six consecutive quarters of operating profit through FY2026, and will now focus on accelerating global growth and Ramco's transition into an AI-native enterprise software company. Bilagi has more than 20 years of experience in enterprise technology and has held leadership roles across sales, delivery and operations. He founded Ramco's Australia and New Zealand business, helping establish it as one of the company's strongest markets through major customer wins and expansion of its product portfolio. During his tenure, he also guided the company through two leadership transitions and the operational challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Before joining Ramco, Bilagi held senior positions at HCL Technologies and Tech Mahindra. He has led strategic growth initiatives, established offshore development centres and secured major contracts, including deals worth more than US$550 million with Australian corporations.

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# THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

## Commercial Jet Aircraft

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

## Commercial Engines

| CF34 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (1) CF34-10E6 | Now - Lease | Willis Lease | Jennifer Merriam | leasing@willislease.com | +1 (561) 349-8950 |

| 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 |
| (1) CFM56-7B26 | Now - Lease | | | | |
| (1) CFM56-7B26/3 | Now - Lease | | | | |
| (4) CFM56-5B6/P | Now - Sale | | | | |
| (3) CFM56-5B5/P | Now - Sale | | | | |

| 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 |
| (1) LEAP-1B27 | | | | | |

## 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 | | | | | |
| (1) PW1100G-JM | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |

## Aircraft and Engine Parts, Components and Misc. Equipment

| Description | | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (2) GTCP331-200ER, (2) GTCP131-9A, | Now - Sale | Setna IO | David Chaimovitz | david@setnaio.com | +1-312-549-4459 |
| (1) GTCP131-9B | | | | | |
| (1) A321 Enhanced Landing Gear 2020 OH | | | | | |
| (3) A340 LG Shipset, (1) B777 LG Shipset (3) B737 LG Shipset, | | GA Telesis | | landinggearsales@gatelesis.com | |
| (11) A320 LG Shipset, (1) B757 LG Shipset, (1) 767 Shipset | | | | | |
| (3) 131-9A, (9) 131-9B (Max compliant) | | GA Telesis | | apu@gatelesis.com | +1-954-849-3509 |
| (1) 331-500, (1) PW901, (1) 131-9B | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |