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# Weekly Aviation Headline News


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>
> *Ben Nimmergut, Boeing's Vice President and functional Chief Engineer for production engineering*

## Boeing further escalates labour dispute after engineers, technical workers reject contract offer

### North American planemaker threatens to bring in thousands of contractors if current contract negotiations cannot be resolved by October 6.

Boeing has posted contractor positions for engineering and technical roles on job sites on Tuesday of last week as part of what appears to be the next step in the escalation of its labour dispute with its white-collar union at its commercial airplane division in Seattle. Members of the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA) overwhelmingly not only rejected Boeing's four-year contract offer on Friday, August 21, they also voted convincingly to give the negotiating team the power to declare a strike when the contract expires on Oct. 6, the union said. Consequently, the company said it would begin implementing a contingency plan in case of a strike after the current contract ends. A strike by SPEEA's members could further delay certification of Boeing's 737 MAX 10 and 777-9, both of which are already years behind schedule. The engineers voted 64% against the tentative agreement and the techs were about 72% against it, the union said. No new talks have been scheduled between Boeing and SPEEA, the company's largest white-collar union. "We're disappointed our engineers and technical workforce voted no on our offer. As a result, we are now implementing our strike contingency plan and diverting the dollars we had wanted to invest in our SPEEA-represented team to prepare for a potential strike," Boeing's Ben Nimmergut, Vice President and functional Chief Engineer for production engineering, said in a statement at the time. "We have no choice but to implement our contingency plan. We have a responsibility to the rest of our workforce and our customers to build on our progress over the last two years and maintain our momentum," he said. The certification delays have kept two of Boeing's most important new commercial jets from entering airline service, and a work stoppage by the engineers and technical workers responsible for that effort would be a blow to a company still recovering from quality and safety problems that followed a mid-air accident on a nearly new 737 MAX in January 2024. SPEEA is "hopeful" that the planemaker and its members can agree to a new four-year contract while avoiding a strike, union spokesman Bryan Corliss said. "It appears, however, that both sides are preparing for the possibility of a strike," he said. "In our case, that includes preparing information for our members on what they could expect should there be a work stoppage. For its part, Boeing seems to be looking for 17,000 individuals who don't care if they undercut worker solidarity." "We want to reach an agreement before the current contract expires and look forward to finding a solution with SPEEA at the table. To protect business continuity and support our customers, we're implementing our contingency planning which will leverage a wide range of qualified resources with a continued emphasis on safety and quality," a company spokesperson told Reuters news agency. Boeing's last two major union contract negotiations ended in extended strikes — a seven-week walkout by roughly 33,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) at Boeing's commercial airplanes division in 2024 and a 101-day strike by about 3,200 IAM members at Boeing's defense division in 2025.


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# AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

## Kitz-Air buys three H225 helicopters for firefighting

Kitz-Air has bought three H225 helicopters from Milestone Aviation *© Airbus*

Milestone Aviation has sold three Airbus H225 helicopters to Austrian operator Kitz-Air, with the aircraft set to be converted for aerial firefighting missions in Europe and South America. The deal marks Kitz-Air's first acquisition from Milestone and establishes a new customer relationship between the two companies. The three H225s were delivered to the company in July 2026 and will undergo modification and conversion work in Europe before entering service. Global Helicopter Services (GHS), a long-standing Milestone customer and partner, will carry out the conversions. Kitz-Air specialises in heavy-lift, transport and special missions, with the newly acquired H225s set to expand firefighting capacity as operators respond to increasingly challenging wildfire seasons and growing demand for heavy helicopter support. Milestone, an AerCap company, provides helicopter leasing and financing services to operators worldwide, including operating leases, purchase and leasebacks, secured debt financing, engine leasing and fleet advisory services.

## Mammoth delivers first 777-200LRMF to Jetran


Mammoth Freighters has delivered the first 777-200 LRMF to Jetran *© Mammoth*

Mammoth Freighters has delivered its first converted Boeing 777-200LRMF freighter to Jetran, marking a major milestone for the company's 777 passenger-to-freighter conversion programme. The aircraft, MSN 32222 / N703DN, is the first of more than two dozen 777-200LRMFs ordered by Jetran. Thirteen of the converted freighters are scheduled to enter revenue service within DHL's global network. The delivery follows the aircraft's public debut at the Farnborough International Airshow and represents an important step as Mammoth moves its commercial conversion programme into operational service. Further deliveries from Jetran's order book are expected in the coming weeks, including aircraft destined for DHL and Qatar Airways. Mammoth said the handover reflects growing global demand for its 777-freighter conversion portfolio, which includes the 777-200LRMF and the soon-to-be-certified 777-300ERMF. Jetran CEO Jordan Jaffe described the delivery as more than a fleet expansion, saying it validates the engineering and production quality of the programme as the aircraft enters active service with DHL. He also credited DHL and Mammoth Freighters for their collaboration in bringing the 777-200LRMF to market, calling the delivery the result of years of joint development. The first handover strengthens a long-term partnership between Mammoth and Jetran as both companies prepare for the rollout of additional converted 777 freighters to operators worldwide.

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### ASL Aviation adds two Boeing 747 freighters to owned fleet


ASL Aviation Holdings has added two Boeing 747-400ERF aircraft to its owned fleet *© David O'Shea*

ASL Aviation Holdings (ASL) has acquired two Boeing 747-400ERF freighters previously operated within the ASL Group fleet under lease agreements. The aircraft, MSN 33516 (OE-IFB) and MSN 33945 (OE-IFD), are operated by ASL Airlines Belgium. Ownership of both aircraft was transferred to ASL Aviation Holdings on August 7, 2026. The two 747-400ERFs are established members of the Group's long-haul freighter fleet and will continue supporting ASL's global air cargo operations. The acquisition strengthens ASL Aviation Holdings' long-haul freighter business and expands its portfolio of owned aircraft. It also forms part of the Group's broader fleet and asset strategy, aimed at developing its international air cargo platform and supporting the long-term needs of its airline operations and customers.

## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Phenom 300EV secures triple certification

The Embraer 300EV has received certification from ANAC, the FAA and EASA © Embraer

Embraer's Phenom 300EV has received certification from Brazil's ANAC, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), making it the first light jet certified with Garmin Emergency Autoland. Introduced in July, the Phenom 300EV combines performance and interior upgrades with new safety technology. With the certification complete, the aircraft is approved for operation in key global markets. As the largest business jet equipped with Garmin Emergency Autoland, the Phenom 300EV can perform a fully automated landing if the pilot becomes incapacitated. Embraer developed the multi-purpose electronic controller (MEC) to enable electronically controlled functions including autobrake and rudder-by-wire. The company says the system improves handling, reduces pilot workload and simplifies maintenance. Deliveries of the new model are expected to begin in 2028.

### HAL, Safran sign Aravalli helicopter engine contract


The signing ceremony was presided by K. Ravi, Chairman and Managing Director, HAL (r) and Cédric Goubet, Chief Executive Officer, Safran Helicopter Engines (l) © Safran

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran Helicopter Engines have signed a contract with their joint venture, SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Pvt. Ltd., for the design, development, manufacture, supply and lifecycle support of a new-generation helicopter engine in the 3,500–4,000 shp power class. Named Aravalli, the engine has been selected to power HAL's upcoming 13-tonne Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH) and its naval variant, the Deck-Based Multi-Role Helicopter (DBMRH). Named after one of the world's oldest mountain ranges, the Aravalli programme is intended to strengthen India's self-reliance in critical aerospace propulsion technologies and build indigenous capabilities for future rotorcraft programmes. SAFHAL, a joint venture between HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines SAS, will combine the expertise of both parent companies across advanced engine design, manufacturing, testing and product support. The programme is expected to focus on performance, reliability, maintainability and operational effectiveness, while meeting international aerospace standards. The contract marks a significant step in the development of India's indigenous helicopter propulsion capability and is expected to strengthen the country's wider aerospace and defence industrial base. The Aravalli programme could also support future civil applications, including offshore transport, utility operations and VVIP transport. It is additionally expected to contribute to the expansion of indigenous maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) capabilities in India.


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## AIRCRAFT & ENGINE NEWS

### Willis Lease Finance adds 12 aircraft and 13 engines to portfolio

WLFC is expanding its lease portfolio by an additional 12 aircraft and 13 engines © Shutterstock

Willis Lease Finance Corporation (WLFC) has completed the acquisition of 12 commercial aircraft and 13 aircraft engines, expanding its aviation asset portfolio as it targets further growth across leasing and aviation services. The transaction gives WLFC additional assets to deploy through its integrated leasing, asset management, technical and aftermarket operations. The company said its global platform will allow it to manage and place the assets across multiple channels, with the aim of maximising utilisation and value over their operating lifecycles. WLFC CEO Austin C. Willis said the acquisition provides an opportunity to invest in assets that complement the company's existing business, while reinforcing its focus on disciplined growth and long-term value creation. Milbank LLP advised WLFC on legal matters, while PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP provided accounting, tax and financial due diligence services. The seller was advised by Vedder on legal matters and KPMG Ireland on tax and accounting.

### NOEMI, SkyHop eye India seaplane fleet

NOEMI Aerospace has signed a memorandum of understanding with SkyHop Aviation, India's first dedicated commercial seaplane operator, to explore the introduction of up to 15 NOEMI amphibious aircraft into the Indian market. SkyHop is developing a dedicated seaplane network, initially focused on connecting the Lakshadweep islands with one another and with mainland India. The company is targeting a fleet of up to 40 aircraft by FY2030. Under the MoU, the two companies will assess the technical, operational, commercial and regulatory requirements for incorporating NOEMI aircraft into SkyHop's future fleet. SkyHop plans to introduce up to ten NOEMI aircraft by FY2030 through direct purchases, leasing or a combination of both. The plan remains subject to operational suitability, regulatory approvals, commercial assessment and the signing of definitive agreements. The MoU also includes an option for five additional aircraft, subject to the successful introduction of the initial fleet. The partnership could extend beyond aircraft deployment. NOEMI and SkyHop will explore a broader strategic collaboration in India, including the potential future manufacturing and assembly of electric and hybrid NOEMI aircraft in the country. Any manufacturing or assembly cooperation would be subject to further evaluation and separate agreements.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Steiner Aviation scales up MRO offering at Akron-Canton

Steiner Aviation International (Steiner Aviation) has expanded its airframe maintenance and inspection capabilities to cover a broader range of business and regional aircraft, while adding five technicians to support its growing MRO operation. The Akron-Canton Regional Airport (CAK)-based maintenance and avionics provider has added capabilities for the Embraer ERJ 135/145, Cessna Citation 500, 550, 560, 560+ and 560XL, as well as all Beechcraft King Air and Dassault Falcon models. The expansion builds on more than 25 years of aircraft maintenance and avionics experience and forms part of Steiner Aviation's strategy to offer operators a responsive, customer-focused alternative to larger MRO facilities. To support the wider range of aircraft and services, Steiner Aviation has expanded its technical workforce with three A&P technicians and two avionics technicians. The five additions increase capacity across both airframe maintenance and avionics as the company responds to a growing customer base and continues to expand its business and regional aircraft support capabilities.

© Steiner Aviation International

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### BAT secures approval to service South Korean-registered aircraft

Batam Aero Technic has expanded its international MRO capabilities with approval to service South Korean-registered aircraft
*© Batam Aero Technic*

Batam Aero Technic (BAT) has officially received maintenance facility approval from South Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), marking another milestone in the company's international expansion. The approval follows a rigorous and comprehensive audit and authorises BAT to provide maintenance services for aircraft registered under South Korean MOLIT regulations. The certification further strengthens BAT's position as a growing MRO provider in Southeast Asia and international markets. Established to support Lion Group's aircraft maintenance requirements, BAT is designed to serve high-frequency narrow-body operations, delivering efficient, consistent and reliable maintenance services. BAT's capabilities are also supported by Lion Group's broader aviation ecosystem. The group brings together airlines, cargo and logistics operations, travel services, aviation support businesses and training institutions, creating an integrated network that supports efficient aircraft operations. Through this ecosystem, BAT combines dedicated MRO expertise with the operational experience and resources of a diversified aviation group—providing customers with reliable maintenance solutions while continuing to expand its presence in the global aviation market.

## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### RECARO unveils next-gen R4 premium seat

RECARO Aircraft Seating (RECARO) has introduced the R4, its next-generation premium-class aircraft seat, designed to combine improved ergonomics and passenger comfort with greater flexibility for airlines. The R4 succeeds the PL3530, which entered service in 2015. The new seat is ETSO-certified for the Boeing 787, with additional certifications in progress. Deliveries began in June 2026, with entry into service expected later this year. Building on RECARO's expertise in lightweight seating, the R4 features a 16-inch monitor, a six-way adjustable headrest with integrated neck support, side ambient lighting and privacy wings with integrated reading lights. A range of power options is also available to support passenger connectivity throughout the flight. The seat is designed to combine passenger comfort with operational flexibility. Its side console includes dedicated access for passengers with reduced mobility (PRM), while a newly developed extra-wide single-plate tray table features a soft open-and-close mechanism and an integrated holder for smartphones and tablets. Airlines can also customise the R4's colours, trim and finishes, allowing them to create a premium-class cabin aligned with their individual brand identity.

RECARO's new R4 premium seat © RECARO

### Islander enters ground tests ahead of September first flight

Britten-Norman aircraft 2317 © Britten-Norman

Britten-Norman's latest Islander has entered its ground test programme, putting the aircraft on course for a first flight in September and eventual delivery to the Falkland Islands Government Air Service (FIGAS). The aircraft, which was rolled out at Britten-Norman's Isle of Wight facility on July 30, will undergo flight testing before being prepared for handover to FIGAS. The company is also opening its production line to customers and media ahead of the aircraft's formal launch later this year. The latest milestone follows the successful application of electrical power on July 29. By the time of the roll-out, the aircraft had been fitted with its engines, propellers, cowlings, electrical systems, brakes and flight-control surfaces and mechanisms. Structural completion reached 75% in June. Attention is now turning to testing as Britten-Norman moves the aircraft towards its first flight. The programme is being closely followed as the company builds momentum around its new-production Islander aircraft. Production is also continuing on the next aircraft. A second airframe is progressing through the assembly line, while components for subsequent aircraft are already being manufactured. Britten-Norman is working towards a continuous production cadence, supported by investment in machinery, tooling and facilities. The company's workforce has grown by more than 40% since the current production programme began, reflecting the increased activity around the Islander. The new-build aircraft retains the characteristics that have made the Islander a long-serving aircraft in regional and specialist operations worldwide. These include low operating costs, rugged reliability and strong short-field performance. Britten-Norman says the aircraft combines the established Islander design with modern manufacturing methods and tooling, while maintaining the standards on which operators have relied throughout the type's more than five decades of service. With ground testing now under way, the next major milestone will be the aircraft's first flight, targeted for September, followed by flight-test completion and customer preparation ahead of delivery to FIGAS.

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## MRO & PRODUCTION NEWS

### Second A320 acquisition in August boosts Werner Aero's parts drive

Werner Aero has acquired an Airbus A320-200 airframe, MSN 2964, which is currently located at the eCube facility in St Athan, Wales, where it will be dismantled for spare parts. The acquisition marks Werner Aero's second A320-200 purchase in August alone, further expanding its A320-family portfolio and strengthening its ability to supply airlines, lessors, MRO providers and other aviation customers with aircraft components and aftermarket solutions. MSN 2964 will be dismantled to recover serviceable components and materials, supporting continued global demand for A320-family parts across the aviation aftermarket. Werner Aero, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation Group, provides aircraft asset management and logistics solutions to airlines worldwide. The company has offices across the globe and specialises in the A320, Boeing 737NG, E-Jet and CRJ families. Werner Aero is ISO 9001-certified and an FAA AC 0056B-approved supplier.

Werner Aero adds another A320 to parts pipeline © Werner Aero

### Rolls-Royce completes US$1bn Indiana manufacturing investment


Rolls-Royce has completed its US$1billion investment in Indiana © Rolls-Royce

Rolls-Royce has completed a decade-long, US$1 billion investment in its manufacturing, assembly and testing facilities in Indiana, strengthening its role in the US defence industrial base. The investment, the largest Rolls-Royce has made in the US, has modernised advanced manufacturing capabilities at its Indianapolis campus and expanded engine testing capacity. This includes new ground-test facilities and an altitude test facility in West Lafayette. The Indiana operations build and test engines for a range of defence and commercial platforms, including future engines for the US Air Force's B-52 strategic bomber and the US Army's MV-75 Cheyenne. The facilities also support current programmes including the V-22 Osprey, the US Navy's MQ-25A Stingray and the C-130J. Rolls-Royce employs around 3,500 people in Indianapolis, including members of the United Auto Workers (UAW), and supports thousands of additional jobs through its Indiana supply chain.

### Willis Lease to establish Willis Engine Repair Center in Malaysia

Willis Lease Finance Corporation (WLFC) is expanding its global maintenance operations with plans for a new Willis Engine Repair Center® (WERC®) in Johor, Malaysia. The company has acquired land for the facility, which will become its third WERC®, alongside existing centres in Coconut Creek, Florida, and Bridgend, Wales. Construction is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2027. WERC® facilities provide maintenance, repair and storage services for Willis Lease's owned engine portfolio as well as third-party assets, supporting the company's integrated aviation services platform. The Malaysia facility will extend Willis Lease's established engine repair centre model into Asia and strengthen its ability to provide integrated services across the Asia-Pacific region. The company said Malaysia's strategic location, skilled aerospace workforce, established aviation ecosystem and logistics infrastructure make it well suited to the new operation. Willis Lease has partnered with South Alliance Sdn. Bhd. on the land acquisition and development of WERC® Malaysia.

WLFC will expand global maintenance services with a new Willis Engine Repair Center® (WERC®) in Malaysia
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## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Saudia lines up Airbus financing

Saudia Group has signed a memorandum of understanding with Saudi Export-Import Bank (Saudi EXIM) and Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank (Crédit Agricole CIB) to explore and arrange financing for the airline group's acquisition of new Airbus aircraft. Under the MoU, Crédit Agricole CIB will act as financier and arranger, working to structure and provide financing in line with the expected delivery schedules of the aircraft. Saudi EXIM, Saudi Arabia's export credit agency, will assess providing credit-risk insurance to support the transactions, subject to its credit, insurance and procedural requirements. The agreement combines international bank financing with Saudi export credit instruments, creating additional avenues for Saudi companies and projects linked to exports to access international sources of finance. By providing insurance against part of the credit risks faced by lenders, Saudi EXIM aims to improve the bankability of transactions, broaden the potential international lender base and attract liquidity to activities supporting the growth of Saudi non-oil exports. For Saudia Group, the arrangement supports its plans to expand and modernise its fleet and strengthen operational capabilities across international markets. A larger and more modern fleet will also increase the group's capacity to provide air transport services, strengthen connectivity between Saudi Arabia and global destinations, and accommodate rising international travel flows. The transaction therefore has a services-export dimension, with Saudia's fleet expansion supporting the growth of Saudi air transport services in international markets. Under the MoU, the final financing and insurance arrangements will depend on completion of the necessary procedures, applicable requirements and agreement on the final terms of each aircraft transaction.


The MoU was signed in Paris on the sidelines of the high-level French Saudi investment roundtable meeting organised by the Ministry of Investment *© Saudia Group*

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### FlightSafety strengthens commercial training arm with CTS deal

FlightSafety International Inc. (FSI) has signed a definitive agreement with Acron Technologies, a portfolio company of TJC LP, to acquire its Commercial Training Solutions (CTS) business. The acquisition includes CTS's Training Systems, Training Services, Aviation Academy and Driver Training operations, significantly expanding FSI's capabilities in the commercial aviation market while complementing its simulator manufacturing and global training network. CTS has more than 80 years of experience in commercial aviation training and simulation. Its heritage in airline simulator manufacturing includes more than 850 training devices delivered over its history, with more than 300 full-flight simulators currently in operation worldwide. CTS operates training and manufacturing facilities across the US, UK and Thailand, supporting pilot and driver training systems as well as airline academy programmes. The deal comes amid growing demand for commercial aviation training capacity. The global commercial airline fleet is projected to grow from around 28,000 aircraft in 2025 to more than 50,000 by 2045, increasing demand for advanced simulation technology and training services. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2026, subject to customary closing conditions.


© FlightSafety International

### ADE revenue rises 29% as MRO demand strengthens


© ADE

Asia Digital Engineering (ADE), the MRO subsidiary of Capital A Berhad, reported a strong second-quarter performance, with revenue rising 29% year on year to RM284 million for the three months ended June 30, 2026. The growth was driven by higher-value base maintenance checks and increased workshop orders, supported by greater demand for component repair and refurbishment as the company took on more intensive maintenance work. EBITDA increased to RM69 million, with a margin of 22%, while profit after tax (PAT) stood at a 14% margin. Profitability was supported by strategic debt refinancing, which helped offset higher depreciation following the acquisition of new tools. For the first half of 2026, ADE generated more than RM500 million in revenue, up 19% year on year. EBITDA rose 16% to RM112 million, while net operating profit (NOP) increased 52% to RM62 million. ADE's performance also contributed to Capital A's broader growth. Together with logistics arm Teleport, ADE accounted for more than 70% of the group's total revenue in the first half of 2026, highlighting the contribution of its core businesses following the disposal of its airline operations and exit from PN17. (RM1 = US$0.24862 at time of publication).

### Apollo joins KKR as Atlantic Aviation investor

Apollo and KKR have formed a strategic partnership to support the continued growth of Atlantic Aviation, one of the largest private aviation infrastructure platforms in the U.S. Under the transaction, funds managed by Apollo have acquired a significant stake in Atlantic Aviation, while KKR-managed funds will remain a substantial shareholder. The deal values the company at nearly US$10 billion. Atlantic Aviation operates one of the largest fixed-base operator (FBO) networks in the U.S., providing fuelling, hangar leasing and other essential services to corporate and general aviation customers. Its nationwide footprint is supported by long-term airport concession agreements and a presence at high-activity airports. Apollo Partner David Cohen said the company has built an "irreplicable infrastructure footprint" across the country's busiest airports, supported by long-term concessions and a customer base focused on reliability and service. Cohen said Apollo expects structural growth in the private aviation market to continue and sees Atlantic Aviation as well positioned to benefit. Apollo plans to work with Atlantic Aviation CEO Jeff and the company's broader team, alongside KKR, on targeted investments and expansion into new markets.

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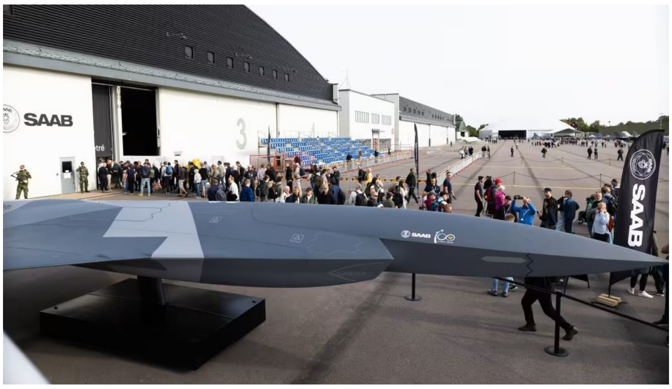
## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### Sikorsky taps ČLS for EU Black Hawk parts hub

Sikorsky has selected Česká letecká servisní (ČLS) as its first authorised distribution centre in the European Union for Black Hawk helicopter parts, expanding its regional support network as the European fleet grows. Under the agreement, Czech-based ČLS will stock and distribute Sikorsky components across the EU, including recommended high-demand parts for S-70, UH-60M and UH-60A/L helicopters. More than 150 Black Hawks are currently in service across the EU, with Sikorsky looking to improve parts availability and reduce support response times for operators conducting emergency response, security and other mission-critical operations. ČLS was appointed following a detailed evaluation process covering Sikorsky's quality, operational and policy requirements. The company provides avionics and equipment solutions for both rotary and fixed-wing aircraft. The two companies are also working with PZL Mielec and United Rotorcraft towards the launch of the S-70 FIREHAWK programme for the Czech Republic. The ČLS appointment forms part of Sikorsky's regional sustainment strategy and adds to its network of authorised distribution centres in South America, the Middle East and Asia.

Česká letecká servisní, a.s. (ČLS) is now authorised to distribute Sikorsky components within the European Union where more than 150 Black Hawks currently are in service *© Sikorsky*

### Saab unveils un-crewed combat air system concept




Model of a future un-crewed combat air system concept, called A3-001 *© Saab*

At the Jubilee Air Show at Malmen Air Base in Linköping, Sweden, Saab has showcased a full-scale concept model of a future un-crewed combat air system, designated A3-001. The concept illustrates the potential evolution of combat air capabilities, with crewed and uncrewed platforms operating together as part of an integrated system. It could complement Gripen and future crewed combat aircraft, particularly in high-risk missions including electronic warfare, suppression of enemy air defences and precision strikes in highly contested environments. Saab says the concept features low observability, a high degree of autonomy and the ability to operate across multiple domains. Peter Nilsson, head of Saab's Advanced Programs business unit, said the company is working with Sweden on technologies for the next generation of combat air systems and intends to fly uncrewed demonstrators with fighter-like characteristics before 2030. He said the A3 system is Saab's own concept for a possible platform for the mid-2030s, should Sweden decide to build on the current development work. Saab sees the system as a potential future uncrewed component of a broader "system-of-systems" approach to air warfare, building on its experience with Gripen, GlobalEye and advanced aerospace systems.

### Northrop Grumman clears E-2D Block II for integration

Northrop Grumman has completed a key government-led critical design review for the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye's Block II upgrade, clearing the way for integration and testing of the programme's most significant platform upgrade to date. The company will now begin Block II integration and testing, with the first upgraded aircraft expected to be delivered by the end of the decade. The upgrade is designed to significantly improve situational awareness and crew efficiency while keeping the E-2D relevant against evolving threats. It uses a modular open systems approach and commercial off-the-shelf products to reduce costs and support long-term fleet sustainment and modernisation. Northrop Grumman plans to integrate Block II into the E-2D's active production line for new aircraft while also retrofitting existing fleet aircraft, increasing the capacity to upgrade the fleet. The E-2D Advanced Hawkeye is an airborne early warning, command and control platform designed for airborne early warning and battle management missions. Its Block II upgrade includes a comprehensive overhaul of mission-system software and hardware to extend the platform's operational relevance into the future. The E-2D programme supports more than 4,000 jobs across 411 companies in 40 US states, contributing to the resilience of the US defence industrial base and domestic manufacturing.

Northrop Grumman's E-2D Advanced Hawkeye is continuously modernised to stay ahead of threats, ensuring the joint force can see and sense them when it matters most *© Northrop Grumman*

## MILITARY AND DEFENCE

### EFW wins seven-year NH90 maintenance contract

EFW has won a new NH90 helicopter maintenance contract © EFW

Elbe Flugzeugwerke GmbH (EFW) has signed a seven-year contract with the German Armed Forces (Bundeswehr) to provide maintenance services for NH90 Tactical Transport Helicopters (TTH) operated by the German Army. The first batch of helicopters is due to arrive shortly at EFW's Dresden facility, where the company will carry out regular inspections, potential modifications and component repairs. The contract expands EFW's existing helicopter capabilities and strengthens the strategic role of its Dresden site. It also marks the first time EFW will serve as a direct contractual partner to the Bundeswehr for NH90 maintenance, strengthening its position in the military rotary-wing market and potentially opening the door to further contracts. EFW has previously supported NH90 maintenance as a subcontractor. EFW CEO Jordi Boto said the agreement provides the company with long-term planning certainty and creates further growth opportunities. He added that the contract reflects EFW's performance and expertise, as well as its combination of maintenance capabilities and available capacity, which he said remains relatively limited elsewhere in the market.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### Ornge goes paperless with Ramco maintenance platform


Ornge has achieved paperless maintenance operations with Ramco's Digital Task Card and mobile apps © Ornge

Ramco Systems Canada Inc., has announced that long-standing customer Ornge has gone live with Ramco's Digital Task Card with eSign-off and Mechanic Anywhere mobile application across all its maintenance bases. The rollout moves Ornge's maintenance operations from paper-based task cards to a mobile-enabled, paperless workflow covering its AW139 and PC-12 fleets. Ramco's eSign-off solution is designed to meet Transport Canada sign-off compliance requirements, allowing technicians to execute and digitally sign off maintenance tasks in real time. As part of the implementation, Ornge's existing task cards were migrated to an eSign-off-ready format, while Work Summary Reports were introduced to support audit and regulatory compliance. Through Mechanic Anywhere, technicians can access documentation, carry out maintenance tasks and complete digital signoffs from wherever they are working. The system also gives Ornge's maintenance and quality teams near-real-time visibility of work progress, sign-off status and task completion. The move is expected to improve efficiency by reducing the delays associated with paper-based processes while supporting more consistent, standardised work-step execution and compliance. Robert Zwanenburg, Technical Services Manager at Ornge, said the technology would support both the organisation's paperless ambitions and efforts to improve maintenance turnaround times. "Ramco's Digital Task Card and Mechanic Anywhere app is well positioned to help us in our efforts to ensure timely maintenance turnaround times," Zwanenburg said. "We are working as a team to ensure our front-line maintenance crews (AMEs) have the tools they need wherever they're working."

## OTHER NEWS

**SalamAir**, Oman's low-cost carrier, is establishing Salalah's first airline base, strengthening direct international connectivity from Dhofar and marking a new step in the airline's expansion. The new base will initially operate direct flights to three international destinations: Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, Chattogram in Bangladesh and Calicut in India. Services are scheduled to start at the end of October as part of SalamAir's Winter 2026 schedule. The move follows the airline's increased support for travel to and from Salalah during the 2026 Khareef season. To meet higher demand, SalamAir increased capacity on the Muscat-Salalah route to as many as 15 daily flights during the peak period, adding thousands of seats. The airline also introduced special fares for Omani nationals to support affordable domestic travel, with one-way fares starting at OMR 9.99 (US$26.00). SalamAir said the measures helped accommodate the growing number of visitors to Dhofar and strengthened its role in the region's tourism and travel sector during the Khareef season. The new base will extend that role beyond the seasonal peak, providing year-round connectivity for residents and expatriate communities in Dhofar and more convenient direct access to key regional and international destinations. SalamAir will operate the Salalah-based services with its Airbus A320neo and A321neo fleet. The airline currently has 18 aircraft, giving it additional capacity and flexibility to respond to demand across its network.

## OTHER NEWS

A US Appeals Court has vacated a DOT order to unwind the Delta/Aeromexico joint venture *© Delta Air Lines*

**Delta Air Lines** and **Aeromexico** can continue their joint venture after the US 11th Circuit Court of Appeals vacated a Department of Transportation order requiring the carriers to end the partnership. The ruling follows a legal challenge by Delta and Aeromexico to the DOT's decision to terminate approval of their joint cooperation agreement. The court's decision overturns the termination order, allowing the two airlines to maintain their long-standing partnership. Delta said the joint venture, which has operated for nearly a decade, has expanded customer choice and connectivity while supporting US employment and economic activity. "We appreciate the 11th Circuit's careful review and remain focused on ensuring our customers, employees and communities continue to benefit from this longstanding partnership," Delta said.

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## INDUSTRY PEOPLE

Brian Rohloff

• Textron Inc. has appointed **Brian Rohloff** as President and CEO of its Textron Aviation segment, effective August 31, 2026, as **Ron Draper** retires after more than 27 years with the company. Rohloff brings extensive experience across Textron Aviation, having held leadership roles spanning customer support, sales, supply chain and quality. He most recently served as Senior Vice President of Customer Support, overseeing the company's global customer support operations. His previous positions include Vice President of Quality, Vice President of Sales, Senior Product Director for the Citation XLS+ and Citation X, and Director of Paint Operations. Draper is retiring after eight years at the helm of Textron Aviation. His departure follows a more than 27-year career with Textron. Rohloff is a graduate of Wichita State University.

• Swedavia has appointed **Anders Örnulf** as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and a member of the airport operator's Group management team. Örnulf will take up the role on October 19, joining Swedavia after most recently serving as CFO at Hemnet. He brings extensive experience in senior finance leadership positions. Commenting on his appointment, Örnulf said Swedavia's airports play an important role in Sweden's connectivity and competitiveness, adding that he looked forward to joining the organisation and contributing to its continued development. Swedavia owns, operates and develops ten airports across Sweden, with a focus on supporting connectivity for passengers, businesses and communities. The group describes safe and satisfied passengers as the foundation of its operations and has also positioned environmental performance as a key priority. Since 2020, Swedavia's own airport operations at all ten airports have been fossil-free. Swedavia reported sales of approximately SEK 6.8 billion US$714 million) in 2025 and employs around 2,800 people.

Anders Örnulf

Matt Silverberg

• B&H Worldwide, a global aerospace logistics specialist, has appointed **Matt Silverberg** as Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately. Silverberg succeeds **Stuart Allen**, who becomes Chairman and Board Advisor after 13 years as CEO. Based in the US, Silverberg will oversee B&H Worldwide's global operations and strategic growth, while Allen will continue to provide strategic guidance to the executive leadership team from Singapore. The leadership change comes as B&H Worldwide seeks to strengthen its position as a logistics partner to airlines, MRO providers, OEMs and spare parts suppliers worldwide. Silverberg brings extensive executive experience in time-critical logistics, supply chain and professional services. He has held senior roles including CEO and CCO, leading both high-growth businesses and global enterprises. His experience includes driving revenue growth through organic expansion and acquisitions, delivering business transformation programmes and building international teams. The appointment comes as the aerospace industry faces rising demand for resilient, responsive and technology-enabled supply chains, driven by fleet expansion and increased maintenance activity. Allen will remain actively involved in the company's long-term strategy as Chairman, working with Silverberg and the executive team to support B&H Worldwide's continued international growth.

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# THE AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE MARKETPLACE

## Commercial Engines

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

| CFM Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
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| (1) CFM56-5C4 | Now - Lease | Willis Lease | Jennifer Merriam | leasing@willislease.com | +1 (561) 349-8950 |
| (1) CFM56-7B26 | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |
| (2) CFM56-7B26 | Now - Sale / Lease | GA Telesis | | engines@gatelesis.com | |
| (1) CFM56-5B4/P | Now - Sale | BBAM | Steve Zissis | info@bbam.com | +1 787 665 7040 |
| (1) CFM56-7B26 | Now - Lease | | | | |
| (1) CFM56-7B26/3 | Now - Lease | | | | |
| (4) CFM56-5B6/P | Now - Sale | | | | |
| (3) CFM56-5B5/P | Now - Sale | | | | |

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| LEAP Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
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| (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 |
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| (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 |

| V2500 Engines | Sale / Lease | Company | Contact | Email | Phone |
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| (1) V2500-A5 | Now - Lease | Engine Lease Finance | Declan Madigan | declan.madigan@elfc.com | +353 61 291717 |
| (1) V2533-A5 | Now - Sale / Lease | GA Telesis | | engines@gatelesis.com | |

## 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 | | | | | |
| (7) 131-9A, (9) 131-9B (Max compliant), (1) APS3200 "B", (1) APS3200 "C" | | GA Telesis | | apu@gatelesis.com | +1-954-849-3509 |
| (2) 331-500, (1) PW901, (1) 131-9B, (1) 331-200, (3) 331-350 | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | |