



Updates from Airbus, Boeing, CFM International, Gael, GE Aviation, HAECO, Honeywell Aerospace, Hughes Aeropsace, Ramco Systems, Turbocoating

### Vietjet signs CFM support deal

Vietjet has signed a US\$300 million contract for engine maintenance with CFM International. The new contract will see CFM provide technical assistance for CFM56-5B engines currently installed in Vietjet's 21 Airbus A320 aircraft.

Vietjet has been a CFM customer since the airline first started its operations in 2011. Earlier this year, the airline also signed a US\$800 million deal to buy 21 CFM56-5B engines to power an additional 14 Airbus A320 aircraft and 7 A321 aircraft.

Under the terms of the new agreement, CFM will guarantee maintenance costs for a total of 45 CFM56-5B engines for the next 12 years.

# Ramco in MRO wearable devices development

Indian aviation software provider Ramco Systems' R&D team has recently integrated wearable devices with IT solutions for MROs to improve the productivity of an aircraft mechanic.

These includes smart watches with features such as timesheet recording and a 'review defects' function that allows the mechanic to view the status of all the defects allocated to him in an aircraft in which he can either defer or complete.

Another example is Google Glass, which allows Logs to be updated through the scanning of a QR code on an aircraft part. The GPS embedded in Google Glass can list all aircrafts near the mechanic's location ready for maintenance, while defects can also be reported through photo taking and subsequent attachment. The Glass also speeds up the corrective process through the integration of various checklists.

Ramco has also developed a Warranty and Claims management solution that automates the warranty eligibility checking process. One of Ramco's customers has saved over US\$6 million in the first year of using this module.

Ruili Airlines receives first direct purchases 737-700

China's Ruili Airlines has received its first direct purchase Boeing 737-700. Ruili is a

# Gael strikes HAECO cloud deal

UK software developer Gael has struck a deal with HAECO that will see the former's new cloud-based product rolled out across the MRO Group.

Gael, which provides quality, safety and risk management software and services for industries including aviation, will work alongside HAECO to implement Gael Enlighten, Gael's new cloud-based enterprise solution.

The minimum three year deal will see initial deployment of the solution across three HAECO companies, HAECO, HAESL and TAECO, by April 2015, with further plans to roll Enlighten out to other subsidiaries across Asia and the Americas.

Gael Enlighten

will provide

the HAECO Group with a common platform across the business for various business tasks such as risk, incident and occurrence management, document control, auditing, competence and health and safety management. The Enlighten solution allows senior management to monitor business performance through its analysis and reporting capabilities.

Gael's Founder, Donald Maciver, said: "This is a hugely strategic and significant opportunity for Gael and one that

we view key to us expanding our presence in the region."
Gael has installations in more than 350 Aviation,
Aerospace and Defence organisations worldwide including Boeing, Emirates, Lufthansa Technik, Sydney Airport, UK CAA, Bristow, Gulfstream and XOJet.

newly established private airline based at Changshui International Airport in Kunming.

"This is a momentous step forward for Ruili Airlines as we continue to enhance our fleet," said Ma Zhanwei, president, Ruili Airlines. "We hope that the competitive advantages offered by the 737 will enable us to grow from a start-up airline to a driving force in China's aviation industry."

The new airplane is the first of 14 737 orders and commitments from Ruili Airlines, including eight 737-700s and six 737 MAXs. The carrier currently operates two 737-700s and one 737-800 serving seven domestic routes in China.

"We are honoured to celebrate this milestone delivery with Ruili Airlines," said Ihssane Mounir, vice president of Sales for Northeast Asia, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "Our Next-Generation 737 delivers market-leading efficiency, reliability, and operating costs, which will all contribute significantly to the successful growth of Ruili Airlines."

## Honeywell and Hughes in Myanmar ATM project

Honeywell Aerospace and Hughes Aerospace are assisting Myanmar's Yangon and Mandalay international airports to develop satellite-based navigation technologies for optimizing takeoff and landing routes.

This is the first step in an effort to improve procedures at Myanmar airports by the country's Department of Civil Aviation, which plans to install PBN procedures at other international and domestic airports. Yangon and Mandalay are Myanmar's two main international airports, capable of handling three million passengers each annually.

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# INDUSTRY NEWS



#### Boeing to optimise ANA 777 MRO

Boeing and All Nippon Airways (ANA) are teaming up to implement operational improvements for ANA's 777 fleet. The improvements are aimed at reducing costs and increasing efficiency of maintenance operations for ANA's current and future 777 models as part of the Boeing Optimized Maintenance Program (OMP) service.

"The efficient performance of our 777 and 777X fleet together with Optimized Maintenance Program will be value added to our operations," said Takeo Kikuchi, director of engineering, ANA. "We were very pleased with Boeing's offer of services to centre on cost reductions in our 777 fleet maintenance operations, and we look forward to working with the Boeing teams to achieve these improvements."

ANA recently finalized orders for 20 777-9Xs and six 777-300ER airplanes. The Boeing Optimized Maintenance Program targets improved maintenance costs for ANA's current 777-300 fleet as well as future deliveries of the 777X airplanes. Improvements will include reduced scheduled maintenance labour costs, lower materials costs and faster airplane maintenance turn times.

Boeing says its Optimized Maintenance Program "provides a competitive advantage to an airline by applying specialized analytics tools as well as Boeing's unique airplane design and certification knowledge to identify ways to streamline airplane maintenance programmes."

Boeing Commercial Aviation Services' Professional Services teams will perform analysis of ANA historical maintenance data and develop a maintenance program for ANA's 777 fleet.

### GE Aviation and Turbocoating form JV

GE Aviation and Turbocoating SPA of Parma, Italy, have formed a 50/50 joint venture, called Advanced Ceramic Coatings, to provide thermal barrier coatings for CMCs used in jet engines.

Advanced Ceramic Coatings (ACC) will operate from a dedicated area of Turbocoating's US operation in Hickory, North Carolina, USA. Advanced Ceramic Coatings will combine Turbocoating's proprietary coatings technologies and industrial processes with GE Aviation's coatings processes developed specifically for CMCs to focus on producing advanced coatings applied to GE's high-temperature CMCs in the post-fabrication phase.

The joint venture expects to deliver its first coated components in late 2015, including CMC shrouds for the LEAP engine from CFM International. The LEAP engine is the first commercial jet engine to use CMCs in the hot high-pressure turbine section.

The creation of Advanced Ceramic Coatings is one of several recent business initiatives by GE Aviation to create the supply chain required to produce CMCs in large volume. In October of this year, GE Aviation formally opened its new factory for mass-producing CMCs in Asheville, North Carolina, USA.



An Airbus A350-900 completed an 11-day demo tour of Asia in November, ahead of an expected EIS with Qatar Airways for the type before the end of the year.

The Asian Demo Tour followed the completion of the A350-900 flight test campaign that recently led to the EASA and FAA type certification. After visiting Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia earlier this year during the route proving certification exercise, the A350-900 visited Seoul (GMP), Tokyo (HND), Hanoi (HAN), Bangkok (BKK) and Kuala Lumpur (KUL).

The aircraft (MSN5) is one of Airbus' fleet of five test A350-900 aircraft and one of two with a fully functional cabin (42 business class and 223 economy class seats).

The region represents a third of the  $750\,\mathrm{A}350\,\mathrm{XWB}$  orders won by end of November.



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