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## BRITISH AIRWAYS PROTECTS TIER STATUS FOR ITS LOYAL EXECUTIVE CLUB MEMBERS

To thank customers for their loyalty during an extremely difficult period in its history, British Airways has today announced it will be protecting the Tier status of Executive Club members for a further year. This means that any member renewing in 2021 will enjoy their status for another year, irrespective of how many Tier Points they earn. Eligible members will receive an additional 12 months on their Tier status expiry date which will be updated in their Executive Club accounts this week.

Niall Rooney, Head of the British Airways Executive Club, said: "As we await the Government's decision in April and plan for the safe restart of travel as soon as possible, we want to thank our Executive Club members for their loyalty during the most difficult time in the airline's history.

"We know many of our members haven't been able to travel, but today's news means they can keep their benefits for longer and use them when they're able to fly again. We hope this complements a number of measures we've already introduced, including our book with confidence commitment, which provides flexibility and reassurance for our customers."

Today's announcement means that qualifying members will have received two years of



Lounge changes

Members whose Tier Point collection end date falls between 1 July and 31 December 2021, will have their Tier status protected for an additional 12 months, irrespective of how many Tier Points they earn.

It means that no British Airways Executive Club member, including Bronze, Silver and Gold card holders will lose their Tier status in 2021.

protection. It also means that no British Airways Executive Club member will lose their Tier status in 2021.

On top of this Tier extension, in February, British Airways announced a six-month extension to all Executive Club vouchers, due to expire before 31 December 2021. This was the third extension that was applied, following similar extensions in March 2020 and October 2020 and included Gold Upgrade Vouchers and American

Express Companion Vouchers. British Airways is also adding an additional six-months validity to all new Companion Voucher or Travel Together tickets earned between June 2020 and the end of December 2021. And finally, British Airways continues to reduce the amount of Tier Points needed to reach each Tier by 25 per cent for those whose Tier Point collection year ends before July 2022.

## ETIHAD AIRWAYS EXTENDS GLOBAL COVID-19 INSURANCE

Ethad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, has extended its COVID-19 global wellness insurance cover until 30 September 2021.

Martin Drew, Senior Vice President Sales & Cargo, Ethad Airways, said: "Extending Ethad's COVID-19 global wellness insurance reinforces the effectiveness of Ethad Wellness, the airline's health and hygiene programme. It's an added benefit automatically provided to all guests - no exceptions.

"As Ethad continues to gradually

expand its services to up to 60 destinations this spring, the airline wants to instil confidence to travel and hopes this additional cover will reassure guests Ethad is doing everything it can to keep them safe and protected."

Guests who are diagnosed with COVID-19 during their trip won't have to worry about medical expenses or quarantine costs when they fly with Ethad.

For new bookings, simply book your next flight on [etihad.com](http://etihad.com), the mobile

app, by calling the Ethad Airways Contact Centre in Abu Dhabi on +971 600 555 666 (UAE), or through a local or online travel agency - there are no forms to complete.



## Satcom Direct (SD) expands access to aeroCNCT training through DaVinci Inflight Training Institute



Satcom Direct trainers will be delivering aeroCNCT at DaVinci Inflight Training Institute.

Satcom Direct (SD), the business aviation solutions provider, is bolstering access to its Crewmember Network and Connectivity Training certificate program, aeroCNCT, through a new agreement with DaVinci Inflight Training Institute, the Florida-based flight crew training company. The SD aeroCNCT certified course is now being taught by an SD training professional at the DaVinci Institute on a quarterly basis. Theoretical and practical teaching leads to a professional credential upon successful completion of the course and examination.

The addition of aeroCNCT to the DaVinci curriculum aims to support the needs of an increasing amount of flight crew requiring comprehensive understanding of in-flight connectivity solution management. Designed to familiarize students with multifaceted connectivity concepts, the course includes modules on cabin network management, network applications and tools, and flight operation preparation. The resulting accreditation gives the flight professional the confidence to troubleshoot connectivity issues and serves to raise industry standards.

"We understand that connectivity is an essential element of the flight experience and that for flight crew it is a growing area of responsibility. DaVinci recognizes that providing

reliable training enhances the opportunity for greater professional development, so it makes sense to team up to offer our dedicated course through the institute. The aeroCNCT course complements existing DaVinci modules, and we hope that by providing a wide selection of courses at a single location, attendees can optimize the full training potential available at the institute," explains John Kummer, SD senior vice president strategy.

DaVinci offers a wide range of courses for flight attendants and crew, including culinary, cabin safety, and service training among others. "We believe that by adding tangible value to professional development with certified courses we are improving career prospects for our students and enhancing the business aviation sector. We are frequently asked for educational support relating to connectivity, so we are excited to add the SD connectivity module to our curriculum. We know it will appeal to many of our existing customers and be of great interest to new ones too," says John Detloff, chief operating officer at DaVinci.

Since its launch three years ago, more than 200 crewmembers have successfully completed the aeroCNCT course and SD is now welcoming returning students for certification renewal.



## Vertis Aviation adds Africa-based Challenger 604 to portfolio.



Vertis\_Aviation\_marketing\_Challenger\_604\_exterior

Switzerland-based Vertis Aviation, is expanding its footprint in Africa with the addition of a Bombardier Challenger 604 to the Vertis Charter Management Programme, VCMP. This is the second aircraft to sign up to the VCMP in as many months and represents the first Challenger 604 that the Argus Certified Broker will exclusively market for charter. Based in Accra, Ghana the Challenger 604 seats up to 11 passengers, and also welcomes small pets when in a travel carrier. Equipped with Wi-Fi

connectivity, a full galley, divan and club seating the spacious cabin provides a productive and comfortable environment. Vertis anticipates the home-base location in West Africa and the range – the Challenger 604 can fly nonstop across the continent – will stimulate demand from regional and international government, corporate, ultra-high net worth and broker customers. The aircraft is a familiar model in the African skies and West African government officials are already taking advantage of the jet's immediate availability. A number of resilient West African nations are also seeing economic growth despite the pandemic as

telecommunications, inward investment and reforms, and the growth of agricultural industries drive business development in the region. "We are seeing strengthening interest from the region, and as the limitations of commercial flights across Africa have been



Vertis\_Aviation\_marketing\_Challenger\_604\_interior

amplified by the global pandemic, we are extremely pleased to be able to market the Challenger 604. The model is already established and well-liked by the African business aviation market sector, it's a real work-horse and we're excited by the opportunities," adds Foster. The aircraft is operated by Austria-headquartered Avcon Jet, which has extensive experience operating across the continent, and is supported by a European crew.

The addition of the Challenger 604 showcases the distinctive qualities of the VCMP. The programme adds value to the ownership experience by

providing a highly personalised approach to revenue generation on behalf of the owner. Vertis delivers outsourced professional charter sales management enabling the operator to focus solely on operations. The business model generates

revenue from the asset for the owner yet provides the flexibility for owners to use the aircraft as needed. It also increases the bank of charter aircraft available to the market and enables Vertis to transform its portfolio to meet changing charter market

trends. "It's a powerful combination and as we celebrate our first decade of business it demonstrates the need for, and sustainability of, this business model," says Foster. The VCMP is part of a wider portfolio of Vertis products which also features aircraft charter, lease, and transaction services. The Vertis team works from an international network of offices located in Zug, London, Dublin, Beverly Hills, Dubai, and Cape Town promoting a select portfolio of business aircraft including a Global 6000, Global 5000, Legacy 600, a Challenger 350 and now the Challenger 604 too.

## Inter-Tec Group opens a new European business in Sligo, Ireland

Inter-Tec Group, which offers specialist engineering, design and analysis solutions across the broad aviation sector, is pleased to open a new European base in Sligo, The Republic of Ireland, complementing its established Prestwick, Scotland home. The new business, Inter-Tec Aero Limited becomes the principal site of business for EASA approvals. It secured EASA Part 21J Design Organisation Approval (DOA) in February, replicating the capabilities and certification benefits provided up until now by Inter-Tec Services. "The prime objective in creating this new company is to provide continuity of EASA-approved design services to our overseas customers located in Asia, Middle East, and Africa, as well as the UK and Europe, in the new post-Brexit environment," commented Fred Gorrie, Inter-Tec Group Managing Director.

"In exploring all our options, we settled on Sligo as the best-fit EU home. The investment cost us around £70,000, but thankfully we had some cushion, having had an exceptional financial year through to September 2019, before the pandemic struck," he acknowledged. "This strategically important new European base will be a catalyst to drive the next phase of Inter-Tec's development," Fred added. "Customers around the world expect and ask for approvals under EASA, one of the pre-eminent aviation regulatory bodies globally."

Co-located with Causeway Aero Group Inter-Tec Aero has moved in alongside the Causeway Aero Group, a complementary EASA Part 21G Production and EASA Part 145 maintenance business which has served as partner supplier to Inter-Tec for several years on a number of design and build projects, mainly focused on interiors and aircraft seating. "Our customers will continue to receive the full EASA design and certification service they have come to expect and deserve from us. From the new base

we can also engage more effectively with the aircraft leasing companies based in Ireland," Fred added. The new base will enable Inter-Tec to build on an already solid global client base, serving as a regular supply chain company to companies including Airbus, Triumph Aviation, BAE Systems, Spirit Aero Systems, Leonardo, GKN and The Babcock Group. Fred Gorrie and his four directors / post holders will travel regularly between the two bases. Its current engineering team at Prestwick will remain a key resource to the Group, with Inter-Tec Aero becoming 'the principal place of business' for EASA approvals. When the market improves, the plan is for Inter-Tec Aero to recruit local technical specialists, noted Fred.

Responding to Covid-19 demands Inter-Tec widened out its expertise as coronavirus struck last year, with projects including certification work on regional airline Loganair's Saab 340 aircraft, to enable the transportation of an Epiguard Epishuttle, and is currently providing an STC on the Leonardo AW139 helicopter for installation of an Isoark isolation pod - both for transportation of sick patients. Other specialist work handled includes the design and certification of Seatrays to protect the cabin floors and electrics of Search and Rescue Helicopters during rescue incidents. Inter-Tec worked on this for The Babcock Group



Inter-Tec Group is a key supply chain partner. Leonardo AW139 photo courtesy of Babcock.



## Aeroplan announces first-of-its-kind partnership with Starbucks Canada so Members can pour on the points to their next reward

Starbucks Rewards and Aeroplan Members can now link their accounts. Aeroplan Members can earn and redeem points every day with Starbucks. Aeroplan is proud to announce that its millions of Members can now earn and redeem points by enjoying their favourite Starbucks beverages and snacks. Starting today, members can link their Aeroplan account to a Starbucks Rewards account and double-dip by earning both Aeroplan points and Starbucks Stars at participating Starbucks locations throughout Canada. Linking takes less than a minute and can be done at [aircanada.com/starbucks](http://aircanada.com/starbucks). "We redesigned Aeroplan with the feedback and ideas of over 36,000 people. Consistently across this group, members told us that they wanted more opportunities to earn and redeem points in their everyday lives at their favourite brands. We're proud to launch this first-of-its-kind partnership with Starbucks, a globally respected brand offering the best-in-class

experience for all its customers," said Mark Nasr, Senior Vice President, Products, Marketing and eCommerce, Air Canada. "New everyday partnerships with well-loved, frequently used brands are another reason to get excited about the reimagined Aeroplan." "By bringing together two of the country's most celebrated rewards programs, Starbucks Rewards and Aeroplan, we're excited to open up a new world of benefits for customers and invite more Canadians to try the Starbucks experience," says Peter Furnish, vice president, Product and Marketing, Starbucks Canada. "Through the Starbucks app, we continue to build meaningful ways to deepen our direct relationships with our customers digitally." This new Starbucks partnership is another example of Aeroplan's commitment to rewarding and recognizing all travelers—both frequent and occasional. In addition to

launching this new partnership with Starbucks and other everyday marquee brands yet to be announced, Aeroplan will be introducing a series of "Aeroplan Ahead" offers throughout 2021. These time-limited offers will give members special earning opportunities on the ground and at home, setting them up for future travel, whenever they're ready to get back in the skies.

How it works:

Go to [aircanada.com/starbucks](http://aircanada.com/starbucks) to link your Aeroplan account with a Starbucks Rewards account.

Start earning Aeroplan points for the following Starbucks Rewards activities:  
Earn 75 Aeroplan points each time you load or reload \$50 up to \$74.99 to your Starbucks Card.

Earn 150 Aeroplan points each time you load or reload \$75 or more to your Starbucks Card. Not yet a Starbucks Rewards member? Earn a one-time bonus of 400 Aeroplan points when you create a new Starbucks Rewards account, link it to your Aeroplan account and make your first purchase using the Starbucks app within one month of creating the Starbucks Rewards account. Visit [aircanada.com/starbucks](http://aircanada.com/starbucks) for full details.

To celebrate the launch, earn more Aeroplan points for the following limited time bonus Starbucks Rewards activities:  
Until June 6, 2021, earn 25 Aeroplan points when you make four or more qualifying transactions in a week. Visit [aircanada.com/starbucks](http://aircanada.com/starbucks) for full details.

Earn 50 Aeroplan points every time you redeem at least 150 Stars two times or more in one calendar month until May 31, 2021. Visit [aircanada.com/starbucks](http://aircanada.com/starbucks) for full details.

In addition, linked members can purchase Starbucks Cards for a discounted number of points. Redeem as little as 1,000 Aeroplan points for a \$10 Starbucks Card at the Aeroplan eStore.

Until November 7, 2021, members who use their TD Aeroplan Visa card earn 50 percent more Aeroplan points for every \$1 spent on eligible credit card purchases at participating Starbucks locations

## SWISS restructures top management of its flight operations



As part of a broader restructuring of the overall management of its flight operations, SWISS has appointed Oliver Buchhofer to the newly-created position of Head of Operations. In his new capacity, which he will assume on 1 April, Buchhofer will also serve as SWISS's Accountable Manager, a function that is currently performed by COO Thomas Frick. The latter will step down as COO as planned at the end of March. The function of COO will, as in previous years, be additionally assumed by the CEO. This will reduce the SWISS Management Board from four to three members. Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) is restructuring the top management of its flight operations. This entails the creation of the new position of Head of Operations, whose holder will be responsible for ensuring safe and smooth overall operations, including strategic planning, coordination and organization in such areas as cockpit crew, training, technical services and ground handling. The new position of Head of Operations will be assumed by Oliver Buchhofer, currently SWISS's Head of Flight Operations, with effect from 1 April.

In his new Head of Operations capacity Oliver Buchhofer will also serve as SWISS's Accountable Manager, bearing overall responsibility for ensuring safe operations in compliance with the provisions of the company's official air operator's certificate. This function is currently performed by Chief Operating Officer (COO) Thomas Frick. Frick will be stepping down from his COO function as planned at the end of March, but will remain active with SWISS on a project basis. As in earlier years, the function of COO will be additionally assumed by the CEO. This will reduce the SWISS Management Board from four to three members.

Oliver Buchhofer to become the newly-created Head of Operations. Oliver Buchhofer (44) is a captain and an instructor on the SWISS Airbus A320 family fleet, and will report directly to CEO Dieter Vranckx in his new Head of Operations capacity. In addition to his flying duties, he has been SWISS's Head of Flight Operations since 2016. In this position he is in overall charge of

the company's corps of some 1,400 pilots and also bears strategic responsibility for its flight operations. He further heads the SWISS Emergency Committee and is responsible – inter alia – for the implementation of flight operations standards and regulations throughout all the airlines of the Lufthansa Group. Oliver Buchhofer previously held various management functions in SWISS's pilot training from 2009 onwards. He also served with Austrian Airlines and Tyrolean Airways before joining SWISS in 2007.

"I am delighted that, in Oliver Buchhofer, we have recruited such an experienced aviation expert from within our own ranks to be our new Head of Operations," says SWISS CEO Dieter Vranckx.

"Oliver has already proved in his present capacity that he is excellently equipped to ensure our safe, reliable and efficient flight operations, even in today's unprecedented crisis times. And I wish him every success and satisfaction in his new capacity." Oliver Buchhofer lives in Meilen, near Zurich. He is married and is the father of a daughter. He holds a master's (lic. oec.) degree in business administration from the University of Zurich.

COO Thomas Frick to step down as planned. Thomas Frick (61), who has been SWISS's Chief Operating Officer (COO) since 2020, will step down from his post as planned at the end of March to devote himself to future strategic projects within the company. Prior to his COO duties, Thomas Frick was appointed Accountable Manager in 2016, and had served as Head of Flight Operations since 2011. Before this he had accompanied his many years of flying duties as a Swissair and a SWISS pilot with various training and management positions, including serving as fleet chief for the Boeing MD-11 and later the Airbus A330/A340 fleets. He began his career with Swissair in 1982. Key recent career achievements include the strategic introduction of the two newest types in the SWISS aircraft fleet, the Boeing 777-300ER and the Airbus A220, assuming overall responsibility for all crew training throughout the Lufthansa Group and overseeing the operational and the cultural amalgamation of the Swiss International Air Lines and Swiss Global Air Lines flight operations platforms.





## SWISS reports substantial loss for 2020 owing to pandemic

The coronavirus pandemic and the resulting global entry restrictions have led to an unprecedented slump in demand for air travel and massive revenue declines. SWISS's total revenues for 2020 of CHF 1.85 billion were a full 65.2 per cent below their prior-year level. Adjusted EBIT for the year amounted to CHF -654 million (2019: CHF 578 million). The very weak results for the fourth-quarter period further increased the losses for the year as a whole. Radical actions initiated as early as March 2020 helped stem the losses to a certain degree. But with ever-clearer signs since the beginning of 2021 that the airline industry is undergoing major structural change, SWISS is now considering further measures to ensure its future viability. Passenger volumes have shrunk to a quarter of their 2019 levels, and no tangible recovery is expected before mid-summer 2021. SWISS essentially welcomes all efforts to make travel simple and reliable again, and is counting on the adoption of appropriate mobility-promoting parameters here that are as standardized as possible. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic and the ensuing collapse of travel activity worldwide, Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) suffered massive declines in its bookings and its revenues for the 2020 business year. The company consequently reported its first negative operating result for 15 years. Total revenues for the year amounted to CHF 1.85 billion, some 65.2 per cent below their prior-year level (2019: CHF 5.30 billion<sup>1</sup>), and Adjusted EBIT for the year amounted to CHF -654 million (2019: CHF 578 million). The company's Swiss WorldCargo division made a disproportionately high contribution to its 2020 results, in view of the strong demand for cargo transport services, not least for medicines and further medical items.



SWISS Corporate (1)

A very weak fourth quarter further increases losses for the year

As expected, SWISS's operating losses further increased in the fourth quarter of 2020 as a result of the deterioration in the epidemiological situation. Fourth-quarter revenues totalled only CHF 311 million, a 75.7-per-cent decline on the prior-year period (Q4 2019: CHF 1.28 billion<sup>1</sup>). Adjusted EBIT for the period amounted to CHF -239 million (Q4 2019: CHF 89 million).

"The coronavirus pandemic and the resulting travel restrictions have posed a huge challenge for us," says SWISS CEO Dieter Vranckx. "And this, combined with the air transport sector's relatively high fixed costs, has meant that our industry has been hit a lot harder than others. We have radically reduced our costs in response – to preserve our liquidity and ensure that we are in the best possible business shape for the further challenges ahead."

Extensive cost savings have their effect

As soon as the pandemic developed, SWISS initiated numerous actions to maintain its liquidity and lower its costs, adopted short-time working companywide and deferred until further notice any projects and further investments that were not essential to its operations. "Thanks to these immediate and drastic cost saving measures, and also to the strong contribution

we were able to keep our losses for 2020 within reasonable bounds," concludes SWISS CFO Markus Binkert. "We expected to report annual results of these dimensions, and have incorporated them into our financial and liquidity planning. What we didn't expect," he continues, "was for the situation to worsen again since the beginning of this year. We are still losing around CHF 2 million a day. So we now have to further intensify our cost saving endeavours."

Action packages have already been agreed with the company's social partners for its cabin crew members and its ground personnel. The negotiations with its pilots' staff association Aeropers on a viable new collective labour agreement suited to the present crisis times have not yet been concluded.

The company also expects to have reduced its workforce by some 1,000 full-time positions by the end of 2021 through a combination of natural turnover, early retirements and new part-time working arrangements. These actions also include a 20-per-cent reduction in the numbers of upper management personnel. And SWISS is further reducing its Management Board from four to three members: Chief Operating Officer Thomas Frick (61) will step down from his function as planned at the end of March 2021, but will remain active for the company under a project-based arrangement. "We

would like to thank Thomas Frick already for his many years of outstanding service and commitment to our company," says CEO Dieter Vranckx. "Throughout that time he has ably proven all his skills and expertise – not only as a member of our cockpit crew corps, but also in the various management positions he has held, most recently on our Management Board in these extremely demanding times." As in the past, the COO function will now be additionally performed by the CEO.

Structural changes require further restructuring measures. With renewed lockdowns and additional travel restrictions imposed in response to new coronavirus variants, and with the slow progress of vaccination programmes, the market situation has tangibly worsened since the beginning of this year. SWISS's production for March is at only some 25 per cent of its 2019 levels, and the present minimal flight operations in Geneva have had to be extended until the end of this month. "The situation has substantially deteriorated since 2021 began," confirms CEO Dieter Vranckx. "It is now abundantly clear that the entire airline industry will undergo tangible structural change. As a result, we at SWISS will also have to consider a more radical resizing than we have envisaged to date. And any reduction in the size of our aircraft fleet would also impact directly on our route network, our cost structures and our organizational structure. But no decisions have yet been taken here." Slump in passenger numbers. The COVID-19 pandemic has prompted a slump in passenger volumes. SWISS<sup>2</sup>) transported a total of 4,790,372 passengers in 2020, some 74.5 per cent fewer than the previous year. A total of 48,069 flights were operated, a 68.2-per-cent year-on-year decline. Systemwide capacity for the year was 66.4 per cent down on 2019 in

available seat-kilometre (ASK) terms. Total traffic volume, measured in revenue passenger-kilometres (RPK), was 76.8 per cent below its prior-year level. Systemwide seat load factor amounted to 57.9 per cent, a year-on-year decline of 26.1 percentage points. Seat load factor for Europe was substantially higher than its long-haul equivalent. No recovery before mid-summer; mobility-promoting parameters required. Unfortunately, the recovery which had been hoped for in the first quarter of 2021 has failed to materialize. But with further progress in COVID vaccinations and with demand likely to have been only deferred, SWISS still expects to have its capacities back to around 65 per cent of their 2019 levels in the course of the third-quarter period. Private travel is likely to recover sooner than business travel here.

"The present pandemic is posing our company its greatest-ever challenges," CEO Dieter Vranckx concludes. "We have every confidence, though, that SWISS can continue to provide Switzerland with an extensive network of direct air services for both passengers and cargo all over the world. If we are to do so, however, we will need to have a set of mobility-promoting parameters in place that are as standardized as possible – which also means, for us, the equal treatment of all transport routes, means and modes."

SWISS will continue to help its customers in all their travel plans by offering flexible rebooking options in all fare categories.

1) SWISS adopted new accounting principles at the end of 2019 in compliance with those of the Lufthansa Group. Total revenues of CHF 1.28 billion for the fourth quarter and of CHF 5.33 billion for the full year of 2019 were previously reported in March 2020.

2) excluding Edelweiss Air



# Vancouver Boat Show



## Daher's Kodiak and TBM turboprop-powered aircraft are bolstered by resilient sales and deliveries in 2020



Daher's Aircraft Division today announced its 2020 business activity, with the deliveries of 53 aircraft from the Kodiak and TBM single-engine turboprop product lines, as well as orders for another 50 of these aircraft to be delivered in 2021.

Last year's deliveries were led by the TBM 940 and TBM 910, with 42 provided primarily to pilot-owners. The majority of TBMs were for North American customers (34 airplanes), followed by Europe (with two in Germany, two in the U.K., and two in France), along with one aircraft in Brazil and the first TBM to be based in the United Arab Emirates at Dubai.

The other 11 deliveries in 2020 were Kodiak 100 Series II airplanes – nine of which were in the Americas, along with two provided in Europe for Germany. Customers were primarily fleet operators, such as Costa Rican charter carrier Green Airways; Meta Special Aerospace, an ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) mission provider based in Oklahoma; Bridger Aerospace, which

performs firefighting and aerial survey duties from its Montana headquarters.

In addition, there were 20 sales of the pre-owned Kodiak 100 aircraft remaining in the inventory of the sales network after the company acquisition by Daher.

The Kodiak 100 Series II is an unpressurized 10-seat airplane capable of operating on uneven and ultra-short runways, as well as on water in the amphibious version. Daher acquired the Kodiak aircraft's production in 2019, joining the company's very fast pressurized TBM family, produced today in the TBM 910 and TBM 940 versions. "The teams at Daher's Aircraft Division are to be congratulated on their tremendous job in producing and delivering the Kodiak and TBM aircraft despite the COVID-19 pandemic's significant impact last year," commented Didier Kayat, CEO of the Daher parent company. "In addition to maintaining a solid volume of deliveries, the orders already registered for 2021 provide a

positive outlook for the coming year."

Nicolas Chabbert, the Senior Vice President of Daher's Aircraft Division, thanked the Kodiak and TBM customers for their confidence in an exceptionally challenging environment.

"The Kodiak sales activity that followed Daher's acquisition of this multi-mission aircraft is a good indicator of the renewed market confidence in the airplane – particularly with the enhanced support provided by our worldwide services network," said Chabbert. "For the TBM, these aircraft continue to benefit from our strategy of product enhancements, including last year's introduction of the HomeSafe™ emergency autoland system on TBM 940s. Additionally, the ongoing development of our Me & My TBM application for all TBM versions assists pilots in fine-tuning their skills while also reinforcing relationships among the TBM aviator community."

## Lorenzo Stoll named new Head of Swiss WorldCargo

Lorenzo Stoll has been appointed as SWISS's new Head of Swiss WorldCargo. He will assume his new function on 1 April. He succeeds Ashwin Bhat, who will take up new duties as Chief Commercial Officer of Lufthansa Cargo on 1 March. Lorenzo Stoll is currently SWISS's Head of Western Switzerland, with responsibility for its Geneva business and operations. The search for his successor to oversee the key Geneva market is already under way. Swiss International Air Lines (SWISS) has appointed Lorenzo Stoll (49) as the new head of its Swiss WorldCargo airfreight division. He will assume his new position, reporting to CFO Markus Binkert, on 1 April. He succeeds Ashwin Bhat, who will take up new duties as Chief Commercial Officer of Lufthansa Cargo on 1 March.

Lorenzo Stoll joined SWISS as its Head of Western Switzerland in 2013, and has since achieved the turnaround of the company's Geneva business and operations together with his team. With his wide experience in the consumer goods segment, his innovative flair and his keen focus on the customer, Lorenzo Stoll has further enhanced product and service quality. His success in Western Switzerland has been assisted by the extensive deployment from Geneva of SWISS's advanced and efficient Airbus A220 aircraft fleet. Under his leadership, SWISS has also created over 200 new jobs at its Geneva location. "I am really pleased that, in Lorenzo Stoll, we have appointed such a skilled and seasoned expert from our own ranks," says CFO Markus

Binkert. "Lorenzo has been instrumental in ensuring our success in Geneva and our positioning as a premium carrier. I'm convinced that, with his wide experience in the commercial, the consumer goods and the aviation fields, he will be just as effective in



Lorenzo Stoll 1 (1)

further developing our air cargo division. And I wish him every success and satisfaction in his new capacity." Lorenzo Stoll came to SWISS from Nestlé, where he had spent the previous 12 years serving in international management positions within various corporate divisions in Vevey, Frankfurt and Paris. Prior to this he had been Sales & Marketing Manager at Montreux-Vevey Tourism. A graduate of Lausanne's Ecole Hôtelière, he was born in Zurich and grew up mainly in Western Switzerland. Lorenzo Stoll is married. The search for Stoll's successor to oversee SWISS's key Geneva market is already under way

## BRITISH AIRWAYS PARTNERS WITH RECKITT BENCKISER, THE MAKERS OF DETTOL, AS PART OF ITS ONGOING COMMITMENT TO HELP KEEP CUSTOMERS SAFE

British Airways and Dettol partner to offer customers a range of Dettol products in the air and on the ground. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine supports the partnership.

British Airways has today announced it will be partnering



with trusted and iconic hygiene brand Dettol, the UK's no. 1 disinfection brand as part of its ongoing commitment to help keep its customers and colleagues safe.

From March 2021, British Airways' customers will have access to a range of Dettol

products, that are proven to kill 99.9% of bacteria and Coronavirus (SARS-COV-2), in the air and on the ground.

The airline's updated cleaning protocols using Dettol products, have been supported by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

more on next pg



## Planet Nine(Planet 9) expands with two more charter aircraft

Planet Nine, the Van Nuys, California based private charter operator and aircraft management company, continues to demonstrate that business aviation is leading the recovery with the introduction this month of two more ultra-long range business jets on to its

management is a new Dassault Falcon 7X (N685AB). Positioned out of Farmington, NY, it is also available for charter. With 14 passenger seats in a three-zone cabin and enclosed state-room, the aircraft is suitable for up to 12 hour journeys, with a max range of

announce a significant new collaboration with The Culinary Institute of America, a leading international School specializing in culinary, baking, and pastry arts education. Its 13 Cabin Service Representatives are looking forward to starting their ground school training in



Planet9\_Falcon7X\_exterior



Planet9\_Falcon7X\_interior

Part 135 AOC. One of the two, a new Bombardier Global Express (N926PN) is a floating fleet aircraft. It is currently positioned at Bournemouth Airport, South West UK. The Global is configured for 10 seats in a three-zone cabin, with an enclosed state room for privacy, plus a fixed double bed. Boasting range of 5,830 nm / 12 hours' flying time, it is an excellent solution for long range international missions. Mirroring other high-spec aircraft in the Planet 9 fleet, the aircraft offers KU band WIFI, accessible via eight large iPads loaded with a selection of movies. Accompanying the latest Global Express and also under

5,950 nm. Inflight connectivity comes via Inmarsat SwiftBroadband, while IFE is accessible through eight large iPads, loaded with movies. "We are very pleased to add these prestigious aircraft to our floating model fleet," said Matt Walter, Planet 9 Cofounder and Director of Business Development. "Since last Spring we have seen a notable reduction of N-registered high-quality long range business jets become available for charter, so we were fortunate to add these latest aircraft to our managed Global Express fleet." Culinary Institute of America Partnership Planet Nine is also pleased to

San Antonio, TX as soon as they are able. "We work very closely with our aircraft owners on how their aircraft are presented for charter. An important part of that is our inflight service and the bespoke dining experience we offer," highlighted Hilary Clark, Planet 9's Director of Inflight. "This new partnership underlines our commitment to invest in the best service culinary training for our CSRs. We are proud and strongly protective of the onboard service we deliver, because we know that it sets us apart in the industry."



Planet9 Global Exterior



Planet9 Global Interior

from pg 5  
At Heathrow Terminal 5 Dettol hand sanitiser stations will be positioned at all check-in desks, self-service bag drop, lounges and at departure gates, replacing the current sanitisation stations with Dettol products. The airline will also use Dettol antibacterial wipes, cleaners and sprays to keep surfaces clean at the airport and in its lounges. In the air, British Airways will be introducing a Dettol antibacterial hygiene wipe. Each customer will be handed

a packet containing the wipe as they board the aircraft. Carolina Martinoli, British Airways' Director of Brand and Customer, said: "As we look forward to welcoming our customers back on board, we are proud to announce our partnership with Dettol, a trusted and well-known disinfection brand. At the start of the pandemic, we introduced a number of protective measures at each step of the customer journey, and we think our partnership with Dettol is a great addition."

Rahul Kadyan Executive Vice President of Global Business Solutions for Reckitt Benckiser (RB) said: "Our collaboration with British Airways is exciting, since we both share the same objective to help protect travellers. This is an ideal partnership for RB, and Dettol, to help drive high standards in hygiene and reassure consumers they can enjoy the British Airways experience. Our brand is built on trust, scientific efficacy and our desire to educate consumers around the world more on next pg

## Hartzell Receives Voyager Prop STC for Cessna 180/182/185/206 Aircraft Fleet

Building on Backcountry Acceptance of Skywagon/AgCarryall Prop Hartzell has expanded the eligibility of its popular three-blade aluminum Voyager props. The Voyager is now STC approved for the large fleet of Cessna 180/182/185/206 aircraft, powered by Continental 520 and 550 engines. The Voyager, which has been well received by bush pilots, was previously approved for Cessna's A185E/F Skywagon and AgCarryall aircraft.

"Inspired by enthusiastic customer acceptance since we introduced the Voyager in 2019, we decided to make it available to a much broader fleet," said Hartzell Propeller President JJ Frigge. "We are also excited to partner with the Recreational Aviation Foundation (RAF) to offer its members a \$1,000 discount off the regular price from now until the end of 2022."

Improved Performance The custom-designed Voyager propeller provides premium performance with up to seven knots faster cruise speed, 10 percent better take-off acceleration, an exceptional climb rate, and quieter flight. It features swept aluminum blades designed for optimal performance. Cessna backcountry adventurers are encouraged to contact Hartzell Propeller or one of its Recommended Service Facilities to order the Voyager. Following STC approval, Hartzell to deliver more than 50 additional Voyager propellers by the end of the year.

Regular pricing for the 86-inch diameter Voyager propeller will be \$14,179, including polished spinner and all STC documentation. The new scimitar propeller can be reworked down to 84 inches in diameter if needed. The Voyager propeller has a 2,400-hour, six-year TBO, and the longest propeller warranty in the business through first overhaul.

Commitment to Backcountry Flying "The Voyager is a real tribute to Hartzell Propeller's commitment to backcountry pilots. It shows that they are paying attention to what the market is looking for, they hear what we're saying, and they understand," said RAF Chairman John J. McKenna, Jr. "Hartzell really hit the nail on the head with this one. I've had a number of different propellers on my 185, and the Voyager has outperformed them in all quadrants. Not to mention, it's a great looking propeller."

In addition to providing a RAF discount, Hartzell Propeller will make a \$250 contribution



directly to the RAF organization for every member that buys the Voyager until the end of the year. The RAF is a non-profit organization with the mission to preserve, maintain and create public-use recreational airstrips for backcountry access throughout the United States.

Hartzell Propeller is the global leader in advanced technology aircraft propeller design and manufacturing for business, commercial and government customers. The company designs next generation propellers with innovative "blended airfoil" technology and manufactures them with revolutionary machining centers, robotics and custom resin transfer molding curing stations.

Hartzell Propeller and sister companies, Hartzell Engine Technologies LLC, Quality Aircraft Accessories, and AWI-AMI (Aerospace Welding Minneapolis, Inc., and Aerospace Manufacturing, Inc.) form the general aviation business unit of Tailwind Technologies Inc.



# ETIHAD AIRWAYS PARTNERS WITH LOCALLY BASED ARTISTS TO UPCYCLE AIRCRAFT PARTS

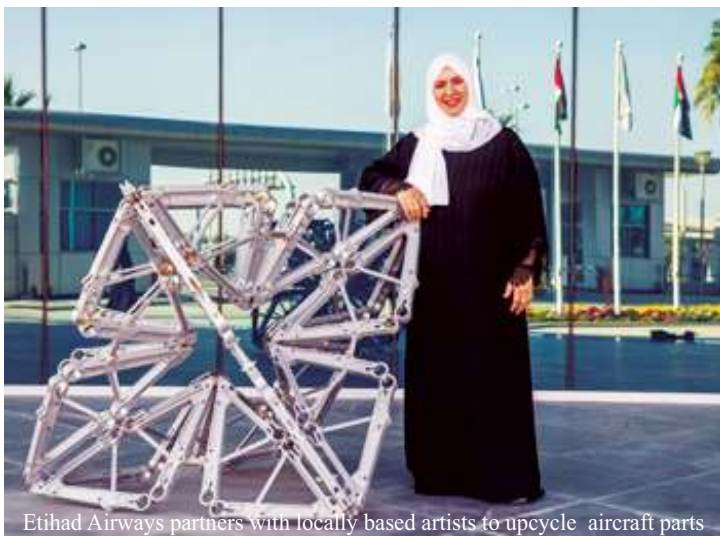
Ethihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, has partnered with local designers to upcycle obsolete aircraft cabin interiors into pieces of art, as an environmentally friendly alternative of dealing with waste.

Carpet and fabric rolls, emergency equipment, sidewalls and windows, and Economy and Business class seats are just some of the old aircraft parts Azza Al Qubaisi

by skilled artists who used rare and unwanted aircraft scraps.

“By collaborating with artists from the local community, our goal is to not only showcase talent within the region, but to further encourage sustainable innovation that’s good for the environment”.

Born in Abu Dhabi, Emirati sculptor Azza Al Qubaisi’s first art piece used seat floor mounting rails as a building



Ethihad Airways partners with locally based artists to upcycle aircraft parts

and Christine Wilson used to design art installations for Ethihad Airways.

Terry Daly, Executive Director Guest Experience, Brand & Marketing said: “End-of-life parts that were destined for landfill have been repurposed into beautiful art installations

motif to create symmetric geometric formations that can be displayed free standing or suspended from the ceiling.

“Visiting Ethihad’s warehouse of aircraft parts during the COVID-19 pandemic brought back memories of travelling around the world and

## MCEC WELCOMES BACK EXHIBITIONS

Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre (MCEC) will see a return to in-person exhibitions for the first time since COVID-19 restrictions came into effect last year, with The Gift & Lifestyle Fair from 20 to 22 March.

MCEC is already able to host events at up to 75 per cent capacity per event space, to a maximum of 5,000 attendees, following the implementation of stringent health and safety measures.

From 20 March, capacity will increase to 10,000 patrons per event space per day, at a maximum of 75 per cent capacity. For events over 5,000 patrons, time-based sessions apply, with a time-gap between sessions. This means exhibitions can operate two daily sessions at a maximum of 5,000 per session subject to latest density limits (currently 1 person per 2 square metres).

Under these arrangements,

Darren Waite, Director of Sales at MCEC, said MCEC is thrilled to welcome back trade shows and exhibitions.



Ethihad Airways partners with locally based artists to upcycle aircraft parts

discovering different cultures. I was thrilled to have unlimited access to amazing materials that I could upcycle or melt into art for my ‘Seeking Identity’ sculpture series.

“After deconstructing some seats, I have a bigger appreciation for the ergonomics and technology that goes into them – there are hundreds of pieces. I’m already working on a second piece of art by melting and casting the scrap materials I didn’t use for my first installation and I can’t wait to share it with the world,” said Azza.

Using aircraft curtains, wall panels, life jackets and cabin interiors, Christine Wilson, an emerging artist from Ireland based in Dubai, designed a multidimensional upcycled art piece to encapsulate a textural zeitgeist of Ethihad.

“Upon reflection and

“At MCEC we are incredibly proud to be acknowledged as a standout venue for COVID-safety, which means we can start the return of business events, exhibitions and conferences at MCEC,” he said.

“These trade shows and exhibitions are the lifeblood of what we do at MCEC and it is so exciting to see some of our most valued customers able to fill our building again.”

Gary Fitz-Roy, Managing Director of Expertise Events who organise The Gift & Lifestyle Fair, said that after 14 months it is a relief to see the return of live

consideration, we want to remind travellers that 2020 should be remembered for more than the difficulty of COVID-19 times. ‘Aintiqal / انتقال’ is a visual reflection of the Abu Dhabi skyline and depicts the incredible landmark achievements of the UAE’s space programme. It represents national pride and reminds us of new beginnings and a new journey,” said Christine.

Inspired by nature with a passion for the environment, Christine founded her ‘covid-couture’ business at the start of the global pandemic to play her part in remaking the world and living a sustainable life.

Ethihad is displaying the art pieces at Ethihad Headquarters and hopes to commission similar work in the future.

events.

“For us being first, we appreciate that we are on show for so many reasons, the most important being to demonstrate that live events bring communities together and will aid in Australia, Victoria and Melbourne’s economic recovery,” he said.

“Getting to this point underlines the partnership approach MCEC have adopted during this difficult time. We have high praise for their team’s ‘can do’ attitude to navigating both important health requirements and the commercial realities of running a show.”

from pg 6

to help break the chain of infection.”

Professor James Logan, a member of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, said: “Health based cleaning protocols and additional personal safety measures are one of the critical tools as we all work to re-open business and travel around the globe. We are proud to bring our expertise and knowledge to the COVID-19 response on a national and global scale. At the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine we are pleased to work with British Airways and RB employees to advise them on the programme.”

Safety is at the heart of British Airways’ business. Alongside the introduction of Dettol products at the airport and onboard, the airline continues to implement a range of measures that it requires customers and colleagues to observe, which include: Observing government regulations around advice around travel

Asking customers not to travel if they think they have any symptoms of Covid-19 Wearing facemasks and bringing enough to replace them every four hours for longer flights

Checking-in online, downloading a boarding pass to a mobile device where possible for self-scanning at security and the departure gate Observing social distancing and using hand sanitisers that are placed throughout airports Asking customers to ensure they have everything they need from their hand luggage before departure, and where possible, storing their carry-on bag under the seat in front of them

Cabin crew wearing PPE and a new food service, which reduces the number of interactions required with customers

The airline is cleaning all key surfaces including seats, screens, seat buckles and tray tables after every flight and each aircraft is completely cleaned from nose to tail every day. The air on all British Airways flights is fully recycled once every two to three minutes through HEPA filters, which remove microscopic bacteria and virus clusters with over 99.9% efficiency, equivalent to hospital operating theatre standards.



## Participating teams confirmed for FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups 2021

The teams participating at the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2021 in Latvia and the FIBA U19 Women's Basketball World Cup 2021 in Hungary have been confirmed.

Featuring 16 national teams each, the 2021 U19 World Cups will see a total of 22 different National Federations represented this summer between them.

Qualification for both events was impacted by the suspension of FIBA competitions last year, with only African teams booking their spots directly via continental championships. Mali and Senegal qualified for the men's competition at the FIBA U18 African Championship 2020, while Egypt and Mali secured qualification for the women's tournament as the top teams at the FIBA U18 Women's African Championship 2020,



with both events held in December 2020. Continental youth championships did not take place in other regions last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the FIBA World Rankings, presented by Nike for Youth Men and Youth Women were used to determine the other teams qualified for the respective FIBA U19 Basketball World Cups.

Scheduled to take place from July 3-11, 2021, the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup will be organized in the Latvian cities of Riga and Daugavpils, while Debrecen, Hungary will host the FIBA U19 Women's Basketball World Cup from August 7-15, 2021.

The dates of the draws for both competitions will be confirmed at a later stage.

## UN and FIFA share strategic social goals

The United Nations Deputy Secretary-General Ms. Amina J. Mohammed had a virtual meeting with FIFA President Gianni Infantino in which they exchanged views on shared priorities and the importance of urgent actions and commitments to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. They discussed the role of football as a force for good and a tool for hope, particularly as the world recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. A number of opportunities for engagement and collaborations were highlighted in the lead up to the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, at the World Cup and beyond.

"The United Nations welcomes the collaboration with FIFA, particularly football's potential in supporting the SDGs," Ms. Mohammed said. "Our engagement is important to best identify how we can advance the Sustainable Development Goals not only at the global level, but also at regional and local level to ensure no one is left behind." The FIFA President agreed, adding that it was important for football to be at the service of society. "It is important for us at the new FIFA to be able to engage with the UN. The new FIFA is a responsible body and a sustainable organisation. It is an organisation that is aware that football goes beyond playing competitions. Football is much



more than that." The call, which took place on 8 March, International Women's Day was an opportunity to reflect on the role of the sport in advancing gender equality and building better mechanisms to protect from abuse and marginalisation. Both leaders agreed that while having a vaccine was an important step in the effort to end the pandemic, the vaccine needed to be a people's vaccine with equitable availability around the world. Ms. Mohammed highlighted the Secretary-General's call for reimagining multilateralism and need for working with new and untraditional actors around the world to promote the Global Goals and the United Nations Agenda. The FIFA President spoke about the need to build on positive examples around the world when communities and countries came

together, how football can support the recovery process, and also the role that football can have in education.

"The common language of football works everywhere, and it is in the DNA of the new FIFA to be open and we will use our competitions to get the message across," the FIFA President said. "Through the Football for Schools programme and via a new African schools tournament programme, our focus is not only on football. FIFA strongly believes that through football, you can speak about everything, as it teaches children about values and rules, and we want to use football's force for education."

The two leaders concluded by agreeing to strengthen existing relationships and to develop further plans in relation to the SDGs.

## ICF announce exciting changes ahead of 2021 SUP world championships

The International Canoe Federation has modernised its competition rules and released details of a new gold medal for the best performing countries as part of several new initiatives ahead of this year's stand up paddling world championships in Balatonfured, Hungary. The 2021 ICF SUP World Championships from June 18-20 will build on the incredibly



successful world titles held in Qingdao, China, in 2019, and will reflect the continued strong growth of SUP around the world with updated rules and regulations to cover changes to equipment design and competition format.

The rule changes come after an extensive consultation period with athletes and officials, and will provide more transparency and certainty for everyone ahead of this year's world championships. It will also assist give clarity to the many national canoe federations around the world who are planning to host major SUP events.

The ICF is also thrilled to announce live television and internet coverage of this year's world championships will feature new competition graphics, adding cutting-edge technology to coverage which was already considered world-best in 2019.

Other initiatives planned for Hungary in June include an extensive development athlete coaching camp, and a seminar for aspiring international officials.

Athletes competing in Hungary will have two new gold medals to strive for, following the announcement of an inaugural ICF national teams' competition. National canoe federations will be invited to nominate four athletes in long distance races, and three paddlers in technical races, with the overall goal of being the best performing country in the event.

There will be no limit on the number of athletes from any country who can compete, but only those nominated by the NF

will be able to score points as part of the team competition.

The best three performing athletes in the long distance race, and all three nominated competitors in the technical race, will be awarded points towards the gold medal.

"The feedback we have received from athletes, officials and national federations around the world has enabled us to modify our rules and regulations for all ICF competitions," ICF SUP coordinator, Hoichan Kwon, said.

"The time is definitely right to introduce a team competition at our world championships.

Athlete numbers within our Federations are growing rapidly in all corners of the globe, so we believe giving each country an opportunity to display their strength at an elite level will add extra excitement to our event.

"As SUP continues to grow around the world, equipment is also changing. We believe our rule changes to standardise equipment will prove very popular with everyone involved in our competitions, and will ensure all our events meet the very high standards our athletes and officials expect from us."

This year's ICE race in Switzerland will be a world ranking event ahead of the ICF world championships in June. The ICE race, held in Thun on May 8, will help determine the start line-up for the world titles. The recently announced partnership between the ICF and leading international paddle board manufacturer, Starboard, is also set to produce several key initiatives and opportunities for the SUP community.

As well as ensuring this year's world championships are carbon positive, Starboard will sponsor the development camp and also provide heavily discounted equipment, including the popular Generation Board, to all ICF community members.

"Starboard's total commitment to the growth and success of stand up paddling around the world has made it the perfect partner for the ICF," Kwon said.

"We are already seeing tremendous benefits from this collaboration, and we are sure there are many more exciting initiatives to come."