

**HONDA**

*Honda Aircraft Company concluding function and reliability testing*

## HondaJet Nears Federal Aviation Administration Type Certification

LAS VEGAS - [Honda Aircraft Company](#) announced today that it has completed all function and reliability (F&R) test conditions and is concluding F&R flights for the HondaJet. The announcement was part of a program update shared at the National Business Aviation Association Convention and Exhibition, which is being held in Las Vegas from Nov. 17 to 19.

"Honda Aircraft will conclude testing with the FAA in a few days, which will pave the way for HondaJet type certification and entry into service," said Honda Aircraft Company President and CEO Michimasa Fujino. "We are expecting FAA type certification of the world's most advanced light jet very soon."

Function and reliability testing simulates typical, in-service flight operations for a new aircraft design. Testing includes takeoffs, landings, system operations, failure cases, approaches, and operations in hot, cold, and humid environments. This ensures the aircraft, including its components and equipment, is reliable and functioning properly. The HondaJet has flown missions to 54 airports in 31 states in the continental United States as part of F&R testing.

In October, Honda Aircraft completed all Part 23 certification flight testing. The flight test program has exceeded 3,000 total flight hours and testing was conducted at more than 70 locations in the U.S.

**HondaJet World Tour Demonstrated Aircraft Maturity**  
This year, the HondaJet completed a success-

ful world tour with the aircraft making its first appearances in Japan, Europe and South America. The world tour, combined with a North American demonstration tour, has demonstrated the aircraft's maturity, reliability and readiness for entry into service. The HondaJet flew more than 300 total hours in North America, Japan, Europe and South America.

### **Honda Aircraft Training Center Operational**

Since becoming operational in late 2014, the Honda Aircraft Training Center in Greensboro has been preparing to train pilots and maintenance technicians by increasing staff, developing infrastructure and finalizing curriculums.

Honda Aircraft has partnered with Flight Safety International, the world's leading aviation training organization, to develop a program that incorporates the latest technology. This includes enhanced graphic systems and operational day flow (ODF) to allow pilots a seamless transition from the classroom to the cockpit.

The HondaJet flight simulator has been certified Interim Level C by the FAA.

Following HondaJet type certification, the simulator will be certified Level D and ready for type-rating training.

"Honda Aircraft is not only bringing new value to the market with the HondaJet, but also a higher standard for aircraft ownership" said Fujino. "Together with the HondaJet dealer network, we have built the infrastructure to deliver on our objective, and we are now ready for entry into service."

## First Inter-City Hotel in Saarbrücken

The new InterCityHotel Saarbrücken, set at the very heart of the Saar-Lor-Lux Euroregion, is scheduled to open for business in 2019. A modern hotel offering 170 attractive rooms, it will be located right in the middle of the city opposite the Congress Centre.

The main railway station is only 300 metres away, and the "Europa Galerie" Shopping Mall is also close by. Visitors will enjoy convenient access to the Trade Fair Centre by bus or rail. The "FreeCityTicket", which enables InterCity Hotel guests to use local public transport free of charge, will also be available. Saarbrücken, the capital of the Federal State of the Saarland, is a preferred location for manufacturing industry and high-tech companies. It has 180,000 inhabitants. There are also around 10,000 commuters who cross the border from France every day.

"Saarbrücken is a city where French "laissez-faire" meets German discipline and is an excellent location for our latest InterCityHotel," said Puneet Chhatwal, CEO of Steigenberger Hotels AG. "This will enable us to expand this successful brand still further."

The interior of the building will be designed by the internationally renowned architectural firm of Matteo Thun & Partners.

Joachim Maruszczyk, Managing Director of InterCityHotel GmbH, stated: "We are looking forward to being able to welcome guests to the Saarland in future. This represents a further stage towards the completion of our InterCity Hotel portfolio in Germany."

The project investor is the Saarbrücken-based property group Altin, which is acting in conjunction with other business partners of many years' standing.

Company owner Mehmet Altin said: "We are proud that the Steigenberger Group is coming to Saarbrücken and is working together with us to open the new InterCityHotel."

Particular thanks are due to the Federal State Government, represented by Jürgen Barke, a State Secretary of cabinet ranking at the Ministry for Economics, Energy and Transport. Mr. Barke's committed approach has ensured the successful launch of this innovative and future-looking project.

[www.steigenbergerhotelgroup.com](http://www.steigenbergerhotelgroup.com)

# MOBIBucks rebrands itself as 'Quisk'



**Dubai, UAE, 12 December 2015:**

MOBIBucks, a global payments technology company specializing in digitizing cash, has now rebranded itself as Quisk across all global markets, including the UAE and the Middle East.

"As our solution is different and unique, we wanted our brand name to be different as well. Our new brand 'Quisk' becomes more meaningful to our target audiences as it merges 'quick' with 'easy' which are the hallmarks of our services," says Ziad Alshobaki, Managing Director of Quisk Middle East FZ LLC. "The rebranding is aimed at unifying our branding globally, as we expand into more and more countries."

Quisk has built a world class next generation electronic debit transaction processing platform, enabling financial institutions and others to provide cash-less transactions and safe, simple and secure financial services to anyone with a mobile phone number and a PIN. Deploying innovative cloud-based technology, the Quisk digital cash platform not only works on any type of mobile phone, but also leverages existing core banking and retail POS infrastructure, and integrates loyalty and rewards programs with payments.

Quisk enables "Mobile Money 2.0", a bank-centric, multi-issuer, open loop payments scheme supporting a much larger range of transaction types than first generation mobile money schemes that are mobile network operator centric, and closed loop in nature. "This makes Quisk a game changer in the digital payments industry in the region and beyond," adds Alshobaki.

"The main challenge of digital payment platforms is security and convenience. We at Quisk overcame these challenges and are poised to create a revolution in the mobile payments industry in this region and beyond," added Alshobaki. The Quisk platform enables special transaction processing and balance limits to facilitate compliance with Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) requirements, as well as state-of-the-art risk management. According to global audit firm PwC, 87 per cent of consumers in the UAE buy online.

The same report reveals a penetration of 72 per cent and 64 per cent in Saudi Arabia and Egypt respectively. The UAE has a higher percentage of consumers purchasing online compared to other regional markets.

"These figures of online buyers in the UAE and other Middle East countries show that the community is open to change in the way they do their daily transactions. The only thing required is a secure, quick and easy platform, and Quisk fulfils this need. The Quisk payment type can easily be added to online and mobile shopping carts, increasing the ubiquity of the Quisk solution," concluded Alshobaki.

Quisk, Inc., parent of Quisk Middle East FZ LLC, and headquartered in Silicon Valley in Sunnyvale, CA, is an innovator in the digital cash and mobile money space and has developed a digital services and transaction processing platform for integrated mobile payments and marketing/loyalty programs.

## Jaz in the City the easy life in Amsterdam



The Jaz Amsterdam offers a particular feature which delivers an unforgettable hotel experience without any need for waiting around. Every aspect of the hotel stay, including booking, checking in, checking out, opening the door to the room and making a cashless payment, has been digitalised. This enables guests to use their smart phone as a reception service and a room key.

Jaz in the City has joined forces with the Munich-based software company hotelbird to compress the whole of the communication process that takes place between the front desk and the hotel guest.

"Our guests wish to embrace authentic experiences in a city hotel," explains Hasan Yigit, Vice President of Jaz Hotels and Managing Director of Jaz GmbH. "This also includes the fact that "Jaz in the City" is the first hotel concept to organise every element of the hotel stay in digital form. He adds: "All the details of the check-in and check-out processes, the room key and the payment procedure are stored on the guest's smart phone. This offers the quickest route in the world from booking to arrival in the room itself."

The hotelbird app contains all the important information needed to turn a telephone into a mobile travel guide.

Juan A. Sanmiguel, CEO & co-founder of hotelbird, stated: "There is no longer any need to wait around at reception. This offers guests more time and greater flexibility as well as providing the maximum level of security. Our technology fulfils the very highest industry standards in this regard."

**IAAF**  
**World Half Marathon**  
**Championships**



**100 DAYS TO GO UNTIL THE IAAF/CARDIFF UNIVERSITY WORLD HALF MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS CARDIFF 2016**

## Flying Colours Corp. Hits Global heights at NBAA



**Photo Caption:** L to R Bombardier's Chris Milligan, Director, Services Sales, Andy Nureddin, VP and General Manager, Customer Services, Bill Molloy, VP Parts Services, Flying Colours' John Gillespie, President, Troy Funk, VP Technical Sales, Bombardier VP Parts Services, Stan Younger, VP Aircraft Service Centers, and Lee Boulanger, VP Customer Support.

Troy Funk, Vice President Technical Services of Flying Colours Corp. KSUS was pleased to accept this year's Bombardier Business Aircraft, Authorised Service Facility Excellence Award, in the North American category, during a presentation ceremony at the Bombardier booth at this year's NBAA. Along with President John Gillespie, he accepted the award on behalf of his team at the Chesterfield, St. Louis facility with pride. The Peterborough Headquarters was also awarded heavy Authorized Service Facility (ASF) status to work on *Global 5000* and *Global 6000* models, by Bombardier Business Aircraft. The existing Peterborough and St. Louis ASF agreement covers work undertaken on Bombardier Learjet and Challenger types, and has just been renewed for a further five years at both locations.

In addition INAIRVATION, the joint venture between Lufthansa Technik and F/LIST that develops business jet cabin solutions, announced that Flying Colours Corp. is one of three partners that has been selected, to install its pre-engineered integrated cabin retrofit solutions on Bombardier Global Express/5000/6000 aircraft. It is the only North American company to have been chosen. "It's been a truly memorable NBAA for Flying Colours Corp.," said Sean Gillespie VP Flying Colours Corp., "We've worked extremely hard to achieve the Global ASF status and that has been brilliantly complemented by the INAIRVATION announcement. We're also extremely proud to win the North American ASF award following the renewal of our ASF status at both facilities. It stands testament to the hard work of the team and all those involved with Flying Colours Corp."

## Aloft AeroArchitects (formerly PATS Aircraft Systems) Named One of Safest Companies in the USA

Delaware, Aloft AeroArchitects (formerly PATS Aircraft Systems) today announced that it has been named one of America's Safest Companies by EHS Today Magazine. Aloft was one of just sixteen (16) companies to receive the honor and the list included a broad array of industries from construction and manufacturing to utilities and gas. The list also included companies with vastly varying workforces, from 100 employees at a single location to as many as 50,000 across more than one dozen locations. Aloft's Vice President of People, Cheryl Parker, noted, "We are very excited to be recognized for something which has been a focus of our workforce for years. The

culture of safety at PATS permeates every level of the organization. We celebrate milestones in EHS just like other areas of organizational achievement... a great opportunity to look back on the things we've done well and recommit the team to finding new and better ways to work safely going forward." "Return on the value of safety is a metric that applies to every business, though it carries particular significance in manufacturing, oil and gas, transportation, chemical, construction and recycling," said EHS Today Editor in Chief Sandy Smith. "Focusing too intently on return on investment without the balance of return on the value of safety can impact not only

## Gama Aviation announces its Las Vegas base has received FAA repair station certification

The certification, under Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) 145, covers work on airframes, engines, instruments and radio equipment, enabling Gama Aviation to provide its clients with a full range of support services from its Las Vegas base.

Dennis Richey, executive vice president, engineering, of Gama Aviation, commented: "We are delighted to announce that our Las Vegas base has received FAR 145 certification. As a global operator it is vital that we can provide our clients with a full suite of services in all the markets we serve. Clients want to be confident that wherever their aircraft may be, they will receive a consistently high level of service and this certification underlines the standards we offer here at McCarran."

Gama Aviation has identified a strong business aviation market in the region centred on Las Vegas. Analysis<sup>(1)</sup> of industry data reveals that Nevada and its neighbouring states of California, Arizona and Utah together have a fleet of 2,927 private jets, accounting for more than 12% of the total US fleet. Of these aircraft, 335 were delivered between 2010 and 2014.

As well as its Las Vegas support services, the company offers charter, aircraft management services and a network of 10 other coast-to-coast facilities as well as a mobile line maintenance<sup>(2)</sup> service across the US. Currently it responds to around 2,500 call-outs from clients in the US every year, has flown over one million miles and driven over 500,000 to support AOG (aircraft on the ground) and line maintenance situations.

employee safety but ultimately, organizational success."

Aloft's campus is located at the Delaware Coastal Airport in Georgetown, Delaware and includes its FAA Part 145 Repair Station, STC & PMA ODA/Engineering Services and aircraft systems manufacturing. Aloft also is a Boeing authorized BBJ Service Center focused on accommodating aircraft for interior completions, maintenance, modifications and auxiliary fuel tank installations. Aloft's manufacturing team, and its ODA and Engineering Services are also available to support design and certification requirements for project work on behalf of our global customers.

## Busier Christmas season for Lapland's airports than the year before

It is the busiest season of the year at airports in Lapland, Finland, when travellers from all over the world come to enjoy a snowy Christmas. The winter season for air traffic in Lapland is expected to be busier than the year before.

According to Finavia, there are expected to be more than 430 charter flights in December, more than in the previous winter. During the Christmas season, an increasing number of route flights will also carry passengers from different parts of the world to Lapland.

Measured by the number of charter flights, the busiest airports in December will be the recently modernised Kittilä (153 flights) and Rovaniemi (141 flights) Airports. Kittilä is expected to have as many flights as in the year before, whereas the corresponding figure at Rovaniemi Airport will increase by 13 flights. Furthermore, the charter flight volume will increase in Enontekiö and Ivalo: Enontekiö will have 57 charter flights and Ivalo 69 flights. Approximately 10 charter flights have been scheduled to Kuusamo. Charter flight traffic started on 20 November, when the first charter flight landed at Enontekiö Airport. The number of flights increases gradually as we get closer to Christmas and, between Christmas and New Year, as many as 30 flights will arrive at Lapland's airports daily. Most of the Christmas tourists come from Great Britain. Other flights will arrive from France, the Netherlands, Spain and Ireland, and from Russia around New Year.

“Based on the number of charter flights, the winter season will be busier in Lapland, particularly in Rovaniemi where the traffic volume has increased. The increase in the number of charter flights depicts the attractiveness of Lapland as a tourist attraction, even though the global economic situation is uncertain. The popularity of Lapland as a safe destination may also be increased by the recent world events,” says **Joni Sundelin**, director at Finavia.

Through its cost-efficient and world-class airports, Finavia is doing its part to improve the capacity of travel and tourism in Lapland. In addition to an easy access to travel destinations from its airports, Finavia has invested in a smooth and pleasant travel experience at all of its airports in Lapland.

As part of Finavia's extensive development programme, it will invest more than EUR 30 million in its airports in Lapland between 2014 and 2016. This year, terminal modernisations were completed in Ivalo and Rovaniemi. Kittilä was earlier furnished with a more enjoyable facelift in addition to a smoother travel experience.

Finavia's goal is to keep the pricing and service levels of its airports competitive to create prerequisites for air traffic at the airport. Ultimately, the traffic volume will, however, depend on the attractiveness of the travel services and the regions, which create the real basis for demand.

Finavia's airports are ready to welcome all Christmas travellers. Welcome to Finland! Finavia

## Vector Aerospace Certified for Airbus

### Vector Aerospace Certified for Airbus Helicopters H130/EC130 Tail Rotor Gearbox Repair and Overhaul

Richmond, BC Vector Aerospace ([www.vectoraerospace.com](http://www.vectoraerospace.com)), a global independent provider of aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services, is pleased to announce the addition of the Airbus Helicopters H130 (formerly EC130 T2) and EC130 B4 tail rotor gearbox (TGB) to its existing range of rotorcraft repair and overhaul (R&O) capabilities. Vector will offer this expanded support for the H130/EC130 from its facilities in Langley and Richmond, BC, Canada, which already offer operators worldwide a range of services for Airbus Helicopters models including the H125/AS350, AS355, H130/EC130, BO105, H135/EC135 and AS332. Vector's service offerings for the H130/EC130 family include D-level structural repairs, dynamic component repair (DCR), including main and tail rotor gearboxes, plus scheduled maintenance including 12-year inspections. Vector is also an authorized Turbomeca Arriel 2 repair center, supporting operators in North America. “With our highly trained, OEM-certified technicians already providing full R&O on the H130/EC130 main gearboxes, we are pleased to offer this newly expanded capability to our customers,” said Craig Plum, VP Sales - Rotary Wing, Vector Aerospace. “We are already experiencing great interest from the market regarding this new offering, and we will work diligently to meet our customer's future requirements.”

Vector Aerospace is in the process of completing a brand-new, 88,000 sq. ft. facility in Langley, which will incorporate new avionics and structures shops plus 65,000 sq. ft. of hangar space. This state-of-the-art building, which will also feature expanded engineering and STC development capabilities as well as a modernized paint facility, will be formally opened during the first half of 2016.

Vector Aerospace is a global provider of aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services. Through facilities in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Australia, South Africa, Kenya and Singapore, Vector Aerospace provides services to commercial and military customers for gas turbine engines, components and helicopter airframes. Vector's customer-focused team includes over 2,300 motivated employees.



Pilot: Shaesta Waiz (pronounced WAYZ), first female certified civilian pilot from Afghanistan

## FACT SHEET: Dreams Soar's Global Solo Flight for STEM

