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## *The Jekta Factor New research from Swiss OEM demonstrates real-world opportunities for electrically powered regional amphibious aircraft operations.*

Dubai Airshow, UAE/ 12 November 2023 – New research from Jekta, the Switzerland-based manufacturer, has identified regions where strong operating economics deliver real potential for bringing affordable, accessible regional air mobility to populations otherwise denied it through lack of infrastructure and high cost. Dubbed The Jekta Factor, the coefficient shows how variations in electricity cost are fundamental to the viability of all-electric aircraft, and demonstrates the OEM's ground-breaking efforts in defining the next era in amphibious aviation through the identification of optimal operating regions, infrastructure and markets. Based on sound market analysis, The Jekta Factor compares the cost of specific hourly electricity consumption for Jekta's PHA-ZE 100 amphibious electric flying boat, compared with specific hourly Jet A consumption for a turboprop of similar capability; derived from an adjusted formula, the Jekta Passenger Factor also generates hourly operating costs per passenger, allowing comparison between the PHA-ZE 100 and aircraft of different capacity. The results show that in regions where electricity costs are high, including much of Europe, comparing the cost of electricity and Jet A results in a Jekta Factor less than or equal to one suggesting airlines might struggle to operate electric regional aircraft profitably without government support. Electricity prices show considerably more regional variation than jet fuel, so where electricity is cheap, the PHA-ZE 100 enjoys a significant fuel cost advantage over conventional turboprops. Electricity is cheap compared to Jet A across much of Africa, the Middle East, the Arabian Gulf, India, and Asia, for example, where Jekta Factors



Photo-Caption: The Jekta Factor research identifies regions where strong operating economics deliver real potential for bringing affordable, accessible regional air mobility.

greater than or equal to four are common. In these regions, powering the PHA-ZE 100 is considerably cheaper, per passenger, than fueling a turboprop. It should also be noted that many regions with cheaper electricity also have sunshine hours compatible with the PHA-ZE 100's optional photo-voltaic charging station, further reducing energy costs. Jekta is working to define how regional advanced air mobility fits into the existing air transport network and how amphibious, electric-powered aircraft create new opportunities, for operators and passengers. Supporting lower operating costs and providing essential air services without the need for costly new land infrastructure are fundamental to Jekta's vision. Developing regions where cheap electricity and ready access to water combine with otherwise high aircraft fuel costs and limited supporting infrastructure are prime PHA-ZE 100 markets. India for example, where Jekta has already secured a 50-aircraft order from MEHAIR, is especially well placed for PHA-ZE 100 operations. The country's extensive lakes and watercourses are ideal for flying boat operations and the establishment of large photo-voltaic stations, while India also boasts more than 200 dammed reservoirs equipped with hydroelectric power stations. Similar operations

could be possible in parts of South America, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam. About Jekta Led by George Alafinov, the international Jekta team has more than two decades of experience designing and building flying boats, including the eight-seat, composite LA-8 and D-Borey ultralight. It is creating a modern 26,901m<sup>2</sup> production and flight test facility within the Swiss Aeropole Cluster in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland. It will include design, certification, logistics, maintenance, and sales departments; an assembly hall; quality control laboratory; flight test organization; and administrative offices.

**About the PHA-ZE 100**  
The electrically-powered, all-composite PHA-ZE 100 amphibious airframe will be certified to EASA CS-23 and US FAA FAR-23 standards for fixed-wing passenger aircraft. Powered by electric motors supplied with energy from batteries or hydrogen fuel cells, the PHA-ZE 100's initial flight endurance on battery power is projected at one hour, with a 30-minute reserve. The PHA-ZE 100 will operate from coastal waters in waves up to 1.2m high, lakes, waterways, and runways, the latter using its standard retractable wheeled landing gear. Thanks to Press release Jane Stanbury – Arena Group  
WINGS CHAMBER  
*S S Chadha (News Editor)*

## *Special Air Canada & Dreams Take Flight Departs Montreal with Kids from across Quebec for Trip-of-a-Lifetime*



MONTREAL, Nov. 8, 2023 /CNW/ - This morning, the first Air Canada and Dreams Take Flight from Montreal since 2019 took off with 150 children to Orlando to experience the trip-of-a-lifetime. With the help of Air Canada employee volunteers, support of the Air Canada Foundation and the work by the Dreams Take Flight organization, eight flights operate annually, providing over 1,000 children each year with an unforgettable day at a theme park in Florida or California. Accompanied by a crew of current and retired Air Canada employee volunteers, the flight took off in the early hours of the morning taking kids facing mental, physical, emotional or social adversity to a theme park in Florida. By generously donating their time, pilots, flight attendants, maintenance engineers, and numerous other employees on the ground and behind the scenes offer these children the chance to take a break from their everyday to make memories and see new possibilities. "2023 is special for Dreams Take Flight Montreal. It's special because we finally return to our business, the business of putting smiles on children's faces. This year will be our first post-COVID flight, full of start-up challenges. But, due to the dedication of our volunteers, our team has overcome the problems and organized the trip of a lifetime

for 150 special needs children. These children, from all over Quebec, will enjoy an unforgettable magical trip, on November 8, in Florida," said Brian Roscoe, President Dreams Take Flight Montreal. The last Dreams Take Flight flight for 2023 will depart from Ottawa on November 14. Dreams Take Flight is a national non-profit organization dedicated to providing the trip of a lifetime to children who may be physically, mentally or socially challenged. With the aid of Air Canada, the Air Canada Foundation and other national and local organizations and businesses, money is raised to fund the program in Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Halifax. Funds not required for its primary purpose can be gifted by Dreams Take Flight to other registered charities that benefit physically, mentally or socially challenged children and are within the policies adopted by Dreams Take Flight Canada. The first Dreams Take Flight station was founded in Toronto in 1989. Since then, the organization has taken over 40,000 special children to Florida and California. Thanks to Air Canada Media SOURCE Air Canada. WINGS CHAMBER  
*S S Chadha.*  
*(News & Photo Editor)*

## Celebrations This Autumn: British Airways Introduces Festive Menus For Diwali And Thanksgiving As Well As New Additions To Its Onboard Experience

**November 7, 2023:** British Airways has introduced a variety of special touches to its onboard experience this month, including a range of sweet desserts for Diwali and Thanksgiving-inspired dishes for customers travelling across its network

To celebrate the festival of lights on November 12, the airline is introducing festive desserts for customers across all cabins on outbound and inbound long-haul flights to India\*. The airline's customers travelling in Club World (business class) from London Heathrow to India will be able to enjoy Rasmalai, a popular sweet delicacy, originating from eastern India. Those travelling in World Traveller Plus (premium economy) can tuck into Kesar Peda, a traditional North Indian sweet made from khoya, sugar, saffron and cardamom. The dessert is full of beautiful flavours and best enjoyed as a post-meal sweet treat. Customers travelling in the airline's World Traveller (economy) cabin to India will be served a popular Indian dessert, Motichoor Laddoo, which is traditionally served on special occasions.

On return flights from India, travellers will also be able to enjoy a range of Diwali-themed desserts across various routes\*\*. Kaju Pista or Gulab

Jamun, a fusion-filled dessert accompanied with Rabdi, will be served in Club World. Customers travelling in World Traveller Plus will have the option of Khoye Ka Laddoo or



Doodhi Halwa, garnished with traditional dried fruits. On November 23, British Airways will be celebrating Thanksgiving on all long-haul flights to and from the US. Customers across all cabins will have the choice of a festive main course and dessert. Customers travelling in First and Club World will be able to enjoy a traditional turkey roast with all the trimmings, followed by either a classic pumpkin pie featuring nutmeg, cinnamon and ginger spices, a pumpkin and walnut cake, or a pumpkin-flavoured cheesecake. Customers in World Traveller Plus and World Traveller will also be able to delve into a traditional turkey roast followed by the option of a pumpkin pie, gingerbread mousse or a

spiced pumpkin and white chocolate mousse, offering the perfect balance of sweetness and spices. British Airways will also be adding a range of special treats across all its

lounges at London Heathrow to celebrate Diwali and Thanksgiving. This includes traditional decorations with garlands and tealights, as well as

specially designed main courses and snacks for customers to enjoy from November 12-15, ranging from rogan josh, chicken balti and samosas. For Thanksgiving, customers will be able to enjoy a variety of dishes, including pumpkin and butternut squash soup and pecan pie in its Concorde Room, and turkey and smoked ham pie in its First and Club lounges, all available on November 23. British Airways' Chief Customer Officer, Calum Laming, said: "We know that many of our customers will be celebrating Diwali and Thanksgiving this month, so we wanted to go that extra mile to spread some joy over the festive season, both on the ground and at 35,000ft. For those

celebrating, we'd like to wish them a very Happy Diwali and Happy Thanksgiving from everyone at British Airways." The airline has also introduced new World Traveller main courses and is refreshing its second service later this month, including new hot light bite breakfast options on all shorter inbound flights from the US to London Heathrow and London Gatwick. Elsewhere, British Airways has also introduced Johnnie Walker Blue Label XOrdinaire, a luxury icon of blended Scotch whisky to its First cabin, specially chosen by the airline's Master of Wine. The airline has added new content to its inflight entertainment, including the launch of a dedicated Doctor Who channel, which features 13 acclaimed episodes of the longest running science fiction television series in the world. A Christmas countdown channel has also been added for customers to enjoy in preparation for the festive season. British Airways recently unveiled its newest brand advert to celebrate Diwali, which is now airing across the globe. The advert is a celebration of those flying home to India this festival season, and a thank you to those missing out on their own family celebrations.

Thanks to British Airways Press Office *S S Chadha*,  
*WINGS CHAMBER*

## SD Satcom

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

Satcom Direct showcases new business, government and defense connectivity technologies at Dubai Airshow 2023.

Melbourne, FL. /9 November 2023 – Satcom Direct, the global connectivity solutions provider, is marking the one-year anniversary of the Plane Simple® Ku-band antenna commercial introduction during the Dubai Airshow, 13 – 17 November, at booth 218. With almost 50 Supplemental Type Certificates granted approval by the FAA, EASA, TCCA and ANAC Brazil for Dassault, Bombardier, Gulfstream, and Embraer airframes, the SD Plane Simple terminal has already transmitted more than 10,000 hours of uninterrupted connectivity via the Intelsat FlexExec high-throughput satellite network. SD is highlighting the ease of terminal installation, customizable options, and special mission capabilities to Dubai delegates. Validation flights for the next SD Plane Simple variant, the Ka-band terminal, are in the final stages and confirm uninterrupted performance powered by Viasat's Jet ConneX inflight broadband service. SD is promoting a newly expanded range of service plans, exclusively available to SD operators, equipping aircraft with the second variant. The programs deliver greater flexibility and high-speed data transfer for teleconferencing, HD video streaming and multiple digital applications for high volumes of users travelling on large-size jets and narrow and wide-body aircraft. For the first time, options also include a 'Power by the Hour' plan for Jet ConneX, enabling operators to pay an hourly rate for inflight connectivity pg4



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## *Etihad Airways Unveils Stunning New Lounges At Abu Dhabi International's New Terminal A*

Abu Dhabi, UAE - Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has unveiled flagship premium lounges at Abu Dhabi International Airport's new Terminal A. This follows Etihad making history when it operated Terminal A's first commercial flight on 31 October, and the new lounge is revealed ahead of the airline's full transition to the new Terminal which is phased to take place between 9 and 14 November.

Etihad's impressive new lounges span three floors of Terminal A's north side, nestled between Piers C and D. The First and Business lounges feature a range of dining options, relaxation and entertainment spaces to suit all guests, including the stunning Constellation Bar at the enclosed Roof Lounge.

"When designing the Etihad Lounges in our new home, Terminal A, our teams thought through every detail, ensuring an experience that will delight our guests from the moment they step through the door," said Antonoaldo Neves, Chief Executive Officer, Etihad. "The lounge is a hugely important aspect of our guests' journey and we wanted to curate an impressive experience that will leave them wanting to fly again soon. In true Etihad style, we've been innovative with the design and will offer a selection of memorable experiences whether our guests choose to relax, indulge in various dining options or enjoy a refreshing drink at the signature Constellation Bar," he continued.

The Etihad lounges are accessible to guests flying in Etihad's The Residence, First and Business Class and Etihad Guest members with eligible tier status. Guests flying in Economy who wish to enjoy the exclusive lounge space can purchase access to Etihad's Business Lounge subject to availability.

The Lounge is conveniently located with access to three



gates offering direct-lounge boarding on selected flights, meaning guests in premium cabins can board straight from the Lounge for convenience and speed.

Within the Lounge, expansive views of the runway can be savoured from the calm and tranquil retreat offered in the East and West Study, which offers guests the perfect place to watch aircraft take-off or come in to land

Dining decadence and Rooftop lounge Etihad's Business Class lounge features an array of dining experiences. Liwan Global Dining is Etihad Lounge's informal, all-day dining restaurant which offers an abundance of choice featuring live cooking stations, Emirati and Middle Eastern cuisines alongside international favourites inspired by the destinations Etihad flies to. Guests can also choose to dine at the Roof Lounge at select periods and enjoy an international buffet of hot and cold dishes. For those preferring something lighter, there are multiple stations across the lounge where guests can help themselves to a selection of snacks as well as hot and cold drinks.

The Constellation Bar within the Roof Lounge is decorated with a 172 piece, 25m long bespoke glass lighting sculpture – Panorama – which depicts the Abu Dhabi city skyline. The bar will serve a wide selection of cocktails, mocktails, wines and beverages, and is set to become a destination in itself

for frequent travellers. The Relaxation Rooms provide private spaces complete with day beds and plush Armani Casa furnishings for guests to catch up on rest and refresh in one of the 18 beautifully appointed shower suites before their flight. Those preferring a more entertaining experience can head to the Games Room which is fully equipped with table football, air hockey and digital gaming options for all to enjoy. Family travellers continue to be important to Etihad and a bespoke Family Room has been thoughtfully designed with young travellers in mind, and comes packed with games, toys and books to keep little ones entertained.

Additionally, Chesterfield sofas bring plush comfort to the Smoking Lounge for cigarette and cigar smokers. Prayer rooms have also been thoughtfully designed with ensuite ablution areas for comfort and convenience. A First class welcome The exclusive First lounge offers a dedicated reception lobby for Etihad's most premium guests and a private elevator to access the Rooftop Lounge on the top floor of the complex. The First Lounge Dining Room offers an elevated dining experience with à la carte dining and a fine and boutique wine selection recommended by in-house experts. The cuisine will reflect the best of Emirati gastronomy as well as the destinations Etihad flies to. In The Parlour for First customers will be treated to a decadent selection of pastries, desserts and a signature tea experience in an elegant setting. The experience includes an array of tea ceremonies as well as signature coffee presentation. Thanks to Duty Media Officer Etihad Airways.

*S S Chadha Wings Chamber.*

## *Air bp-Jio Expands in India with New location at Rajkot International Airport*



*Air bp-Jio team members on the tarmac at Rajkot International Airport, India Photo credit: Air bp-Jio*

Air bp, the international aviation fuel products and service supplier, is pleased to return to the Dubai Airshow at Dubai World Central, 13-17 November, Stand 1430 as speaker and gold sustainability conference sponsor with the news that it has expanded its Joint Venture, Air bp-Jio, in India with a new fuel facility at the brand new Rajkot International Airport (Hirasar). Rajkot International Airport (HSR/VAHS) is an international hub and a greenfield airport at Hirasar in the state of Gujarat, serving the city of Rajkot and the Saurashtra region. Owned by the Airports Authority of India (AAI), it is capable of handling around 2800 passengers during peak hours. It is air bp-Jio's 31st airport location in India. Air bp-Jio began fuelling operations at Rajkot International Airport at the end of September with 575 fuellings completed to date. Air bp-Jio worked to a tight schedule to secure regulatory approvals and deliver fuelling facilities at Rajkot International Airport in good time for the airport to officially begin operations on September 10, after it was inaugurated on 27 July by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. This represents phase one of air bp-Jio's new facility at Rajkot International Airport and follows the Indian Government's decision to develop the airport into a large international airport to keep

pace with demand India has the third largest domestic aviation market globally and is poised to become the third largest and one of the fastest growing aviation markets after the US and China. The country is currently home to some 140 operational airports. It is anticipated that this figure will grow to 220 in the near term which represents a rapid expansion up from 74 airports in 2014. "Air bp-Jio excelled in making the fuel station ready in a short space of time with all regulatory compliances and approvals. The successful commencement of flight operations at Rajkot International Airport was very much dependent on air bp-Jio's service. The team worked hard and met the target, as promised," said, Diganta Borah, airport director, Rajkot International Airport. Earlier this year, air bp-Jio was voted the best fuel provider in India by the International Council of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). This underlines air bp-Jio's efforts to provide an enhanced and more efficient fuelling service in India with a strategy focused on safety, on-time performance, digitized fuelling services, and supply reliability. The air bp-Jio JV aims to be the partner of choice for all stakeholders in the aviation fuel business in the country. Thanks to Emerald Media, Photo credit: Air bp-Jio S S Chadha Wings Chamber

## Etihad Airways' Newest 787-9 Dreamliner On Display At Dubai Airshow

Abu Dhabi, UAE. Etihad Airways is celebrating 20 years of flying as it participates at Dubai Airshow this week. The UAE's national airline is showcasing its newest Boeing 787-9 which is one of four new Dreamliners to join the fleet, following the arrival of a new 787-10 in October. The new aircraft will fuel Etihad's ambitious growth plans as the airline has added 12 new destinations this year, with further new routes in India, as well as Boston and Nairobi to begin operations in the coming months. The airline has also recently expanded its operations in multiple markets, with additional flight frequencies and improved connectivity across the network. "Our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary is a pivotal moment where we not only celebrate the achievements of the airline to date, but more importantly set a strong foundation and path for growth into the future," commented Antonoaldo Neves, Chief Executive Officer, Etihad Airways. "These new aircraft are fundamental in helping us to achieve the ambitious plans we have already set into motion to



Etihad Airways Pilots and Cabin Crew with new 787-9 at Dubai Airshow LR

expand our fleet and connect more guests more conveniently to a greater number of destinations. As we do this, we'll give our guests an inflight experience that exceeds their expectations." Etihad's new 787 Dreamliner cabin interior showcases further enhancements to its award-winning cabins. The aircraft features Etihad's newest cabin interior with 32 seats in Business class and 271 seats in Economy, with both offering best-in-class experiences for

Etihad's guests. The Business cabin provides guests with a comfortable and spacious environment in Etihad's signature style, and features a unique, customised version of the Elements seat manufactured by Collins. Etihad is the first airline in the world to introduce the Elements seat on the Boeing 787. The new seats will provide guests with generous levels of space and comfort with added privacy provided by a suite door and an increased suite height. Each of the

32 Business seats has direct aisle access and reclines to a fully lie-flat-bed 78" in length boasting a 17.3" 4K TV screen, Bluetooth headphone pairing, wireless charging, and multiple charging ports, as well as plenty of storage. In Economy, the newest 787 offers lighter, and therefore more fuel efficient, seats than the current fleet, with 244 standard seats and 27 Economy Space seats with four inches of additional legroom. As well as providing guests with exceptional comfort, the slimmer profile seats provide an increased feeling of space for every guest. The new 787 Dreamliner offers the latest inflight entertainment technology from Safran with Rave Ultra 13.3" 4K touch-screen monitors and the option to pair personal phones and tablets to the screen to use as a remote. The aircraft is fitted with a new connectivity solution from Viasat using Ka-band technology which offers high-speed Wi-Fi with streaming capabilities on board as well as Live TV, including news and sport channels. Through Etihad's Wi-Fly, all Etihad Guest members can enjoy complimentary chat packages, while all guests can choose to purchase a full Surf package with unlimited data for the duration of the flight.

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The rapid industry adoption of and interest in our compact Plane Simple terminals demonstrates that our purpose-built advanced technology, designed to future-proof our customers' investment by enabling simplified upgrade pathways, delivers the service we committed to," says Dave Falberg, VP International for Satcom Direct. "More than ever, operators and owners need flexibility, consistency, and the ability to modify their connectivity as needs change. We continuously innovate services with our airtime partners to deliver a superior service that aligns with our customers' diverse operational budgets, requirements and the changing connectivity landscape." Operators of government, head of state and executive airliners or larger business jets capable of supporting the two Plane Simple terminals can discover more about the SD Dual Dissimilar system. By equipping an aircraft with the Plane Simple Ku- and forthcoming Ka-band tail mount antennas (Dual), two different satellite constellations (Dissimilar) are supported, enabling customers to leverage the best aspects of each network. The doubling of antennas increases the amount of data that can be transmitted and the bandwidth available to enhance digital communications, aircraft performance monitoring, and crew operations support for avionics and cabin Wi-Fi. SD is also highlighting its Tactical Removeable Airborne Satellite Communications - (TRASC) R4 BLOS solution integrating the SD Plane Simple terminal within a Multi-Purpose Hatch System (MPHS) designed and patented by R4 Integration Inc., specialists in airborne and ground systems engineering. Leveraging the ease of installation and minimal requirement for airframe 'real estate,' the equipment is engineered to replace the existing - C-130 standard upper forward or center fuselage hatches. The housing is optimized for installation in less than an hour, enabling immediate plug-and-play global broadband capability from the airframe. The system includes an SD - Plane Simple® antenna, a radome mounted on the MPHS, and a RO/RO Base Kit. This houses an SD Router®, a power unit supplying the antenna, and customer components, including laptops and digital devices. Configured as a single unit, the SD Plane Simple MPHS and Base Kit can be easily transferred between aircraft, while the open architecture design of the SD Router® enables streamlined integration with existing ground connectivity. Cont colm 1



Etihad Airways new 787-9 Business Class at Dubai Airshow 1 LR



Etihad Airways new 787-9 Business Class at Dubai Airshow LR



Etihad Airways welcomes HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum LR (1)  
Thanks to Press Release Duty Media Officer  
Etihad Airways, S S Chadha News Editor Wings Chamber  
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configurations. Alongside secure voice communications, the system enables uninterrupted broadband suitable for data-intensive services, video streaming enhanced avionics functionality and aircraft health monitoring and reporting.

"We're incredibly proud of the diversity of products we're showcasing to delegates at this year's event. It is our richest product and service suite yet and is supported by extraordinary



HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum at Etihad Airways LR

customer service from an industry-leading, multi-lingual team available globally, any time, day or night. As others are cutting customer support, we continue to enhance our personal service. We're looking forward to meeting new and existing customers

during the airshow who are seeking suppliers that do more than sell a product but provide an end-to-end solution to ensure seamless, reliable connectivity," concludes Falberg. Thanks to SATCOM Press Release S S Chadha News Editor Wings Chamber.