

Condor takes delivery of its first A330neo to modernise fleet

German Airline Condor Flugdienst GmbH has taken delivery of its first A330-900 widebody aircraft out of an order of 16 A330neo aircraft. The A330neo will replace previous generation aircraft in their fleet to reduce Condor's operating costs as well as fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions by 25 percent. Condor's A330neo will offer unrivalled passenger comfort and will accommodate 310 passengers, featuring 30 seats in Business, 64 seats in Premium Economy and 216 seats in Economy class.

The A330neo features the award-winning Airspace cabin, providing passengers with a high level of comfort, ambience and design. This includes offering more personal space, larger overhead bins, a new lighting system, and the ability to offer the latest in-flight entertainment systems and full connectivity. As with all Airbus aircraft, the A330neo also features a state-of-the-art cabin air system ensuring a clean and safe environment during the flight.

Condor has selected in July 2022 the A320neo Family to modernise its Single-Aisle-fleet. By operating the A320neo and A330neo aircraft side by side, Condor will benefit from the commonality economics these two aircraft Families offer.

The A330neo is the new generation version of the popular A330 widebody. Incorporating the latest generation Rolls-Royce Trent 7000 engines, new wings and a range of aerodynamic innovations, the aircraft offers a 25 percent reduction in fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions. The A330-900 is capable of flying 7 200 nm / 13 334 km non-stop.

At the end of November, the A330 Family had registered a total of over 1,700 firm orders of which 275 are A330neos from 24 customers.

Quelle:

Airbus Press Release 20 December 2022

Boeing Awards Contract to Lufthansa Technik to Support New Zealand's P-8A Poseidon Fleet

- Total Component Support for four 737-based Maritime Patrol Aircraft

Boeing [NYSE: BA] has awarded Lufthansa Technik a contract for sustainment services within its support of the Royal New Zealand Air Force's (RNZAF) future fleet of four P-8A aircraft that will leverage commercial capabilities to improve readiness rates.

The contract is for provision of Lufthansa Technik's Total Component Support (TCS), a comprehensive component services program for the 737 covering more than four hundred commercial common parts included in the configuration of the P-8A, a military derivative of the popular airliner. Leveraging the 737 commercial market in support of P-8A international customers will allow smaller fleets easier access to necessary global supply chain inventory from the more than four thousand 737 aircraft operating today.

“Our collaboration with Lufthansa Technik is a strong example of how industry can work together to solve customer challenges and maintain high readiness rates,” said Torbjorn (Turbo) Sjogren, Boeing vice president and general manager, Government Services. “Our

goal is to expand service offerings from a strategic German industry partner for additional P-8A customers to benefit.”

The TCS program provided by Lufthansa Technik allows the RNZAF to reduce investment in commercial common parts and improve aircraft readiness through access to the German company’s maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) global supply chain.

Boeing and Lufthansa Technik signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2021 to support Germany’s P-8A Poseidon fleet. The MOU expanded to a three-party agreement with ESG Elektroniksystem- und Logistik-GmbH in 2022.

“Lufthansa Technik is a longstanding partner with a long history of supporting Boeing aircraft around the world,” said Michael Haidinger, president of Boeing in Germany. “This new contract is a clear demonstration of our commitment to German industry and how we partner across the Atlantic and globally, shaping meaningful partnerships that ensure continued economic and industrial growth in Germany.”

Under Boeing’s Performance-Based Logistics (PBL) program, Lufthansa Technik also provides hardware support to the Italian fleet of Boeing KC-767A tankers and has facilitated outstanding aircraft availability for the Italian Air Force.

“As a renowned expert for Special Mission aircraft and a leading maintenance, repair and overhaul provider with decades of experience in servicing commercial Boeing 737s, we are delighted to soon start servicing New Zealand’s Poseidon fleet. The strong partnership with Boeing enables us to offer the best possible service level over the entire life cycle of the aircraft,” said Michael von Puttkamer, vice president special aircraft services at Lufthansa Technik. “We are very much looking forward to further cooperation with our partners in Germany and beyond.”

In July 2018, the government of New Zealand announced the purchase of four P-8A Poseidon aircraft to replace their aging fleet of P-3K2 maritime patrol aircraft. The first P-8A to New Zealand was delivered December 2022, with three remaining aircraft to be delivered in 2023.

Deployed around the world with 155 aircraft delivered or in service, and more than 450,000 collective, mishap free flight hours, the P-8A is vital for global anti-submarine warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and search-and-rescue operations.

Quelle:

Boeing Press Release 20 December 2022

Elbit Systems Awarded a Framework Contract With a Maximum Value of \$410 Million to Supply Watchkeeper X Tactical UAS for the Romanian Ministry of National Defense

Elbit Systems Ltd. (NASDAQ:ESLT and TASE: ESLT) (“Elbit Systems”) announced today that it was awarded a framework contract with a maximum value of approximately \$410 million (approximately 1.89 billion Lei) to supply up to seven “Watchkeeper X” tactical unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for the Romanian Ministry of National Defense, with a validity of five years. No specific purchase order under the contract was awarded yet.

The Watchkeeper X UAS is the UK export variant of the British army made by UAV Tactical Systems Limited (“U-TacS”), Elbit Systems’ UK subsidiary, and is a derivative of the Hermes UAS family. The Watchkeeper X’ compatibility with NATO standards enables essential interoperability with NATO and other allied forces.

Bezalel (Butzi) Machlis, President and CEO of Elbit Systems, commented: “This contract demonstrates the sustained demand for Elbit Systems’ UAS. We look forward to further strengthening Elbit Systems’ relationship with the Romanian Government. As part of the contract execution, Elbit Systems plans to establish infrastructure and industrial cooperation with U-TacS, Aerostar and Elbit Systems’ subsidiaries in Romania to produce the UAS in Romania. We also appreciate the continued support and collaboration with the Israeli and UK governments and our business partners on the Watchkeeper program. “

Quelle:

Elbit Systems Press Release 21 December 2022

Emirates-CAE Flight Training celebrates 20th anniversary with new Global 6500 FFS in Dubai

New Global 6500 FFS to be deployed in May 2023

CAE today announced at the MEBAA Show 2022 that it is enhancing its business aviation training offering with the deployment of a new Global 6500 full-flight simulator (FFS) in May 2023 at the Emirates-CAE Flight Training (ECFT) Al Garhoud centre.

The announcement comes as Emirates and CAE celebrate the 20th anniversary of their partnership and the establishment of ECFT in Dubai.

“ECFT’s success is a testament to the strong partnership Emirates and CAE have developed over the past 20 years,” said Nick Leontidis, CAE’s Group President, Civil Aviation. “With the deployment of the new Global 6500 FFS, we are securing ECFT’s reputation for delivering the most advanced business aviation training in the region.”

Steve Allen, Executive Vice President at Emirates Group, said: “Our consistent investment in infrastructure demonstrates our commitment to providing world-class aviation training in Dubai. The addition of another, advanced full-flight simulator to our offering further strengthens our position as one of the world’s leading flight training service providers. We look forward to continuing our successful partnership with CAE.”

20 years of ECFT

Emirates acquired its first simulator, an Airbus A310-300/A300-600R FFS from CAE in 1992, and by 1999 had acquired six additional simulators, including a custom Emergency Evacuation Trainer to meet the needs of the rapidly growing airline.

In 2002, Emirates and CAE entered into a training partnership with the establishment of Emirates-CAE Flight Training (ECFT) and inaugurated a new 12-bay training centre the following year. In 2006, ECFT became a joint venture, providing training to Emirates and a growing number of airlines and business aviation operators in the region.

In 2013, CAE and Emirates opened a second five-bay training centre, and in 2014, doubled its size, substantially growing the region's pilot and technician training capacity on state-of-the-art simulators ranging from the Hawker 800 to the B737 MAX aircraft FFSs.

Today, ECFT's two centres house 19 simulators and provide training to more than 12,000 pilots annually.

Quelle:

CAE Press Release 06 December 2022

Women Power at GHS

“Let us ensure that every girl, everywhere, has the opportunity to realize her dreams, grow into her power and contribute to a sustainable future for all,” said UN Secretary General António Guterres.

Women in aviation is not something new, early pioneers include French Raymonde de Laroche, the world's first licensed female pilot as far back as March 8th, 1910. What a fantastic coincidence that many years later International Women's Day was dedicated to be held every year on March 8th.

When I started my career in an aviation company 17 years ago it was a pure male domain. I joined GHS seven years ago as the first and only female employee. Since then, our female representation has increased incrementally and we are heading to equal gender staff numbers at our German Headquarter.

We at GHS highly appreciate, support and promote the development of women power in aviation. I would like to introduce some of my female colleagues who share their passion for aviation.

Anna Folch has taken over Compliance Monitoring for Air Operations and Crew Training at GHS in November last year. She has been amazed by the world of aviation since she was 8 years old. She started studying aeronautical engineering and worked as an engineer until she fulfilled her dream to get her Helicopter Commercial Pilots Licence CPL(H). Just recently Anna completed her type rating on Bell 412 and carried out her first ferry flight of our Bell 412 D-HEPP from Nigeria to Germany as the Co-Pilot.

“Taking off and seeing that everything becomes smaller and smaller. Nothing else matters, just flying.”

Anny Folch

As a 7 year old, Vera Aitzinger knew that one day she would become a helicopter pilot. Vera is currently the Executive Assistant at GHS, which means she is involved in all company matters which she carries out enthusiastically and always has good ideas. Vera currently holds a FAA helicopter pilot license and is working on her EASA CPL(H). According to her the

industry is still far from having gender equity, which can be very hard sometimes. However, I have no doubt that her dream as a little girl, to become a rescue pilot in the Austrian Mountains will come true sooner than later.

“Little girls with big dreams become women with vision”, you should always go and follow your dreams, no matter what.

Vera Aitzinger

Pheobe Chizobam told me that “When I was a child, I always wanted to fly but this wasn’t a common career choice for kids around my age at that time in Nigeria,” today Pheobe is our first and only female engineer working on our Bell 412 fleet in Maiduguri and has almost completed her type rating. Her favourite part being an engineer is participating in major maintenance, such as removal and installation of aircraft engines. Her biggest obstacle so far is not receiving recognition and acceptance by her peers just because she’s a woman; “I have literally experienced situations where I was told, you’re intruding in a man’s space, your place is in the kitchen!” , She has risen above this and proved her detractors wrong.

Sara VucemilovicGrgic is our female maintenance planner working with a lot of male engineers and mechanics. Her future plan is to become a licensed engineer which will give her an all-encompassing knowledge from office administration right through to the hangar floor and the aircraft itself.

“If you are a strong woman interested in powerful flying and fast machines, your place is saved in aviation.”

Sara VucemilovicGrgic

Our pilots will always tell you “The best office is a cockpit!”, however, working in an office for an aviation company can be just as exciting and challenging!

I wish all my female colleagues and all women involved in aviation a “Happy International Women’s Day – it’s our responsibility to inspire more and more women to break barriers and follow their dreams!

Quelle:

Global Helicopter Service

Gemeinsame Erklärung

Experten untersuchen Schützenpanzer Puma: Industrie mobilisiert Kräfte für kurzfristige Instandsetzung

Seit heute befunden Experten von KMW und Rheinmetall einen Teil der schadhafte Puma-Schützenpanzer der Bundeswehr, unter anderem am Standort Unterlüß der Rheinmetall AG in unmittelbarer Nähe zum Truppenübungsplatz Munster. Ziel der Experten ist es zuallererst, ein qualifiziertes Schadensbild entstehen zu lassen, um davon ausgehend die umgehende Instandsetzung in die Wege zu leiten.

Die Industrie hat in enger Abstimmung mit dem BMVg bereits weitergehende Maßnahmen eingeleitet. Alle Kräfte sind nun darauf gerichtet, die Fahrzeuge in den nächsten zwei bis drei Wochen instand zu setzen.

Die Analyse der Ursachen der offenbar sehr distinktiven Schadensfälle und Schadenausmaße wurde unmittelbar nach Bekanntwerden auch auf der industriellen Seite sofort angestoßen. Von Anfang an agiert die Industrie in diesem Prozess der Analyse engstens mit dem BMVg und der Bundeswehr.

In Abstimmung mit dem Verteidigungsministerium wurden seitens der industriellen Partner Sofortmaßnahmen vorgeschlagen und diese in einem Maßnahmenpaket vorgelegt.

Im Zuge der Umsetzung des besagten Maßnahmenpakets wurde fachkundiges Personal von KMW und Rheinmetall auch die Bundeswehr-Standorte entsandt, an denen sich weitere defekte Puma-Fahrzeuge befinden.

Das System Puma stellt das Herzstück der verbundenen digitalisierten Landstreitkräfte der Bundeswehr dar. Die Kriegstauglichkeit des Systems wurde im Jahr 2021 im Zuge einer aufwendigen technischen Prüfung bestätigt.

Um die Bereitschaft der VJTF-Kräfte über den gesamten Zeitraum des Einsatzes verlässlich zu gewährleisten, sollte die Industrie zur Begleitung des Schützenpanzers Puma als Teil des Verbandes kontinuierlich vor Ort bereitstehen und hinzugezogen werden.

Die Industrie will alles daran setzen, dass der Puma weiter Rückgrat der deutschen Panzergrenadiertruppe bleibt. Zugleich ist der Puma für das deutsche Heer integraler und unverzichtbarer Bestandteil des Systems Panzergrenadier.

KMW und Rheinmetall sehen die erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit mit BMVg und Bundeswehr bei Entwicklung und Zertifizierung des Schützenpanzers Puma als Garanten für die Lösung der aktuell aufgetretenen Probleme.

Quelle:

Rheinmetall Press Release 21 December 2022

iMUGS-Demonstration in Lehnin

Auf dem Truppenübungsplatz Lehnin fand die von KMW (Krauss-Maffei Wegmann) organisierte Präsentation des iMUGS-Projekts (Integrated Modular Unmanned Ground System) statt, welches Teil des EDIDP (European Defence Industry Development Programme) ist.

Ziel des Projekts ist es, durch verschiedene Demonstrationen eine modulare, sichere und skalierbare Architektur für zukünftige unbemannte Systeme zu entwickeln und zu testen. Im Mittelpunkt der Demonstration vor hochrangigen internationalen Gästen aus Politik und Militär standen das Zusammenwirken von unbemannten und bemannten Systemen am Boden und in der Luft. Zudem wurde der Einsatz von Cyber Security zur Abwehr aktueller Bedrohungen als auch die Verwendung von Autonomie-Lösungen präsentiert.

KMW leitet in diesem Zusammenhang das Teilprojekt Manned-Unmanned Teaming. Die Fahrzeugsysteme BOXER und DINGO bilden die Schnittstellen für die unbemannten Bodenfahrzeuge und unbemannten Luftsysteme. Sämtliche Informationen der Hybridsysteme laufen in diesen Kommandozentralen zusammen, können ausgewertet und weitergegeben werden.

Diehl Defence trägt im Projekt iMUGS signifikante Fähigkeiten zum Autonomie-Kit der unbemannten TheMIS Demonstrations-Fahrzeuge bei. Basierend auf verfügbaren, hauseigenen Fähigkeiten hat das Unternehmen zusammen mit Nexter und Safran Autonomie-Funktionen entwickelt. Der Schwerpunkt für Diehl Defence lag dabei auf dem Folgemodus, der rein kamerabasiert, ohne GPS funktioniert und damit einen hohen Reifegrad mit Blick auf das endgültige militärische Produkt hat.

Zu den Fahrzeugen, die Diehl Defence im Rahmen der Demo-Vorführung auf dem Truppenübungsplatz Lehnin zeigte, gehören des Weiteren vier unbemannte Soldatenunterstützungsfahrzeuge vom Typ „Mattro Ziesel“, die mit dem ausschließlich von Diehl Defence entwickelten Autonomie-Kit PLATON ausgestattet sind.

Diese Fahrzeuge verfügen über die Autonomie-Funktionen Folgen, Patrouillieren und Wegpunktnavigation. Neben der oben beschriebenen Fähigkeit, einer vorauslaufenden Person zu folgen, sind die Fahrzeuge befähigt, unter Berücksichtigung von Hindernissen einen „gelernten“ Weg abzufahren (MULE/Patrouillieren). Außerdem legen die Fahrzeuge mit Hilfe einer Wegpunktnavigation eine vorgegebene Wegstrecke, bei gleichzeitiger Rücksichtnahme auf Hindernisse, zurück.

Die gezeigten Fähigkeiten der Autonomie von Landstreitkräften sind in einem Gesamtverbund eines digitalisierten Gefechtsfeldes zu sehen. Darin haben in der „Dimension Luft“ zahlreiche Bedrohungen eine bedeutende Rolle. Um diesem Element Rechnung zu tragen, stellte Diehl Defence im Rahmen der Veranstaltung zudem weitere digitalisierte Systeme aus. Dies sind ein bodengebundenes Luftverteidigungssystem IRIS-T SLS, das in der gezeigten Variante (Mk. III) auf einem Fahrzeug EAGLE von GDELS (Mowag) integriert ist. Aus dem Guardian C-UAS-Verbund vervollständigte ein Modell des HPEM Schutzsystems SkyWolf sowie die fernsteuerbare, leichte Waffenstation R150 mit schwerem Maschinengewehr (12,7 mm) auf einem Fahrzeug von ACS das Display von Diehl Defence. Alle gezeigten Systeme sind befähigt zur Vernetzung in einem Schutzverbund und dienen der Abwehr von Bedrohungen aus der Luft.

Quelle:

Diehl Press Release 15 December 2022

About Boeing Defense, Space & Security

Overview

Defense, Space & Security is one of The Boeing Company's [NYSE:BA] three business units. One of the world's largest defense and space contractors, BDS is a global leader in the development, production, maintenance and enhancement of fixed-wing and rotary wing aircraft, commercial and government satellites, human spaceflight programs and weapons. Key markets include aeronautics, space and weapons. Core capabilities are in development, production and mission enabling upgrades of integrated solutions. BDS delivers the most

digitally advanced, simply and efficiently produced and intelligently supported solutions to its customers.

Defense, Space & Security employs approximately 15,000 people in 15 countries and 48 U.S. states with 2021 revenue of \$26.5 billion. About 25 percent of its revenues are derived from non-U.S. customers including foreign military sales through the U.S. government.

Led by President and CEO Ted Colbert, the business is based in Arlington, Va.

Quelle:
Boeing

Elbit Systems Awarded a \$36 Million Contract to Supply an F-16 Mission Training Center to the Polish Air Force

Elbit Systems Ltd. (NASDAQ:ESLT and TASE: ESLT) (“Elbit Systems” or the “Company”) announced today that it was awarded a contract valued at approximately \$36 million to supply four F-16 Full Mission Simulators (FMS) to the Polish Air Force (PLAF). The contract will be performed over a 28-month period.

The simulation technology at the core of the Mission Training Center enables higher quality training and improves mission readiness. Featuring a 360-degree display system, the interconnected simulators provide a high fidelity, full mission training experience. By providing an immersive real flight experience with no safety limitations, Elbit Systems’ training solution will provide PLAF F-16 pilots with a range of skills from basic familiarity with the aircraft to advanced combat flight competencies in complex operational arenas.

Elbit Systems’ training and simulation technologies can also provide the future simulation infrastructure of the PLAF, enabling connectivity to additional training devices for Live, Virtual and Constructive training.

Yoram Shmuely, General Manager of Elbit Systems Aerospace, said: “This award highlights Elbit Systems’ leading positions in the training and simulation markets. We remain committed to delivering high quality training solutions for military pilots, and we are proud to provide the Polish Armed Forces with advanced solutions to support their missions”.

Quelle:
Elbit Press Release 22 December 2022

New improvements expected for China’s J-20 stealth fighter jet

Chinese military analysts said constant upgrades are expected for China's J-20 fighter jet, after foreign media reported recently that a new and more powerful variant of the stealth aircraft has appeared.

The new J-20 features changes to the shape of the aircraft, which might improve its

aerodynamic and performance capabilities as well as low-observable qualities, US media outlet thedrive.com reported on Friday, citing unverified photos circulating on social media.

One of the most notable changes is the modified, flattened cockpit canopy that blends into the raised spine, the report said.

This kind of aerodynamic arrangement likely has the effect of improving performance and handling during transonic flight by reducing the drag on the airframe, and the enlarged spine could also provide useful space for additional avionics and fuel, thedrive.com said.

It is also expected that the J-20 will eventually replace the current standard domestically developed WS-10 engines with the more powerful WS-15 engines, according to the report.

The report is based on unconfirmed information and remains only speculative, a Chinese military expert who requested anonymity told the Global Times on Sunday.

But it is natural that the J-20 will keep on receiving upgrades to enhance its capabilities, just as it has done over the past few years, the expert said.

Comparing its first public appearance at the Airshow China 2016 with its latest appearance at the Airshow China 2022, the J-20 has already undergone many changes.

"All J-20s participating in the Airshow China 2022 were equipped with domestically developed engines, and the avionics were completely upgraded to the latest version," said Major Li Weipeng, a J-20 pilot, at a press conference at the Airshow China 2022 in Zhuhai, South China's Guangdong Province in November.

The J-20 will increase not only in terms of the number being produced, but also in terms of its capabilities, analysts said.

Quelle:

China Global Times 25 December 2022