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SpiceJet launches daily non-stop flight to Jeddah from Mumbai

HK Bellawings Jets signs LOI for five Global 7500 aircraft

French Ministry of the Armed Forces brings development of future Joint Light Helicopter forward

DHL launches its first regular fully-automated and intelligent urban drone delivery service

Airbus celebrates delivery of its 12,000th aircraft – an A220-100 to Delta Air Lines

Delta Air Lines’ first A330neo makes inaugural flight

First Japan Airlines A350 XWB makes maiden flight

Falcon Practical Training Course Graduates 1,000th Trainee

This is your Captain Speaking....!!!

Joramco performed its first B787 C Check for Royal Jordanian airlines
Greetings and Salutations

Dear Readers,

As we bring another vibrant issue of our magazine, we are hopeful we are satisfying the thirst for information of our aviation enthusiast subscribers. We have loaded this issue with latest updates of the global and domestic aviation sector. In our cover story we have comprehensively covered Preview of Paris Air Show 2019. The event is going to witness some major business deals of the aviation industry which will fuel the growth of global aviation sector. The detailed report on air show will be covered in our next issue to give our readers a sharp perspective on the upcoming projects in the aviation field.

You will find a quick snapshot of all the updates from around the globe that is shaping the aviation sector in quick update section. You can catch more update on the same in the cargo section. The Business Aviation section has interesting information on the latest updates in the world.

The regional aviation has a promising future in the country as it will help in the growth of new business hubs in the country and for more soaring opportunities in aviation Gujarat Aviation Conclave 2019 will be best ideal place. One Day event will be conducted by CII at Novotel, Ahmedabad on 21st June 2019.

We have been positively receiving your feedbacks and suggestions for our magazine. We are glad to receive yourresponse and we plan to incorporate the suggestions, feedback and request you have made through your emails. Captain Speaking is a new Column dedicated to Pilots, which has been initiated from this issue has been suggested by our reader who is a pilot himself and first article is also from his point of view for more info flip to page no 26.

We appreciate the initiatives of our subscribers in communicating to us their valuable feedbacks. We hope to receive continued support from our subscribers and intend to serve their all aviation sector information needs.

Take Care & God Bless!!

Thanks

B. Kartikeya
Editor
VISTARA LEASES SIX AIRCRAFT FROM BOC AVIATION

Vistara, a joint venture of Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines and India’s finest full-service carrier announced to have leased an additional six aircraft from BOC Aviation to accelerate its growth in the domestic market. As part of the agreement, Vistara has leased four Boeing 737-800 NG aircraft to be delivered in May 2019 and two Airbus A320neo powered by CFM LEAP 1A engines, scheduled for delivery in the second half of 2019.

In order to support the next phase of expansion of its domestic operations, Vistara has recruited nearly 500 former employees of Jet Airways, including pilots, cabin crew, engineers and other staff.

Leslie Thng, Chief Executive Officer, Vistara, said, “Our focus on serving the domestic market has remained unwavered even as we prepare to become an international airline. These leased aircraft will be deployed to meet the sudden drop in capacity in the market and to aid convenience of travellers. Our decision to induct a different aircraft type in our fleet is a carefully evaluated one, which is both, economically and commercially viable, and will eventually help us take the Vistara experience wider and deeper across markets in India.”

“We’re glad to also make the Vistara family stronger by the addition of close to 500 members, who are determined to deliver the Vistara brand promise of consistently delivering operational and service excellence across all touchpoints,” Mr Thng added.

Vistara’s relationship with BOC Aviation dates back to 2014, when the airline announced to lease its first 20 Airbus A320 family aircraft. Last year, Vistara placed its aircraft order of a combination of purchased and leased aircraft totalling 50 from the Airbus A320neo family (including the A321neo) for domestic India as well as short and medium-haul international operations, with deliveries scheduled between 2019 and 2021, and will be used for long-haul international operations.

SPICEJET ADDS 100TH AIRCRAFT TO ITS FLEET

SpiceJet has crossed yet another major milestone as it inducted its 100th aircraft – a Boeing 737 – into its fleet. SpiceJet’s fleet now comprises of 68 Boeing 737s, 30 Bombardier Q-400s and two B737 freighters. The airline operates 575 average daily flights to 62 destinations – 53 domestic and nine international. SpiceJet has added 23 planes and over a hundred new flights, majority of them connecting the key metros of Mumbai and Delhi, in just over a month’s time.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet had launched the airline in the year 2005 with the objective of making flying affordable for all. After a successful tenure, he exited from the airline in 2010 before buying it back again from near shut down in 2015. He has since scripted one of the most remarkable turnaround stories in global aviation. SpiceJet is India’s largest regional player operating 42 daily flights under the government’s regional connectivity scheme, UDAN.

Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet said: “Who could have thought that from the brink of closure in December 2014, SpiceJet would have a 100-aircraft fleet in 2019! Leading SpiceJet from a near shutdown to being one of finest airlines in India has been a fantastic journey and a real honour for me. The credit for our success goes to each and every SpiceJetter who has worked relentlessly to write this incredible story that the world speaks of with admiration and awe.”

SpiceJet had placed a $22 billion order for 205 aircraft planes with Boeing in 2017 and had followed it up with a $1.7 billion order for 50 Bombardier Q400 planes --- the single biggest order for the Q400 in Bombardier’s history.

SPICEJET LAUNCHES DAILY NON-STOP FLIGHT TO JEDDAH FROM MUMBAI

SpiceJet, India’s favourite airline introduced a daily non-stop flight on Mumbai-Jeddah-Mumbai sector. The airline announced the launch of six new flights connecting the country’s financial capital. The new flight to Jeddah is effective 5th July and the domestic flights are effective 20th May.

Mumbai is the third destination after Hyderabad and Kozhikode which is being connected by SpiceJet with the pilgrim city of Jeddah. SpiceJet’s flight SG 68 will depart from Mumbai at 7.30 pm (all local times) and arrive in Jeddah at 10.15 pm on the same day. The return flight SG 69 will depart at 11.30 pm and reach Mumbai at 6.20 am on the following day. Celebrating the launch, SpiceJet has announced a special fare of INR 12,399 (all-inclusive) for Mumbai – Jeddah and INR 15,399 (all inclusive) for Jeddah – Mumbai.

Reiterating the airline’s commitment on augmenting direct connectivity between metros and key non-metro cities, SpiceJet has enhanced its operations on the Mumbai-Dehradun-Mumbai (2nd frequency) and Mumbai-Guwahati-Mumbai (2nd frequency) sectors. SpiceJet has also announced a new flight connecting Guwahati to Bagdogra. SpiceJet will deploy its Boeing 737 NG aircraft on both the international as well as domestic routes.

Shilpa Bhatia Chief Sales and Revenue Officer SpiceJet, said, “Mumbai has always
been one of our key destinations and with the launch of these new flights we intend to further ramp up our presence from the city. We are delighted to announce our new flight connecting Mumbai with Jeddah which will offer more convenience and flexibility to passengers travelling between the two cities for pilgrimage, business or leisure.”

“The new domestic flights will help in minimizing the passenger inconvenience caused due to the sudden shortage in capacity within the Indian aviation industry.”

She added. In order to cater to the increased demand created due to shortage of capacity, starting April 1, SpiceJet has announced 85 flights which includes 54 flights connecting Mumbai, 16 flights connecting Delhi and 8 flights between Mumbai and Delhi.

**AIRBUS CELEBRATES DELIVERY OF ITS 12,000TH AIRCRAFT – AN A220-100 TO DELTA AIR LINES**

Airbus celebrated the delivery of its 12,000th aircraft ever in its 50-year history. The aircraft was an A220-100, assembled in Mirabel, Canada and handed over to U.S.-based Delta Air Lines.

The aircraft is the 12th A220 delivered to date to Delta Air Lines since the carrier received its first A220 in October 2018. The A220 started scheduled service with Delta in February 2019. Delta is the first U.S.-based airline to introduce daily direct flights on the Mumbai-Jammu (via Srinagar), Mumbai-Dehradun-Mumbai and Mumbai-Guwahati-Mumbai sectors. SpiceJet will also enhance its operations on the Mumbai-Srinagar, Mumbai-Coimbatore-Mumbai, Mumbai-Kochi-Mumbai and Mumbai-Jaipur-Mumbai by adding its second direct flight on the routes. Additionally, the airline has also enhanced operations on the routes of Srinagar-Jammu (3rd frequency), Mumbai-Chennai-Mumbai (4th frequency) and Mumbai-Delhi-Mumbai (8th frequency).

All the new flights introduced will be operational daily, except the flight on the Mumbai-Kochi-Mumbai sector which will be operational all days of the week except Tuesdays. Deploying its Boeing 737 – 800 aircraft on these routes, SpiceJet aims to further strengthen its network between metros and non-metros. In order to cater to the increased demand created due to shortage of capacity, starting April 1, SpiceJet has announced 65 flights which includes 40 flights connecting Mumbai, 10 flights connecting Delhi and 8 flights connecting Mumbai to Delhi.

Shilpa Bhatia Chief Sales and Revenue Officer SpiceJet, said: “We are delighted to start deliveries to U.S. customers in 2020.

Airbus delivered its first aircraft, an A300B2 to Air France, back in 1974. Fast forward to 2010, Airbus handed over its 6,000th aircraft, 36 years after its first. The pace continued to accelerate, taking Airbus just nine years to double that number, reaching 12,000th Airbus aircraft delivery on May 20, 2019.

**AIRBUS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF PIONEERING PROGRESS**

Airbus has launched a global campaign celebrating the company’s 50 year anniversary, showcasing key moments of pioneering progress throughout the past five decades.

The campaign begins today by marking 50 years since the French Minister of Transport, Jean Chamant and the German Minister of Economic Affairs, Karl Schiller, signed an agreement at the 1969 Paris Air Show for the joint-development of the A300 aircraft, a first European twin-aisle twin-engine jet for medium-haul air travel.

Guillaume Faury, CEO of Airbus said: ‘Airbus’ story is one of ambition and progress, and has been a showcase of European integration. Over five decades, we have brought together civil and defence aviation businesses from throughout the continent. For 50 years, we have pioneered many firsts through our passion and innovation, transforming the industry and helping to move society forward. Airbus is a story of incredible men and women, a story of great achievements in the past and, above all, in the future.’

Running from 29 May to 17 July, the campaign will bring stories to life through new, engaging content published across Airbus channels. With a new story released each day, for 50 consecutive days, the campaign will highlight the people and ground-breaking innovations that have driven the company. The campaign shines a light on many different aspects of the Airbus business, including commercial aircraft, helicopters, space and defence, in addition to programmes and initiatives.

The 50th anniversary campaign also looks to the future, exploring how Airbus continues to shape the industry with pioneering innovations that address some of society’s most critical issues, whether that be pioneering electric flight to reduce emissions, digitising aerospace design, or developing new urban air mobility options.

**SPICEJET LAUNCHES 19 NEW FLIGHTS CONNECTING MUMBAI**

SpiceJet, the country’s favourite carrier announced the launch of 19 new flights connecting the financial capital of Mumbai with other cities on its domestic network. The new flights reiterate the airline’s commitment for direct connectivity and on-boarding non-metros and smaller cities onto the national aviation map. All these flights will be effective starting end of this week.

SpiceJet is the first Indian LCC to introduce daily direct flights on the Mumbai-Madurai-Mumbai sector. The airline has also introduced new flights on the Mumbai-Jammu (via Srinagar), Mumbai-Dehradun-Mumbai and Mumbai-Guwahati-Mumbai sectors. SpiceJet will also enhance its operations on the Mumbai-Srinagar, Mumbai-Coimbatore-Mumbai, Mumbai-Kochi-Mumbai and Mumbai-Jaipur-Mumbai by adding its second direct flight on the routes. Additionally, the airline has also enhanced operations on the routes of Srinagar-Jammu (3rd frequency), Mumbai-Chennai-Mumbai (4th frequency) and Mumbai-Delhi-Mumbai (8th frequency).

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announce new flights from Mumbai, the country’s financial capital. We are taking all measures to deal with the shortage of capacity in the Indian aviation market. With these new and additional flights, we aim to minimize the inconvenience caused to the passengers due to the ongoing crisis within the aviation industry.”

As a pro-active measure, to counter the ongoing sector crisis resulting in a huge shortage of capacity in the Indian aviation market, the airline has been consistently working towards introducing new flights and frequencies to restore normalcy. The airline has in the past few weeks introduced a host of new flights from Mumbai alone on the routes of Mumbai-Jaipur-Mumbai, Mumbai-Amritsar-Mumbai, Mumbai-Mangalore-Mumbai and Mumbai-Coimbatore-Mumbai sectors besides additional frequencies on the routes of Mumbai-Patna-Mumbai, Mumbai-Hyderabad-Mumbai and Mumbai-Kolkata-Mumbai.

**VIKING PLANS WORLD DEMONSTRATION TOUR FOR GUARDIAN 400**

Viking Air Limited of Victoria has plans to hold a world demonstration tour for its Guardian 400 aircraft, the special mission’s variant of the Viking Series 400 Twin Otter. The world tour consists of detailed briefings and demonstration flights in Europe, Middle East, India, Africa, South East Asia, Oceania, and North America.

A production Series 400 Twin Otter has been going through modifications for the last six months to transform into Viking’s Guardian 400 demonstrator aircraft for the proposed world tour. It will have a right-hand SCAR pod with Hensoldt Argos EO/IR imaging turret, mega-pixel HD Thermal imager, multi-spectral HDTV camera, laser range finder multi-mode auto tracker, and Remote Image Bus (RIB) video feed for display on the cockpit MFD or crew workstation. The demonstrator will also feature a left-hand SCAR pod with Leonardo Osprey Radar System and Sentient Vidar Camera system.

The target launch date of the demonstration tour will be of September 2019.

**HK BELLAWINGS JETS SIGNS LOI FOR FIVE GLOBAL 7500 AIRCRAFT**

Bombardier is pleased to announce that Hong Kong aircraft management company HK Bellawings Jet Limited has signed a letter of intent (LOI) for five new Global 7500 business jets and has also exercised options for two Global 7500 business jets, as part of the initial agreement signed in May last year. This news comes as the industry flagship Global 7500 aircraft is showcased for the first time at the European Business Aviation Conference & Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva.

“The Global 7500 aircraft continues to demonstrate its unrivalled performance and smooth ride, all the while delivering uncompromising value to customers under any conditions, at any time, without the need for tailwinds,” said David Coleal, President, Bombardier Aviation. “HK Bellawings’ experienced and professional team is a perfect fit for the Global 7500 aircraft’s superior performance and we are thrilled that they have chosen our flagship to expand their growing fleet of business jets.”

“Today marks a step forward towards our goal of becoming the premier Asian private jet operator. We are very impressed with Bombardier’s Global 7500 aircraft since its entry into service less than six months ago,” said HK Bellawings’ President Mr. YJ Zhang. “Its unmatched performance and range is ideally suited for our customers in the Greater China region. As the operator that will manage one of the world’s largest fleet of Global 7500 aircraft, HK Bellawings Jet will further expand its business scope and continuously pursue higher goals.”

**BOEING STATEMENT ON 737 MAX CERTIFICATION AND RETURN TO SERVICE**

Boeing has completed development of the updated software for the 737 MAX, along with associated simulator testing and the company’s engineering test flight. To date, Boeing has flown the 737 MAX with updated MCAS software for more than 360 hours on 207 flights.

Boeing is now providing additional information to address Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requests that include detail on how pilots interact with the airplane controls and displays in different flight scenarios. Once the requests are addressed, Boeing will work with the FAA to schedule its certification test flight and submit final certification documentation.

“With safety as our clear priority, we have completed all of the engineering test flights for the software update and are preparing for the final certification flight,” said Boeing Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis Muilenburg. “We’re committed to providing the FAA and global regulators all the information they need, and to getting it right. We’re making clear and steady progress and are confident that the 737 MAX with updated MCAS software will be one of the safest airplanes ever to fly. The accidents have only intensified our commitment to our values, including safety, quality and integrity, because we know lives depend on what we do.”

In addition, Boeing has developed enhanced training and education materials that are now being reviewed by the FAA, global regulators, and airline customers to support return-to-service and longer-term
operations. This includes a series of regional customer conferences being conducted around the world.

**AZUL RECEIVES THE FIRST AIRBUS A330NEO IN THE AMERICAS**

The first A330neo of the Americas has been delivered to Azul Linhas Aéreas on lease from Avolon, becoming the first airline from the Americas to fly the A330-900. The aircraft is the first of 15 A330neo ordered by Avolon.

The A330neo, Airbus’ new generation A330 aircraft, will be used by the airline to expand its international route network between Brazil and Europe and the United States. Fitted with a three-class cabin accommodating 34 business class, 96 economy Xtra and 168 economy class seats, the A330neo offers passengers greater comfort along with the newest and the most advanced in-flight experience while the airline will benefit from the aircraft’s unrivalled operating economics.

“We are very proud to be the first A330neo operator in the Americas. This new aircraft will play a key role in the expansion of our international markets supporting our strategy of having a modern and fuel-efficient fleet,” celebrated John Rodgerson, Azul’s CEO.

“With its many new features and an Airspace cabin, the A330neo can only add to Azul’s many travel awards,” said Christian Scherer, Airbus Chief Commercial Officer. “Innovation-packed, superior passenger comfort and 25% fuel efficiency all rolled in to one – that’s the A330neo.”

**EMBRAER EARNINGS RESULTS 1ST QUARTER 2019**

Embraer delivered 11 commercial jets and 11 executive jets (8 light / 3 large) in 1Q19; The Company’s firm order backlog at the end of 1Q19 was US$ 16 billion considering all deliveries as well as firm orders obtained during the period; EBIT and EBITDA in 1Q19 were US$ (15.2) million and US$ 30.9 million, respectively, yielding EBIT margin of -1.8% and EBITDA margin of 3.8%. This compares to EBIT of US$ (5.3) million (-0.6% EBIT margin) and EBITDA of US$ 57.8 million (6.0% EBITDA margin) in 1Q18.

1Q19 Net loss attributable to Embraer shareholders and Loss per ADS were US$ (42.5) million and US$ (0.23), respectively. Adjusted net loss (excluding deferred income tax and social contribution) for 1Q19 was US$ (61.8) million, with Adjusted loss per ADS of US$ (0.34). Embraer reported adjusted net loss in 1Q18 of US$ (60.5) million, for an adjusted loss per ADS of US$ (0.33) in the quarter.

Embraer reported Free cash flow of US$ (65.3) million in 1Q19, compared to free cash flow of US$ (435.2) million reported in 1Q18. The Company finished the quarter with total cash of US$ 2,483.4 million and total debt of US$ 3,587.1 million, yielding a net debt position of US$ 1,103.7 million versus net debt of US$ 439.9 million at the end of 2018; The Company’s shareholders approved the proposed strategic partnership between Boeing and Embraer during an Extraordinary General Shareholders’ Meeting on February 26, 2019. At the meeting, 96.8% of all valid votes were in favor of the transaction, with participation of roughly 67% of all outstanding shares. The closing of the transaction between Boeing and Embraer remains subject to obtaining regulatory approvals and the satisfaction of other customary closing conditions, expected by the end of 2019; The Company reaffirms all aspects of its 2019 financial and deliveries guidance.

**AIRBUS, SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES SIGN MOU FOR AN AIRCRAFT RESEARCH**

Airbus and SAS Scandinavian Airlines have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for hybrid and electric aircraft eco-system and infrastructure requirements research. The collaboration will begin from June 2019 and will continue until the end of 2020.

The MoU was signed by Goran Jansson, Deputy President EVP Strategy & Ventures, Scandinavian Airlines and Grazia Vittadini, Chief Technology Officer, Airbus.

According to the agreement, SAS Scandinavian Airlines and Airbus will work together on a joint research project to improve understanding of the infrastructural and operational opportunities and problems involved with introducing full electric and hybrid aircraft on a large scale to airlines modus operandi. The scope of the project includes five work packages, which looks into analysing the impact of ground infrastructure and charging on range, resources, time and availability at airports.

The collaboration also consist of a plan to include a renewable energy supplier to ensure genuine zero CO2 emissions operations are assessed.

**AIR NEW ZEALAND SELECTS BOEING 787-10 DREAMLINER FOR FUTURE GROWTH**

Boeing and Air New Zealand today announced the airline plans to add the
largest 787 Dreamliner model to its world-class fleet with a commitment to buy eight 787-10 airplanes valued at $2.7 billion at list prices. The carrier, known for its global network and long-range operations, says the 787-10 complements its current 787-9 and 777 fleet by offering more seats and greater efficiency to grow its business.

"This is a hugely important decision for our airline. With the 787-10 offering around 15 percent more space for both customers and cargo than the 787-9, this investment creates the platform for our future strategic direction and opens up new opportunities to grow," said Air New Zealand Chief Executive Officer Christopher Luxon. "The 787-10 is longer and even more fuel efficient. However, the game changer for us has been that by working closely with Boeing, we’ve ensured the 787-10 will meet our network needs, including the ability to fly missions similar to our current 777-200 fleet."

The 787-10 is the largest member of the super-efficient and passenger-pleasing Dreamliner family. At 224 feet long (68 meters), the 787-10 can serve up to 330 passengers in a standard two-class configuration, about 40 more than the 787-9 airplane. Powered by a suite of new technologies and a revolutionary design, the 787-10 set a new benchmark for fuel efficiency and operating economics when it entered commercial service last year. The airplane allows operators to achieve 25 percent better fuel efficiency per seat compared to the previous airplanes.

"Air New Zealand is one of the world’s leading long-haul carriers that has built an amazing network to connect the South Pacific with Asia and the Americas. We are honored that Air New Zealand has chosen to grow its future with the 787-10, the most efficient widebody airplane flying the skies today," said Ihssane Mounir, senior vice president of Commercial Sales and Marketing, The Boeing Company. "With the 777 and now the 777-9 and 787-10, Air New Zealand will have an incredible widebody family to serve its passengers and grow its international network in the years ahead."

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**DELTA AIR LINES’ FIRST A330NEO MAKES INAUGURAL FLIGHT**

The first A330-900 widebody destined for Delta Air Lines made its inaugural test flight Tuesday from Toulouse airport. The highly fuel-efficient twin-engine jet, one of 35 Delta has on order, is due to be delivered to the Atlanta, Georgia-based airline in the coming weeks.

The A330-900 is the larger of the two A330neo variants that Airbus launched in 2014. The A330neo brings significant efficiency improvements while also introducing the award-winning Airspace by Airbus cabin, which offers the newest and most advanced in-flight experience with extra personal space, larger overhead luggage bins, latest generation in-flight entertainment system and state-of-the-art ambient lighting.

Incorporating the latest-generation Rolls-Royce Trent 7000 engines, along with aerodynamic enhancements – including new extended composite wingtips which provide 3.7 metres of increased overall wing-span, as well as increased lift and reduced drag – the A330neo is a more efficient aircraft, delivering 25% lower fuel burn than previous generation aircraft and the lowest seat-mile cost in its category. The A330-900 range is 6,550 nautical miles in a typical three-class configuration.

**EMBRAERX, ATECH AND HARRIS CORPORATION COLLABORATE TO ENVISION A NEW PARADIGM OF AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT FOR URBAN AIR MOBILITY**

EmbraerX is championing the development of a truly collaborative ecosystem which enables people to imagine a world where electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles (eVTOL) will be part of our daily lives. In partnership with dozens of air traffic controllers, academics, pilots and industry experts, Embraer’s disruptive business subsidiary published “FlightPlan 2030,” a white paper which proposes a procedures-based vision for a new paradigm of air traffic management for the future urban air mobility industry.

“Urban air mobility will evolve to become a significant mode of transportation in the next decade and will require a truly collaborative ecosystem,” said Antonio Campello, President & CEO of EmbraerX. “Our Urban Air Traffic Management (UATM) concept ensures equitable and safe access to urban airspace for a broad spectrum of aircraft, including conventional helicopters, fixed wing aircraft and eVTOLs. FlightPlan 2030 presents what we believe are the necessary first steps towards autonomous capabilities.”

This vision is based on existing technology from Atech, an Embraer company that develops the air traffic control systems used in multiple countries around the world. This project also involved the collaboration of Harris Corporation, a leading ATM technology innovator for the FAA and a global provider of ATM systems that meet the demands of the next generation of air travel around the world.

“As a systems integrator and technology provider for multiple Brazilian defense agencies and other countries, we have been able to envision a dynamic ecosystem of technologies with a focus on maintaining the safety, security, and dependability on which we all rely,” said Edson Mallaco, CEO of Atech. “The foundations for this disruptive service are already available in many of the modern airspace systems currently being implemented around the world. However, all solutions must be tailored to local community needs, and our collaborative vision has been developed to ensure broad stakeholder input.”

“Harris is leading the development and integration of next generation communications, surveillance and information management for ATM systems around the globe,” said Kelle Wendling, vice president and general manager, Harris Mission Networks. “As we look toward the introduction of urban air mobility, projects
like the EmbraerX opportunity allow us to define and promote the safe and reliable integration of these vehicles into airspace systems around the world."

The UATM concept is designed to examine the ways in which a dedicated air traffic control solution for the urban air mobility industry can interact and coordinate with conventional Air Traffic Control (ATC) agencies and Unmanned Traffic Management (UTM) for drones. It proposes a new approach for managing high volumes of aircraft in a system that can safely and efficiently operate in dense, low-altitude urban airspace.

The combination of eVTOL development and this UATM proposition creates a unique position for EmbraerX to responsible lead the growth of the new urban air mobility ecosystem, empowering people and communities along the way. EmbraerX is part of the Uber Elevate Network, which believes that on-demand air transport has the potential to radically transform urban mobility, improving quality of life for millions of people around the world.

**INDIGO ANNOUNCES NETWORK-WIDE SUMMER SALE, STARTING AT INR 999**

India’s largest carrier, IndiGo announced a three-day Summer Sale across its 53 domestic and 17 international destinations. The three-day summer sale will kick-off on May 14 and continue till May 16, 2019. Passengers can avail the compelling all-inclusive fares starting at INR 999 on domestic and international routes including Delhi-Ahmedabad, Mumbai-Hyderabad, Hyderabad-Dubai, Chennai-Kuwait, Delhi-Kuala Lumpur and Bengaluru-Male among many others.

Mr. William Boulter, Chief Commercial Officer, IndiGo said, “With the onset of summer holidays, we are excited to announce this three-day special sale effective today till May 16, 2019. To make holiday season more special, IndiGo is offering attractive discounts upto 30% on pre-paid excess baggage and pre-paid express check-in service. We look forward to our customers availing this opportunity to make this vacation more memorable for their loved ones”.

Mr Boulter further said, “This three-day special sale reinforces IndiGo’s commitment of providing all our customers with an on-time, courteous and hassle free experience at low fares, always”.

**FIRST LION AIR A330NEO ROLLS-OUT OF AIRBUS PAINT SHOP**

The first A330neo for Lion Air Group has rolled out of the Airbus paint shop in Toulouse, France, featuring the airline’s distinctive livery. The aircraft will be operated on lease from BOC Aviation.

Altogether, Lion Air Group will acquire 10 A330neo aircraft, eight of which will be leased from BOC Aviation. The aircraft will have a single-class layout seating 440 passengers and will be operated by Lion Air on selected domestic routes, as well as charter and pilgrimage service to Saudi Arabia. Some of the aircraft will be operated by Thai Lion on long-haul services from Thailand.

The first aircraft will now continue its industrial process and proceed soon to ground and flight tests, before the delivery to the airline in the coming weeks.

**EMBRAER WELCOMES GREAT DANE AIRLINES TO THE E-JETS FAMILY OF OPERATORS**

Great Dane Airlines, from Denmark, has become the most recent customer of the Embraer E-Jets. Embraer welcomed their newest operator at Embraer’s annual European Airlines Business Seminar, held this year in Amsterdam. Based at Aalborg Airport in Denmark, Great Dane begins operations in June with two E195 jet aircraft.

As well as offering charter services to the market, Great Dane will initially serve routes to Chania, Mallorca, Varna, and Rhodes. Soon after, the airline will add Dublin, Edinburgh, and Nice to their network. Both aircraft were purchased from Stobart Air.

Thomas Møller, Founder and CEO of Great Dane Airlines said, “Our mission is to provide the much needed connectivity so far denied to Northern Jutland as these popular routes are too thin to support large narrow body operations profitably. Embraer’s expertise in regional operations and our common focus on ‘right-sizing’ makes their E-Jets the perfect solution to developing these routes.”

“Embraer’s range of commercial aircraft is specifically designed to offer the right-sized aircraft to develop new routes and markets, boosting connectivity; goals we share with Great Dane”, said Martyn Holmes, Vice President, Europe, Russia & Central Asia, Embraer Commercial Aviation. “Embraer is proud to welcome Great Dane Airlines to the ever expanding base of E-Jets operators in Europe.”

**BOMBARDIER COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT PRESENTS THE 2018 AIRLINE AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE**

Bombardier Commercial Aircraft announced the recipients of fourteen 2018 Airline Reliability Awards. The award recognizes operators of Bombardier CRJ Series regional jets and Q Series turboprops who achieve the highest rates of dispatch reliability. Bombardier Commercial Aircraft
held a Gala Awards Ceremony to present the awards on the first day of the 2019 European Regional Review in Munich, Germany.

“We are delighted to congratulate this year’s award recipients for their outstanding performance,” said Todd Young, Vice President and General Manager, Head of the Q Series Aircraft Program, Bombardier Commercial Aircraft. “We are proud of the strong collaboration between Bombardier, our operators and suppliers and the success it delivers in providing efficient, reliable air service to communities worldwide.”

“The 2018 Airline Awards acknowledge the accomplishments of our customers, focusing on their continuous success flying competitively,” said Charles Comtois, Head of the CRJ Series Aircraft Program, Bombardier Commercial Aircraft. “We are proud to continue assisting our operators and suppliers in achieving their excellent performances by delivering global service solutions.”

The European Regional Review is an interactive and informative event designed to promote Bombardier’s partnership with commercial aircraft (Q Series and CRJ Series) operators, suppliers and partners as well as industry affiliates. The event highlights key operational achievements and creates a unique opportunity for all participants to network with airlines, industry experts and program suppliers.

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**SPICEJET INTRODUCES BUSINESS CLASS ON KEY DOMESTIC ROUTES**

Get ready to travel in complete luxury and comfort as India’s favourite carrier, SpiceJet, is all set to roll out its all-new business class offering – SpiceBiz – from May 11, 2019. SpiceBiz is uniquely designed to enhance air travel for business-class passengers and offer unmatched value and greater comfort with the key differentiator being its attractive pricing. The airline will be offering a dedicated business class cabin with 43-inch seat pitch and 7-inch recline, complimentary lounge access, higher baggage allowance, gourmet meals and beverages, priority services and much more. The airline will also have a dedicated cabin crew for business class passengers.

SpiceJet is offering SpiceBiz on select international routes. As the airline ramps capacity and inducts more B737s, SpiceJet will very soon be the second biggest business class operator in India. Depending on the aircraft configuration, SpiceJet will offer eight, 12 and 28 business-class seats on its B737-700/800/900 aircraft respectively. The front row and the over-wing exit rows of the economy cabin will be offered as the premium economy seats - SpiceMax.

Ajay Singh, Chairman & Managing Director, SpiceJet said, “We are very excited to roll out our all new business class product. There is a huge demand for business class in India and we believe that our business class product, with its right pricing and the best in-class features and services, will be much appreciated by passengers. We at SpiceJet have always tried to innovate and provide our customers a memorable flying experience and our new business class offering is yet another step in that direction.”

**SpiceBiz offerings:**
- Lounge access
- Enhanced baggage allowance
- Dedicated check-in
- Priority services
- Gourmet meals

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**FIRST JAPAN AIRLINES A350 XWB MAKES MAIDEN FLIGHT**

The first A350-900 for Japan Airlines (JAL) has successfully completed its maiden flight in Toulouse, France. The A350-900 is the first aircraft to be produced by Airbus for the airline and features a special A350 logo on the fuselage.

The aircraft will now enter the final phase of production, including cabin completion, as well as further ground and flight tests leading to customer acceptance and delivery.

Altogether JAL has ordered 31 A350 XWB aircraft, comprising 18 A350-900s and 13 A350-1000s. The A350-900 will initially be operated by JAL on major domestic routes, with a three-class configuration seating 369 passengers.

The A350 XWB is the world’s most modern and eco-efficient aircraft family shaping the future of air travel. It is the long-range leader in the large widebody market (300 to 400+ seats). The A350 XWB brings a 25% reduction in fuel burn and emissions and features the Airspace by Airbus cabin for the most comfortable flying experience.

At the end of April 2019, the A350 XWB Family had received 893 firm orders from 51 customers worldwide, making it one of the most successful widebody aircraft ever.

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**FIJI AIRWAYS TO BECOME A350 XWB OPERATOR**

Fiji Airways has adopted the A350 XWB as part of its expansion plans to broaden its international network. Two A350-900s will be leased from Dubai-based DAE Capital, making Fiji Airways the newest operator and DAE Capital the latest customer.

With its common type rating with the A330 Family, the A350 XWB was the natural aircraft choice to seamlessly join the airline’s existing fleet of four A330s. The common rating between the A350 XWB and A330 means that pilots who are qualified and current on the A330 can already commence preparations to take the A350 XWB’s controls by undergoing “differences training” only, meaning a significant cost savings and operational flexibility.

The aircraft will be configured with 33 full lie-flat Business Class and 301 Economy Class seats. The aircraft will be deployed to enhance existing long-haul services between Fiji, Australia and the U.S., and to provide the opportunity to open additional routes.
KEY BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE
Hear from renowned Airfield Pavement Experts who have worked on Airfield Engineering & Maintenance projects globally!

TRACK RECENT & ONGOING PROJECTS
Practical information and experiences of actual Airfield Engineering, Design & Construction case studies from Airport Operators and Aviation Authorities!

LEARN PRACTICAL TIPS AND KNOW-HOWS
Learn how to Maintain Pavements and Develop Strategies to schedule maintenance works to meet operational demands!

HIGHLY TARGETED SHARING SESSIONS
Take advantage of the opportunity and access to pose questions to the experts at the event during the Panel Discussions, Roundtable Discussions and many Networking Breaks!

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
Be at the World’s Leading Authority - Airfield Engineering & Maintenance Summit (AEMS) and network with airport pavement experts and representatives globally!

“
AEMS is the industry leading summit. It gave us a lot of useful insights on pavement management & maintenance!

- Head of Project Supervision, King Abdulaziz International Airport

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EQUIP Global
IAF’s AN-32 Aircraft formally Certified to Operate on Indigenous Bio-Jet Fuel

IAF’s formidable workhorse, the Russian made AN-32 aircraft was formally fleet certified to fly on blended aviation fuel containing up to 10% of indigenous bio-jet fuel. The approval certificate was received at the aero-engine test facilities at Chandigarh by Air Commodore Sanjiv Ghuratia VSM, Air Officer Commanding, 3 BRD, AF on behalf of the IAF from Mr P Jayapal, Chief Executive CEMILAC.

The IAF has undertaken a series of evaluation tests and trials with this green aviation fuel for the last one year. The scope of these checks was in consonance with the international aviation standards. Today’s approval is an acknowledgement of the meticulous testing using the indigenous bio-jet fuel by the IAF.

The indigenous bio-jet fuel was first produced by the CSIR-IIP lab at Dehradun in 2013, but could not be tested or certified for commercial use on aircraft due to lack of test facilities in the civil aviation sector. On 27 July, 2018, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa PVSM AVSM YSM VM ADC had formally announced IAF’s intention to permit the use of all its resources for testing and certifying the indigenous fuel. Since then, IAF’s flight test crew and engineers have been evaluating the performance of this fuel against international standards. This is a huge step in promoting the ‘Make in India’ mission as this bio-fuel would be produced from Tree Borne Oils (TBOs) sourced from tribal areas and farmers, augmenting their income substantially.

BEL achieves Rs. 11,789.22 Cr turnover in FY 2018-19

Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) achieved a turnover of Rs.11,789.22 crs (audited) for the ended F.Y. 2018-19 registering a growth of 16.90% over the turnover of Rs.10,084.84 crs achieved in the previous year.

The profit after tax (PAT) for the year ended F.Y.2018-19 stood at Rs.1,927.29 crs as against Rs.1,399.29 crs, registering an increase of 37.73% over previous year.

For the quarter ending March 19, the Company achieved a turnover of Rs.3,772.60 crs as against Rs.3,427.97 crs for the corresponding quarter of the previous year. The Profit after tax (PAT) stood at Rs.668.62 crs as against Rs.558.74 crs for the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

The Company has paid an interim dividend of Rs.1.70 per share for the F.Y. 2018-19 and the Board has recommended further amount of Rs.1.70 per share as final dividend for the year 2018-19 at the meeting held on 29th May 2019, subject to approval in the AGM. The total dividend payout for F.Y. 2018-19 works out to Rs. 3.40 per share, as against Rs. 2.00 per share in the previous year. The dividend payout is 42.98 % on PAT as against 35.06% for the previous year.

The order book position as on 01.04.2019 is Rs.51,798 crs. With a healthy order book position and the projects in pipeline the Company is poised for a sustaining growth in the coming years with commensurate profitability.

During the year the Company has successfully completed the supply of Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Verifiable Paper audit Trail (VVPAT) within a stringent delivery schedule to meet the requirement of Election Commission of India for the general elections.
Admiral Karambir Singh assumes charge as new chief of Naval Staff

Admiral Karambir Singh on Friday assumed charge as the 24th chief of the Indian Navy, becoming the first helicopter pilot to helm the force. He succeeds Admiral Sunil Lanba who retired after a distinguished career spanning over four decades. Before appointed to the top post, he served as the Flag Officer Commanding in Chief (FOC-in-C) of the Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam.

As Navy chief, Admiral Singh’s immediate priority will be to expedite the long-delayed modernisation of the Indian Navy, including by inducting new warships, submarines and aircraft. At present, the Navy has around 132 ships, 220 aircraft and 15 submarines.

Admiral Singh is also expected to focus on expansion of India’s presence and overall influence in the Indian Ocean region where China has been fast increasing its presence. His promotion was challenged by Commander-in-Chief of the Andaman and Nicobar Command Vice Admiral Bimal Verma on grounds of seniority.

However, the Defence ministry rejected Vice Admiral Verma’s petition following which he approached a military tribunal. The Armed Forces Tribunal here allowed Admiral Singh to take charge as the new Navy chief, holding that his continuation will depend on the final outcome of the case. The next date of hearing in the case is July 17. Admiral Singh is scheduled to continue in the post till November 2021.

An alumnus of the National Defence Academy in Khadakwasla, he held various key positions in the Navy in a career spanning over 39 years.

Commissioned into the Indian Navy in July 1980, he earned his wings as a helicopter pilot in 1981 and has flown extensively on the Chetak (Alouette) and Kamov helicopters. He is a graduate of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington and College of Naval Warfare, Mumbai.

His other important flag appointments include Chief of Staff of the Tri-Services Unified Command at Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Flag Officer Commanding Maharashtra and Gujarat Naval Area (FOMAG). At the Integrated Headquarters Ministry of Defence (Navy), the Admiral had served as the Deputy Chief of Naval Staff and, subsequently, the Vice Chief of Naval Staff. He is the first helicopter pilot to become Chief of Naval Staff. The Navy chief retires after a three-year tenure or after attaining 62 years of age, whichever is earlier.

DRDO Successfully Flight-Tested Guided Bomb

Defence Research and Defence Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested a 500 kg class Inertial Guided Bomb today from Su-30 MKI Aircraft from the Pokhran test range in Rajasthan. The guided bomb achieved the desired range and hit the target with high precision.

All the mission objectives have been met. The weapon system is capable of carrying different warheads.
Marignane – The French Minister of the Armed Forces, Florence Parly, has announced that the launch of the Joint Light Helicopter (Hélicoptère Interarmées Léger; HIL) programme has been brought forward to 2021. The HIL programme, for which the Airbus Helicopters’ H160 was selected in 2017, was initially scheduled for launch in 2022 by the current military budget law. Launching the programme earlier will enable delivery of the first H160Ms to the French Armed Forces to be advanced to 2026.

During a visit to the Airbus Helicopters headquarters, the Minister also revealed the full-scale mock-up of the H160M that will be presented on the Ministry of the Armed Forces stand at the next Paris Air Show. The helicopter was also given its official name and will be designated as “Guépard” (“Cheetah”) by the French Armed Forces.

The H160 was designed to be a modular helicopter, enabling its military version, with a single platform, to perform missions ranging from commando infiltration to air intercept, fire support, and anti-ship warfare in order to meet the needs of the army, the navy and the air force through the HIL programme.

“We are proud that the HIL is considered a strategic programme. I would like to thank the Ministry, the French Defence Procurement Agency DGA and the armed forces for their trust and for the close collaboration which helped create the conditions for the programme to be brought forward within the framework of the current military budget law. This will make it possible to speed up the replacement of the older generation of aircraft, while optimising the support and availability of the French State’s helicopter fleet,” said Bruno Even, CEO of Airbus Helicopters. “Our teams are committed to delivering an aircraft in 2026 that meets the needs of the French armed forces in terms of availability, performance and capability, thus enabling it to rapidly become the new benchmark on the world’s medium-lift military helicopter market.”

Built around a platform that will enter service next year, the HIL programme will benefit from many of the advantages inherent in the civil H160, particularly in terms of support, with simplified maintenance and lower operating costs than the previous generation of helicopters in this category.
Cover Story

Looked upon as the biggest gathering for one and all aerospace professionals; Paris International Airshow has always been the finest playground for companies to showcase their business. Now, given the situation of Brexit further receiving impetus from not so promising figures from manufacturing industry globally, there is no denying that aerospace industry is far from being declared sick. Speaking of which, there has been a considerable increase in the demand for passengers preferring to travel by air which in turns makes it a difficult scenario for OEMs as well their supply chain counterparts to meet demand cycles. Take a look at the military sector where the BRIC economies are bent on developing programmes that are uniquely home driven targeted to “strengthen armed force’s capabilities and cultivate skills and technologies in their own aerospace industries”. Other such advancements can be further seen in terms of drones and UAV aircrafts which undeniably make a heavy impact on the industry altogether. Here’s a look into what makes Paris Airshow remain a favourite ground for companies looking to make a mark and what it has to offer in not so distant future.

A true legacy of aerospace industry

As far as history lessons go, Paris Airshow began all the way back in 1908. Since, 1953, however, it’s been held at the Le Bourget airport, which is favourably located within a few miles from the heart of Paris. This year, the show is...
Cover Story

slotted to be staged by GIFAS, (the French Aerospace Industries Association) and will be in full swing starting from June 17 to June 23 (8.30am-6pm). Quite naturally, the Paris International Airshow sees more than fifty percent of exhibitors to be French aerospace companies. USA, of course has the second largest number in terms of exhibitors. Along with that, one can witness several other global player from all corners of the globe and from prominent nations like United Kingdom, Italy, Germany along with India, Canada, Brazil, China and Spain to name a few.

Reportedly, the four days of the show comprises and is wholly dedicated to trade visits, while the fifth day is reserved for students. In 2017, the show managed to garner more than US$150 billion orders. A host of English companies known to be key players in aerospace manufacturing is set to exhibit at what would be the 53rd edition of the event and similar to previous years, there will be pavilion coordinated by the ADS, which by all means shall feature aerospace associations alongside the English companies.

What to expect this year

Similar to every year that sees a marathon of seminars and speeches, the organizer have plans for “Paris Air Lab”. A different throw in for all trade visitors as well as for general public with a view to emerge as a “pioneer and original exhibition space”. A step like this surely does mark the road for future innovation and progress for the industry. The
Air Lab will be located at the Concorde Hall of the Air and Space Museum at Le Bourget and shall showcase two examples of the famous supersonic Concorde aircraft. The space will be dedicated entirely to innovations from the major players in the aerospace industry, as well as those from start-ups in the sector. Back in 2017, the Air Lab had three main zones, namely, ‘Pick up your innovation’, focussing on future technical advances in aeronautics, Digital Advances And Applications that that had drones, interconnectivity, manufacturing as its pulse points and Space Travel And Exploration. The Paris Air Lab will be located next to the ‘Careers Plane’ which highlights all the jobs available in aerospace from companies and individuals, who design, manufacture and maintain aircraft, sometimes giving youngsters the chance to use tools themselves. Also, nearby will be the ‘The Sky of Tomorrow’ exhibition which presents an overview of environmentally-friendly aerospace research.

**The crux of fine business**

For any small business attending the event, presents before itself a great opportunity to score new deals and sign new contracts. As a matter of fact, 2017 saw Paris Airshow’s managing director, Gilles Fournier go on record stating that, “90% of the show’s exhibitors are SMEs, that around 70% of the event’s SME exhibitors return each year and around 30% come for the first time, often with the help of industry associations, and regional trade organisations. They consider the show to be a good opportunity to win business as they can meet a lot of people during the week and their return on investment is much more measurable from their point of view compared to the big players.”

Patrick Daher has already been elected by SIAE to act as the new chairman and chief executive officer, thus replacing Emeric d’Arcimoles who oversaw three Airshows. Daher will be looking after management and development of the organisation as he told the media during his appointment; “The Paris Airshow is a tremendous resource for the entire aerospace industry worldwide. Every two years, it brings all industry players together at Le Bourget for a week of business and events. The professionalism of the SIAE team and the enthusiasm of exhibitors and visitors ensure that the Airshow remains today, as it has been for more than a century, the world’s biggest Airshow. I am proud to take over as Chairman of this event, ready to tackle the huge challenges that lie ahead in the next few years.”
The Dassault Training Academy recently graduated the 1,000th trainee from its Falcon Practical Training course, underscoring the growing popularity of this advanced, hands-on educational tool.

"The real-life working conditions offered by the Practical Training Program make it the most useful and comprehensive program available from any OEM," said Jean Kayanakis, Senior Vice President, Worldwide Customer Service and Service Center Network. “Trainees obtain access to the latest Falcon technologies and maintenance standards while benefiting from the hands-on experience of seasoned Dassault Aviation technicians and engineers.”

The academy, established in 2013, offers Falcon customers a full portfolio of training options covering the entire life cycle of their aircraft, from entry into service onward. With two locations in France – Mérignac, near Bordeaux, and Paris-Le Bourget – the Dassault Training Academy offers accredited, two-week, model-specific courses for technicians on all Falcon 900 and Falcon 2000 models, as well as the Falcon 7X and 8X. Falcon Practical Training, the academy’s baseline course, is designed to complement theoretical instruction provided by CAE, Flight Safety International and Global Jet Services, Dassault’s Authorized Training Providers. It is open to qualified maintenance technicians from operator flight departments, Dassault owned service centers and Falcon Authorized Service facilities.

A key component of the Practical Training syllabus is Falcon Immersive Practical Training, a unique 3D virtual reality tool that allows up to ten trainees and their trainer to access any component or part (even in the narrowest, hardest-to-reach areas of the airplane) without using actual hardware. The Dassault Training Academy also offers a range of specialized offerings such as Structural Repair Training, a five-day course in mapping and handling corrosion and composite repair. Offered in partnership with Aerocampus Latresne near Bordeaux, this course enables maintenance crews to examine a Falcon aircraft for structural damage and deliver repair in line with Structural Repair Manual (SRM) or Dassault-designed repair schemes.

To meet increasing demand and satisfy operator requests for more targeted training, the academy is looking to further develop its specialized course offerings, for example in the areas of pilot Maintenance Familiarization servicing tasks and cabin system maintenance. Dassault Aviation was the first business jet manufacturer to obtain EASA approval to operate as a Part 147 Training Center.

Textron Aviation Inc Company announced a new Aircraft Maintenance Data Hub for owners and operators of Beechcraft, Cessna and Hawker aircraft at this week’s European Business Aviation Convention and Exhibition. The new data hub will be available in summer 2019 and will offer a more comprehensive record of all aircraft maintenance performed on Textron Aviation products by working with multiple industry tracking system providers.

“It’s important to our customers that they have a clear understanding and record of work done on their aircraft,” said Kriya Shortt, Textron Aviation senior vice president, Global Customer Support. “This new data hub will offer customers more choices in their tracking system and a comprehensive picture of maintenance records across all their Textron Aviation products.”

Textron Aviation named CAMP, Flightdocs, SierraTrax and Traxxall as recommended providers of aircraft maintenance tracking for the new data hub. While previously exclusive to CAMP, customers now have the flexibility to select the recommended provider that best fits their needs.

The data hub will be a new feature in the Textron Aviation Customer Portal. Customers will benefit from receiving a one-year free subscription from their choice of recommended provider for new and pre-owned aircraft purchased from Textron Aviation.
Jet Aviation and HK Bellawings Jet Sign Agreements for Boeing’s Jeppesen Digital Solutions


“We are investing in the Jeppesen Operator platform to ensure our customers and flight crews have every possible advantage in terms of safety, convenience and efficiency,” said Dave Paddock, who becomes president of Jet Aviation July 1 after serving four years as senior vice president and general manager, Regional Operations USA. “Jet Aviation manages nearly 300 business aircraft globally, and we are pleased to expand our technology portfolio with these digital solutions.”

Signing a five-year agreement for the Jeppesen Operator digital offering, Jet Aviation now has a tool that integrates its key business aviation functionality in a one-stop shop self-service environment for its U.S. Operations. Jeppesen Operator integrates overall flight planning, runway performance, weight and balance, and crew and fleet scheduling/management. It also integrates self-service trip planning, reporting, customer account management, real-time pricing and cost accounting capabilities.

HK Bellawings Jet signed a seven-year agreement for the Jeppesen JetPlanner Pro offering, which provides end-to-end flight planning, dispatch operations and route optimization for its fleet. With an intuitive dual-screen interface and a built-in business-rule automation system, this digital solution also integrates with other external services to provide a comprehensive operations environment.

“With our fleet expanding gradually at HK Bellawings, optimizing our flight planning services using Boeing tools will enhance operational efficiency and ensure we are using the most efficient routes possible,” said YJ Zhang, President of HK Bellawings Jet. “JetPlanner Pro offers us the planning functionality we need in demanding operational environments, and allows our clients to take over the lead in their tight schedules.”

“These new agreements are a testament to the quality of our offerings,” said William Ampofo, vice president, Business & General Aviation, Boeing Global Services. “Our customers have put their trust in us to ensure they are operationally ready—and for that we are grateful.”

Signing events for both agreements were held during the EBACE airshow in Geneva, with a live demonstration of the Operator digital solution available for event participants to experience.
Germany becomes first government customer for ACJ350

The German government has placed a firm order for three ACJ350-900 XWBs, becoming the first government customer for the type, which has already been ordered by private customers. The aircraft are destined for a mix of government, troop transport and medical evacuation roles. Delivery of the first aircraft is planned for 2020, and the other two in 2022.

Cabin outfitting will be facilitated by ACJ’s Easyfit cabin-outfitting concept, which features pre-installed attachments and standardized interfaces that greatly simplify installing walls and furniture in a carbonfibre fuselage.

“The ACJ350 XWB is the ultimate in modern, long-haul, private jet travel, with the capability to deliver large groups nonstop to the world in unmatched comfort, efficiency and reliability,” says ACJ President Benoit Defforge.

The A350 XWB is the first Airbus aircraft to feature a carbonfibre fuselage and wings, which are immune to fatigue and corrosion, as well as saving weight.

Its technological features also include the greater comfort of a lower cabin-altitude, simpler and faster transition-training for pilots through the newest version of Airbus’s common cockpit, and aerodynamically efficient wings that adapt their shape in flight.

Total A350 XWB orders stand at around 900, more than 250 of which are already in airline service. The ACJ350-900 XWB can fly 25 passengers 11,100 nm/20,550 km or more than 22 hours in its ultra-long range version. Around 200 Airbus corporate jets are in service worldwide, flying on every continent, including Antarctica.

Honda Aircraft Company to Expand its Production Facility in Greensboro, NC

Honda Aircraft Company announced plans to expand its global headquarters in Greensboro, NC by investing an additional $15.5 million in a new 82,000-square-foot facility on its 133+ acre campus in Greensboro. This will bring the company’s total capital investment in its North Carolina facilities to more than $245 million. Scheduled to break ground in July 2019, the building will house a new wing assembly process for the HondaJet Elite, the fastest, farthest and highest-flying plane in its class. The new facility will allow for more wings to be assembled concurrently, resulting in a major increase in production efficiency. Additionally, this expansion will add more storage for service parts for the growing fleet of HondaJets around the globe. The facility is expected to be completed in July 2020.

“As the HondaJet’s popularity and presence continues to increase around the world, it is necessary for our facility to meet our production and service needs while operating at the highest level of efficiency,” said Michimasa Fujino, president and CEO of Honda Aircraft Company. “We are proud that Honda Aircraft Company is expanding its footprint in North Carolina and in the aviation industry.”

“Honda Aircraft Company has invested millions of dollars and created thousands of jobs in the Greensboro region, and the expansion of their headquarters is great news for North Carolina families,” said Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC).

“The announcement today by Honda Aircraft Company is a huge boost for Guilford County,” said U.S. Representative Ted Budd (R-NC). “This new $15.5 million dollars in investment shows that our area continues to be a place where businesses thrive.”

“Honda Aircraft Company is the latest example of a manufacturer enjoying the benefits of doing business in North Carolina and expanding their footprint here,” Governor Roy Cooper (D-NC) said. “Their investment in the Triad is a testament to our state’s commitment to economic development and the aerospace industry.”
Dassault Freezes Falcon 6X Design

Dassault Aviation has completed the Critical Design Review for its new Falcon 6X, freezing the detailed design of the new ultra widebody twinjet, and begun manufacturing major parts as the program tracks to assembly of the first aircraft by early 2020.

The Falcon 6X will make its first flight in 2021 and begin deliveries in 2022. It offers the largest cabin cross section of any purpose build business jet as well as the quietest and most comfortable cabin of any aircraft in its class.

“Our design teams and partners have done an excellent job so far,” said Eric Trappier, Chairman & CEO of Dassault Aviation. “Completing the design review this month and releasing the aircraft to the manufacturing process is a significant milestone. It demonstrates our confidence in the airframe and engine design as well as in the collaborative process we have put in place with our global partners.”

The Pratt & Whitney Canada Pure®Power PW812D 13,000-14,000 lbs thrust engine that will power the 6X has accumulated nearly 1,000 hours of runtime on the Pratt test bench in Montréal, Canada using five development engines. To date PW has accumulated more than 13,000 hours on the variant of the geared turbofan (GTF) core at the heart of the Dassault-specific PW812D. The GTF core is shared by 16 different engine applications that have amassed more than 585,000 flight hours in all.

“The PW812D engine program continues to achieve milestones in line with the initial program plan, with high-risk tests almost all completed,” Trappier added.

The Falcon 6X features a maximum range of 5,500 nm (10,186 km). It can fly directly from Los Angeles to London, Sao Paulo to Chicago or Paris to Beijing at Mach 0.85. The 6X is equipped with an ultra-efficient wing that minimizes the impact of turbulence and a next-generation digital flight control system that controls all moving surfaces, including a new control surface called a flaperon. The flaperon considerably improves control during approach, especially on steep descents.

The aircraft also comes with industry-leading noise suppression systems, based on experience with the Falcon 8X – the current benchmark in noise comfort – and an all-new cockpit and third-generation EASy III all-digital flight deck.

It will be delivered with Dassault’s revolutionary FalconEye Combined Vision System – the first head up display to combine enhanced and synthetic vision capabilities – and FalconSphere II electronic flight bag. FalconEye has been certified to 100 ft reduced minima on the Falcon 8X, 900LX and 2000 series aircraft.
JOHN SAABAS ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT; MARIA DELLA POSTA NAMED PRESIDENT, PRATT & WHITNEY CANADA

Pratt & Whitney, a division of United Technologies Corp announced the appointment of Maria Della Posta as president of Pratt & Whitney Canada, effective June 1 and reporting to Pratt & Whitney President Bob Leduc. Della Posta succeeds John Saabas as president, Pratt & Whitney Canada, who has announced his retirement.

"Pratt & Whitney Canada has a leadership position in all of its markets, with a portfolio of more than 64,000 engines in service and 13,000 customers worldwide," said Bob Leduc, President, Pratt & Whitney. "Maria has been instrumental in building Pratt & Whitney Canada’s portfolio throughout her career. Maria brings extensive experience and a deep understanding of our customers and the markets in which we operate. As leader of Pratt & Whitney Canada’s global business, I am confident that Maria will continue to drive sustainable growth and deliver exceptional customer service while maximizing operational performance worldwide. I wish to thank John for his outstanding contribution to Pratt & Whitney.”

Della Posta joined Pratt & Whitney in 1985 and progressed through roles of increasing leadership in Supply Chain, Finance and Customer Service. She was named vice president, Customer Support in 2001, senior vice president, Sales and Marketing in 2010 and senior vice president, Pratt & Whitney Canada in 2012.

DASSAULT NAMES DENIS LÉCULÉE FALCON SALES DIRECTOR FOR EASTERN EUROPE

Dassault Aviation recently appointed Denis Léculée to the position of Falcon Aircraft Sales Director for Eastern Europe including Germany and Austria. Denis Léculée, 43, joined Dassault Aviation’s Saint-Cloud Sales Department in 2001. Prior to his promotion, he served as Falcon Aircraft Sales Manager for Northern, Eastern Europe, Russia and CIS countries. In his new job, Léculée will manage a team of two Falcon Aircraft Sales Managers, also promoted within the company. He will report to Gilles Gautier, Vice President, Falcon Sales for Dassault Aviation.

"Denis is a real Falcon specialist, familiar with all the technological advantages our products have to offer, and is skilled at establishing strong customer relationships,” said Gautier. "He has always been an excellent ambassador of the Falcon brand and the company values.”

Denis Léculée graduated from the Institut d’Etudes Politiques in Strasbourg, France majoring in International Relations, and holds a Master’s Degree in Air Transport Management from France’s Ecole Nationale de l’Aviation Civile (ENAC).
QANTAS GROUP EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Qantas is pleased to announce two key changes to its Group leadership team. Current Chief Financial Officer, Tino La Spina, will move to become Chief Executive Officer of Qantas International. This follows the recent resignation of previous CEO, Alison Webster. Vanessa Hudson, who is currently the Group’s Chief Customer Officer, will move to the role of Chief Financial Officer.

These changes will take effect from 1 October 2019, allowing Mr La Spina to close out the current fiscal year through to annual reporting. From mid-May, Ms Hudson will be CFO Designate and will work closely with Mr La Spina to ensure a smooth handover.

Narendra Kumar will remain Acting Qantas International CEO while the CFO transition is completed.

A process to appoint a replacement Chief Customer Officer will start shortly. All three roles will continue to report to Qantas Group CEO, Alan Joyce.

Announcing the appointments, Mr Joyce said: “These changes show the depth of talent in our Group executive team, and a large part of that comes from our practice of giving people exposure in different areas across a diverse portfolio of businesses.

“Vanessa started with Qantas 24 years ago in finance and audit, before moving to senior roles in inflight services, commercial planning, sales and distribution, and regional head of Qantas in the US. It means she brings a deep understanding of our business as well as a strong background in finance to the role of CFO.

“Tino has been with Qantas for 13 years in a series of senior finance roles, which has given him a detailed understanding of what drives results in each part of the Group.

“There is a lot of positive momentum across the Qantas Group. We have a great executive team in place and I look forward to working with them over the years ahead as we deliver for our customers and shareholders,” added Mr Joyce.

AIRBUS ANNOUNCES SENIOR LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Airbus SE has appointed Antoine Bouvier, 59, Head of Strategy, Mergers & Acquisitions and Public Affairs, effective 1 June 2019. In this position, he will report to Guillaume Faury, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Airbus.

At MBDA, Antoine Bouvier will be succeeded as CEO by Eric Béranger, 56, who has held a number of leadership positions in Airbus Defence and Space. His appointment will also become effective 1 June 2019. MBDA, a joint venture between Airbus (37.5%), BAE Systems PLC (37.5%) and Leonardo S.p.A. (25%), is Europe’s leading missile systems house.

Furthermore, Patrick de Castelbajac, 47, is appointed Head of Region Asia-Pacific for Airbus, effective 1 June 2019. In this capacity, he succeeds Jean-Marc Nasr who was recently appointed Executive Vice President Space Systems within Airbus Defence and Space. Patrick de Castelbajac is also named Head of Sales Asia-Pacific for the Company’s commercial aircraft business as of 1 July 2019. Patrick de Castelbajac will report to Christian Scherer, Chief Commercial Officer and Member of the Executive Committee at Airbus.

“Today’s senior leadership announcements are further important elements to shape the Company’s next chapter,” said Guillaume Faury, CEO of Airbus. “Antoine Bouvier has demonstrated his leadership at the helm of MBDA since 2007, firmly establishing it as Europe’s premier missile company. Antoine brings a rich experience in the Aerospace and Defence sector as well as a strategic vision in an international environment.”

“With Eric Béranger we have a renowned industry leader joining the MBDA Board of Directors to succeed Antoine. Eric is taking over as CEO of MBDA and I wish him all the success for this new professional challenge”, said Faury.

He added: “Patrick de Castelbajac will now be responsible for one of Airbus’ most strategic growth regions with Asia-Pacific. Patrick has demonstrated, at Airbus and at ATR, his strong business knowledge and proximity to our stakeholders – all assets which are needed to successfully advance our business in this dynamic part of the world.”
All about Monsoon
As we are approaching monsoon season, in north India, Monsoon starts from June & ends in September. This is due to summer where temperature rises which feeds convective clouds development especially near equator region. Its all starts from trade winds comes from south west of India with lots of moisture. Its a wind pattern, thats why called Southwest Monsoon. The winds from southwest can feed violent vertical clouds extending from near ground till higher altitude of aircraft operations. Especially Cumulonimbus clouds. Cumulonimbus clouds are vertical development convective clouds which can bring Heavy rain, lightning & severe turbulence, with winds speed more than 140+ Km/hr and icing. Greatest ever hazard for aviation.

South India receives good rain fall and weather by the receding winds from north India towards south, so down south rainy season is started in october where north Indian monsoon getting cleared. So from June to mid November some or other weather prevails around India.

During these months lots of weather which will affect the flyers in all means. Like Turbulent ride, Lightining Strike, Return backs, Delayed Depatures and Arrivals, Abort landing or even cancellation of flights.

How Pilots check or predicts weather.
Its all starts from starting for a flight duty.
- Checking overall weather in India.
- At airport dispatch before flight, checking all weather papers like.
- Metar (Meteorological Terminal Aviation Routine).
- TAF (Terminal Aerodrome Forecast).
- Sygnostic Charts, Weather Warning & ATIS (Automated Terminal Information Service).
- With above, deciding on routing and strategy of the flight.
- Onboard with the use of Weather radar and visual scanning of weather, also with the help of other pilots reports given on radio frequency.

In pilots point of view weather is classified in color codes.

Black - No weather or negligible weather
Green - Rain clouds & light or no turbulence
Yellow - Developing weather or light to moderate turbulence
Red - Severe weather with severe turbulence and severe lightning.
Magenta - Moderate or severe turbulence

All the above, Red area is area to avoid in any circumstances.

Pilots most often avoid weather by circumnavigate the weather by at least 35kms but sometimes there will be a need to penetrate some green or yellow weather patches after assessing the weather deeply, where light to moderate turbulence is experienced.

Passengers might more often see seatbelts signs lit inside aircraft most of the time during this monsoon period. Seat belts in aircraft when fasten, is designed to make sure passengers are not thrown out of the seats in case of sudden violent turbulence.

**Passengers to note Onboard**
- Pay attention & follow cabin crew safety instructions.
- Pay attention to Captain’s passenger addressing.
- Always respect & comply seatbelts sign.
- Avoid getting out of seat when seatbelt sign is On.
- And always sit back, relax and enjoy the flight.
- When deboarding dont forget to say “nice landing captain”.

**Thunderstorms Facts**
- It is estimated that every day there are about 44,000 thunderstorms across the planet earth.
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AVIATION UPDATE
Joramco performed its first B787 C Check for Royal Jordanian airlines

Joramco, the Amman based MRO and the engineering arm of Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE), is pleased to announce that it has performed its first C check on a Royal Jordanian Boeing 787 at its facility in Amman-Jordan.

Jeff Wilkinson, Chief Executive Officer of Joramco said: “We are delighted to be increasing our B787 capability, the B787 is a key aircraft within our strategic plans and the increased scope of approval has been welcomed by our customers. We continue to build on Joramco’s success as a leading MRO facility offering a globally competitive suite of MRO services”.

RJ President/CEO Stefan Pichler said: “Our company is glad to see the enhanced and growing strategic partnership with Joramco, which is based on the long history and experience the two entities have been sharing, particularly since we both operate from the same hub, Amman. Today, they successfully carried out the first C Check for an RJ 787, which only reinforces our confidence in the technical competence and qualified workforce of Joramco, a company that enjoys international reputation in quality aircraft heavy maintenance services.”

Magnetic MRO to paint & refurbish Finnair’s ATR fleet

Magnetic MRO and Finnair have signed a contract for complete paint work, full interior refurbishment and base maintenance on all 12 of the airline’s ATR 72 fleet operated for Finnair by its partner company Norra. The first aircraft was delivered to the customer on May 8th from Magnetic MRO’s Tallinn hangars.

"We are proud that Finnair and Norra have selected Magnetic MRO for their full ATR modification project," said Kaspars Podins, Magnetic MRO’s Operations Manager. “By taking up the large-scale project, Magnetic MRO has once again proven that we are a great partner for providing a full package of total technical care solutions with a high-level quality for our customers, starting from the design bundle for cabin modification and full refurbishment, all the way to external livery change and maintenance tasks.”

"Magnetic MRO is honoured to be a part of Finnair’s success story and we hope to work with the company side by side in their future efforts,” said Kaspars Podins.

According to the contract, Magnetic MRO will paint all 12 of the ATR aircraft into the Finnair livery. The aircraft will also receive full interior refurbishment. The project is also the company first time in providing base maintenance for ATR type aircraft.

“Finnair and MMRO has over 15 years of excellent partnership on ATR and A320 maintenance. Magnetic MRO is perfectly located close to our main base Helsinki and their recent process development especially on aircraft painting convinced us on their ability to manage the whole fleet wide modification program within agreed time schedule at high quality and competitive cost,” said Juha Ojala, Finnair’s Head of Engineering.
Air Arabia chooses AMOS as its new MRO software

Air Arabia has selected AMOS as its new MRO software to take care of the demands of a dynamic, fast-changing industry. The CEOs of Swiss-AS and Air Arabia signed the contracts in a ceremony held at the headquarters of Air Arabia in Sharjah. As Air Arabia is performing light and heavy maintenance in-house and they have chosen the AMOS Airline-MRO Edition, which provides all the functions that need to cover the entire spectrum of the carrier’s maintenance operations efficiently.

Air Arabia wants to increase the size of its fleet with the intention to operate 100 plus aircraft by 2025. With AMOS, Air Arabia has taken a sustainable and future-proof decision that will not only support the fleet growth but also the digital transformation process towards paperless operation. In addition to AMOS desktop, Air Arabia will implement AMOS mobile to equip its maintenance staff in the hangar and on the apron with a fully integrated and easy to use software tool.

“By equipping Air Arabia with AMOS and AMOS mobile we are confident to pave the way into the digital future of the airline and to add significant synergies to the maintenance process landscape. We are proud to welcome Air Arabia to the AMOS Community,” said CEO of Swiss-AS, Ronald Schaeuffele.

“At Air Arabia we always look for innovative solutions to bring further efficiency to our operations. Selecting AMOS as our new MRO software across the group reflects the importance we place in adopting latest technologies to support our fleet growth requirements,” said Group Chief Executive Officer of Air Arabia, Adel Al Ali.

MTU Maintenance signs exclusive CFM56-5B contract with GoAir

MTU Maintenance has signed an exclusive four-year CFM56-5B contract with GoAir. According to the contract, MTU will take care of maintenance, repair and overhaul as well as spare engine support and on-site services for the CFM56-5B engines powering the airline’s 17 A320 aircraft.

GoAir was launched in 2005 and currently the carrier operates 230 flights per day across the Indian subcontinent and international flights to Phuket, Muscat, Male, and Abu Dhabi. The airline has ordered 144 A320neo and is poised for further growth.

“We are delighted to have signed this exclusive contract with MTU Maintenance, a competent and world-renowned MRO provider,” said Jeh Wadia, Managing Director, GoAir. “We are convinced that they will meet our high service level expectations and look forward to receiving excellent technical support and expertise, whatever our needs. The first engine has already been inducted and we will be sending more shortly.”

“The Indian subcontinent has always been a strategic market for MTU and we feel very privileged to have been chosen by one of the key airlines in India to perform CFM56-5B MRO exclusively on their behalf,” said Sami Ben-Kraiem, VP Marketing and Sales, Middle East and Southeast Asia. “The Indian subcontinent is a region with huge potential. We look forward to building on this success.”
India’s Locus raises $22M in Series B funding to expand product and sales reach

Locus, a global AI backed supply chain optimization company, has secured $22 million in (Series B) funding from Falcon Edge Capital & Tiger Global Management. Previous investors Exfinity Venture Partners and Blume Ventures also took part in this round. This new series of funding will help it to penetrate deeper into the new markets by enhancing the product & solutions for each geography and also in expanding local teams.

Locus automates human decisions required to transport a package or a person, between any two points on earth, delivering gains along the axes of efficiency, consistency, and transparency in operations. The company's premier logistics optimisation solutions include route optimization, real-time tracking of orders, insights and analytics, dynamic sales journey plans, and automated shipment sorting. Locus is focussed on solving complex real-world logistics problems like increasing First Attempt Delivery Rate (FADR) for e-commerce companies, sales transformation for global CPG companies, and suggesting optimal fleet mix for 3PL companies.

“Locus provides autonomous supply chain optimization thus minimizing the dependency on human intelligence, built by an incredible team of PhDs & Engineers. Product applications include clubbing of forward and reverse logistics in a single route plan, schedule & on-demand dispatch planning, and automatic escalation management. Locus is on an unprecedented path to automate every possible decision in the supply chain. The funding will act as a boost to our global expansion efforts as we amplify our team size specifically in North America and continue to build our IP,” said Nishith Rastogi, Locus’ CEO.

“We believe the trillion-dollar global logistics market is ripe for disruption via technological change, particularly AI and machine learning driven solutions. We are excited to lead a Series B round in Locus, a company that deploys AI/ML/deep tech to drive route optimization outcomes in global logistics markets. With prolific anchor customers such as Blue Dart, the team has demonstrated the ability to build and deliver cutting edge technology and algorithmic driven outcomes that provide attributable ROI to the enterprise at scale. We are excited to help Locus expand its breadth and depth of product and sales reach, moving from route optimization to a full-stack SaaS offering to the enterprise around its logistics needs,” said Navroz D Udwadia, co-founder, Falcon Edge Capital.

The company expanded its presence to regions such as North America and Southeast Asia in 2018, after demonstrating successful customer rollouts across sectors in India. Locus currently serves 40+ clients globally saving logistics cost at scale, increasing productivity and profitability for enterprises across multiple segments, owning a peak of over 1 million orders processed in a day. Locus has offices in India, US and Indonesia and dedicated local teams for these regions.

Singapore joins the Etihad Cargo freighter network

Etihad Cargo has launched scheduled freighter flights from its hub in Abu Dhabi to Singapore’s Changi International Airport. The weekly flights will continue to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, before returning to Abu Dhabi, reinforcing Etihad’s commitment to serve key logistics hubs in the Asia Pacific region, and offer onward connections through its strategically located Abu Dhabi hub.

The new service meets customer demand for more freight capacity between Abu Dhabi and Singapore, and compliments the daily widebody passenger flights between the cities.

In 2018, Etihad Cargo restructured its network and simplified its fleet to five Boeing 777 freighters, to focus on key trade lanes that benefit from Abu Dhabi’s globally-central location. Etihad has also increased cargo capacity in core markets including China, India and Vietnam, and today’s addition of Singapore further strengthens the freighter network.
Alitalia signs up for CSafe’s new pharma containers

Alitalia, the flag carrier of Italy, has signed up to use the active temperature-controlled containers, launched by CSafe Global recently. CSafe’s recently launched CSafe RAP offers best-in-class operational performance, even in the most extreme ambient conditions (-30°C to +54°C). It is the latest innovation in large, active temperature-controlled containers to enter the pharmaceutical cold chain industry.

Brad Jennings, vice president of Global Marketing and Partner Alliances for CSafe Global said: “With its state-of-the-art VIP insulation, innovative air recirculation system, and unique, autonomous temperature management programming, the CSafe RAP, in combination with Alitalia’s cargo service, ensures the safe delivery of temperature-sensitive, life-enhancing products to patients in need.”

The CSafe RAP has already managed numerous temperature-sensitive and time-critical shipments around the world.

Antonio Temporini, vice president cargo of Alitalia said: “There is increasing demand for transport of temperature-sensitive healthcare products preserving their quality and value, and this enhanced partnership further allows us to offer innovative solutions to healthcare shippers for the protection and the integrity of their shipments.”

CSafe Global is a leading provider of active and passive temperature-controlled packaging solutions for pharmaceutical products.

Saudia Cargo resumes freighter ops to Guangzhou and Mumbai

Saudi Airlines Cargo Company has announced its decision to resume freighter operations to the Chinese city of Guangzhou and India’s commercial capital city, Mumbai. Effective April, the carrier is operating a weekly freighter flight, aiming to meet the growing demand for cargo operations & stimulate trade movement to/from the Asian continent, in addition to the already operating 5 weekly flights to Dhaka & the 7 weekly flights to Hong Kong.

Omar Hariri, CEO of Saudia Cargo said: “This operation reflects the company’s policy aiming to enhance and increase trade activities between the Kingdom & both countries.”

Hariri added: “Saudia Cargo will mobilize its logistical capabilities to and from both destinations, adding an extra weekly freighter flight to Guangzhou operated by a Boeing 777F aircraft & another to Mumbai, operated by a Boeing 747-400F, offering estimated 100 tonnes of capacity to each destination in addition to the belly-capacity on board Saudia passenger flights.”

During this year, Saudia Cargo strengthened its presence in the Asian continent to fill the exceeding demand for air cargo & logistical services through the belly-capacity on-board Saudi Arabian Airlines that operates 480 weekly flights with the capacity of 5,836 tonnes a week to/from 21 destinations in Asia.
DHL launches its first regular fully-automated and intelligent urban drone delivery service

DHL Express and EHang have entered into a strategic partnership to jointly launch a fully automated and intelligent smart drone delivery solution to tackle the last-mile delivery challenges in the urban areas of China. The launch ceremony was held at the EHang Command and Control Center in Guangzhou, with the attendance of senior executives from both companies. This cutting-edge solution takes its inaugural flight for a DHL customer, making DHL the first international express company to provide such a service in China. It marks a new milestone in both companies’ continuous efforts to bring innovative and intelligent solutions with greater automation to the market.

“We are delighted to be partnering with EHang to set a new innovation milestone with this new fully-automated and intelligent drone logistics solution, which combines the strength of the world’s largest international express company together with one of the leading UAV companies in the world,” said Wu Dongming, CEO, DHL Express China. “This is an exciting time for the logistics sector, with continued growth of the Chinese economy and cross-border trade, particularly in South China and the Greater Bay Area, which is home to an increasing number of SMEs and startups. This means there is a tremendous volume of logistics needs, which in turn creates new opportunities for implementing innovative solutions that can continuously drive growth with greater efficiency, sustainability and less cost.”

The new customized route, which has been exclusively created for a DHL customer, covers a distance of approximately eight kilometers between the customer premises and the DHL service center in Liaobu, Dongguan, Guangdong Province. Using the most advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in EHang’s newly-launched Falcon series, featuring the highest level of intelligence, automation, safety and reliability, the new intelligent drone delivery solution overcomes the complex road conditions and traffic congestion common to urban areas. It reduces one-way delivery time from 40 minutes to only eight minutes and can save costs of up to 80% per delivery, with reduced energy consumption and carbon footprint compared with road transportation.

Mr. Hu Huazhi, Founder & CEO of EHang, said, “Together with DHL we are very glad to bring the first smart drone delivery service route to China in Guangzhou; this marks a new beginning in building air logistics for smart cities. Riding on today’s launch, we expect smart drone delivery as an innovative logistics solution to be expanded and realized in more areas, and we look forward to working with DHL in building the ecosystem for a multi-dimensional urban air transport system.”

The EHang Falcon smart drone, with eight propellers on four arms, is designed with multiple redundant systems for full backup, and smart and secure flight control modules. Its high-performance features include vertical take-off and landing, high accuracy GPS and visual identification, smart flight path planning, fully-automated flight and real-time network connection and scheduling. As a fully-automated and intelligent solution, the drones, which can carry up to 5kg of cargo per flight, take off and land atop intelligent cabinets that were specifically developed for the fully autonomous loading and offloading of the shipment.
FedEx Acquires International Express Business of Flying Cargo Group in Israel

FedEx Express, a subsidiary of FedEx Corp and the world's largest express transportation company, and Flying Cargo Group jointly announce that FedEx Express has acquired the business and assets of the international express division of FC (Flying Cargo) Express Ltd. The Israeli Competition Authority granted merger approval for the acquisition on February 20, 2019.

"For nearly 30 years, we have operated as the FedEx Express licensee in the Israeli market, making the FedEx values, culture, innovation and unmatched global network accessible to Israeli customers. We are sure that this transaction will provide even better opportunities to our loyal customers and employees," said Avi and Dany Reik, owners of Flying Cargo Group.

"With ten weekly flights to and from Tel Aviv, our customers benefit from seamless connections to destinations all over the world, creating more possibilities for their businesses," said Bert Nappier, President of FedEx Express Europe and CEO of TNT Express. "In the near future, by bringing together FedEx and TNT in Israel, customers will benefit from a combined network that is stronger than ever before."

FedEx Express began serving Israel in 1990 through the Flying Cargo Group, providing a wide range of international express transportation services, including import and export of shipments to more than 220 countries and territories worldwide. Since May 2016, TNT Express, including TNT in Israel, has been part of the global FedEx Express group of companies.

Flying Cargo Group is a leader in logistics services, warehousing, fulfillment and distribution of goods in Israel. Flying Cargo Group provides these services from its own facilities throughout the country, including the e-commerce, returns management and domestic pick-up and delivery in Israel. These businesses will continue to be owned and managed by Flying Cargo under the FC brand.

Agility India receives pharma certification from IATA

Logistics provider Agility has been awarded the International Air Transport Association’s (IATA) Centre of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) certification for pharmaceutical (Pharma) for its logistics operations in Mumbai.

Krishnakumar V, chief operating officer, Agility India, said, "The CEIV Pharma certification demonstrates our ability to meet the most exacting standards in the industry. We continue investing in technology, infrastructure, personnel and processes to ensure an unbroken cold chain for pharma shipments for our customers and their patients."

The certification demonstrates Agility’s ability to ensure the integrity of pharmaceutical products throughout the supply chain, and to manage high-value, temperature-sensitive shipments for the pharma and life science industries. In India, Agility provides supply chain services, including management of temperature-controlled shipments, to some of the leading pharmaceutical brands. The certification process was completed in coordination with the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport.

Eric ten Kate, vice president, Agility Global Life Sciences, said, "If you earn the CEIV pharma certification, shippers know they can trust that medicines you handle will reach patients safely and securely."

Agility has recently launched Agility, a shipment box for the pharmaceutical industry that keeps strict temperature levels for up to 120 hours, and provides users with real-time visibility of temperature status and location.

In India, Agility manages life sciences facilities at the Nhava Sheva seaport and at Hyderabad Airport, providing temperature-controlled solutions for customers for both ocean and air shipments.
Gujarat Aviation Conclave 2019

Gujarat Aviation Conclave will bring together the key stakeholders in the aviation industry to discuss & deliberate on potential business opportunities in the Aviation sector. The Conclave will delve into the latest trends in regional and global aviation environment, and it will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about the emerging trends & future projections in the sector. Gujarat Aviation Conclave is a must-attend for any company with an exposure to Indian aviation.

At Gujarat Aviation Conclave — airlines, MROs, suppliers, OEMs, regulators and industry experts will converge to exchange ideas and best practices, share experiences, debate issues and challenges and gather knowledge. The conference will offer unparalleled networking opportunity and will be an ideal avenue to forge new partnerships and cement existing relationships.

- Gain insights on emerging trends from aviation leaders & awareness on latest policies
- Network with industry leaders & build your business connections
- Meet key Government officials and policymakers
- Opportunity to establish collaborations & building partnerships
- Evaluate the latest technologies & Best Practices
- Analyze the potential areas of growth & investment in aviation manufacturing and MRO

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Glimpses of Aviation Conclave 2017

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