

FLIGHT

وزارة التعليم و
المكتبة
الجامعية
الجامعي بالبيروت

INTERNATIONAL

2 - 8 JULY 1997 £2

A Reed Business Publication

Denmark Dkr 31 ● France Fr19
Germany DM 9.00 ● Greece Dra950
Holland Dfl 7.50 ● Italy L5000
Norway Nkr35.00 ● Malta LM1.15
Spain Ptas650 ● USA \$4.75

SHOW REVIEW

EXCLU DU PRIX



NEW HORIZONS FOR NH90

Paris '97



27

9 770015 371105

HEAD OFFICE

Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS, UK
 Telephone +44 (181) 652 3842; Fax +44 (181) 652 3840
 e-mail flight.international@rbi.co.uk

Editorial Enquiries +44 (181) 652 3842

Editor In Chief Allan Winn +44 (181) 652 3882
Editor's PA Lisa Jenkins +44 (181) 652 3882
Deputy Editor Forbes Mutch +44 (181) 652 3852
News Editor Andrew Chuter +44 (181) 652 3843
Operations/Safety Editor
 David Learmount +44 (181) 652 3845
Business Editor Kevin O'Toole +44 (181) 652 3835
Commercial Aviation Editor
 Max Kingsley-Jones +44 (181) 652 3825
Defence Aviation Editor Douglas Barrie +44 (181) 652 3834
Technical Reporter Ian Sheppard +44 (181) 652 3990
Corporate & General Aviation Reporter
 Kate Sarsfield +44 (181) 652 3885
Spaceflight Correspondent Tim Furniss +44 (1237) 471960
Data Researcher John Christovassilis +44 (181) 652 3847
Editorial Assistant +44 (181) 652 3842
Production Editor Chris Thornton +44 (181) 652 3850
Art Editor Alexis Rendell +44 (181) 652 3828
Layout Sub-Editor Annabel Wells +44 (181) 652 3848
Senior Technical Artist Tim Hall +44 (181) 652 8047
Technical Artist Giuseppe Picarella +44 (181) 652 8054
Editorial Artist Gareth Burgess +44 (181) 652 8043
Photographer Mark Wagner +44 (181) 944 5225
Picture Librarian Kim Hearn +44 (181) 652 3427
Newsletters Editor Emma Kelly +44 (181) 652 3096

EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

European Editor (Paris) Julian Moxon +33 (1) 40 54 08 62
 Fax +33 (1) 47 64 44 28
Munich Correspondent Andrzej Jezorski +49 (89) 689 1041
 Fax +49 (89) 689 1045
Israel Correspondent Arie Egozi +972 (3) 967 1155
Moscow Correspondent Alexander Velovich +7 (095) 393 4717
 Fax +7 (095) 393 4717

AMERICAS

Washington Office Fax +1 (703) 836 8344
American Editor Graham Warwick +1 (703) 836 3448
Washington Correspondent Ramon Lopez +1 (703) 836 7443
West Coast Correspondent Guy Norris +1 (714) 252 8971
 Fax +1 (714) 252 8972

ASIA PACIFIC

Asian Editor (Singapore) Paul Lewis +65 434 3309
 Fax +65 338 6171
Australian Correspondent Paul Phelan +61 (70) 532 791
 Fax +61 (70) 533 003

READER SERVICES

Subscriptions Karen Parker, Flight International Subscriptions, Reed Business Information, PO Box 302, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 3DH, UK.
Telephone/credit card orders +44 (1444) 445454
 Fax +44 (1444) 440619
US subscriptions PO Box 7542, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126-7542
from Canada +1-800 (637) 6073
 Fax +1-800 (327) 9021
 +303 (470) 4426
 Fax +303 (470) 4491
Far East subscriptions Crawford Road, P O Box 698, Singapore 911907
 Fax +65 843 2233
 Fax +65 747 6550
Newstrade enquiries +44 (171) 261 7704
US Newstrade Enquiries +1 (718) 392 7477
Flight International Directories +44 (1707) 665151
 Fax +44 (1707) 660330
Back issues ESCO Business Services +44 (1371) 810433
 Recent copies only Fax +44 (1371) 811065
Faxback service (touch-tone telephones only) +44 (181) 652 4019

For a full listing of RBI magazines <http://www.reedbusiness.com>

Qualified Subscription Rates:	1 year	2 year	3 year
Europe	£69	£119	£156
North America	\$184	\$315	\$402
All Other Countries	£78	£137	£177

Only paid subscriptions available. Cheques made payable to Flight International

Distributed by Marketforce

Flight International is a weekly news magazine for professionals working in all sectors of the aerospace industry worldwide, serving all branches of aircraft systems, support equipment and component manufacture and all sectors of operation, including air transport, general aviation, defence, spaceflight and regulatory and other authorities.



■ **Comment** 3

■ **Headlines**
 Alenia/GEC in merger talks 4
 New alliance seeks wider role
 THY order heads for Boeing 5
 Academics issue merger warning
 Progress will go to Mir's aid 6
 Tupolev merges design and production

■ **Air Transport**
 Boeing steps up 777X efforts 8
 Sun-Air heads for jet power
 easyJet nears 737-300 deal 9
 JAS plans shake-up on domestic-route structure
 Swiss World wants November launch 10
 Malaysian start-ups plan fleet expansion
 MDC sets up Asian leasing venture 12
 Brunei royalty's FANS-1 747 joins the fleet



FANS-1 Boeing 747 "Classic" is operational

■ **Business**
 Hopes rise for Alitalia profits 15
 European carriers make losses again
 French premier promises review .. 16
 Lockheed Martin proposal angers IAI workers

■ **Defence**
 JSF avionics will be flight tested 17
 US Navy faces 1998 deadline for JASSM
 AWACS upgrade depends on cost 20
 Congress puts dampener on US Army's ATACMS
 USN studies UCAV concepts 21
 ...Northrop Grumman works on stealth design
 S Korea goes ahead with Lynx order 22
 SAAF targets 1999 for A-Darter decision

■ **Spaceflight**
 ESA will propose ISS rescue vehicle 23
 Motorola plans high-speed-data satellite system

■ **General Aviation**
 Galaxy narrows US site choice..... 24
 FAA approves Learjet 60 for RVSM

■ **Simulation & Training**
 USAF plans private F-15 training 25
 Crossair wins Level D approval for Saab 2000

■ **Industry** 26

■ **News Analysis**
 Taking the lead 27
 Ansett enters the international stage

■ **Features**

COVER STORY

The Flight International review of the 1997 Paris show looks at some the issues raised, including that of the European NH90 helicopter. 29

Surviving upheavals 30
 NH90 programme is likely to carry on
Brazilian boom 34
 Embraer must boost EMB-145 production
Following in HARM's footsteps... 45
 USA works on air-defence follow-on designs

Perfect harmony? 38
 Central Europe still has partnership potential
 Going to the rescue 41
 L-159 must export to save Czech military industry
 Carving a new niche 43
 Ex-Soviet overhaul sites change for the future

■ **People** 28

■ **Letters** 48

■ **Uncle Roger is still awaiting clearance from Le Bourget**

■ **Classified** 49
 The top international marketplace for aircraft, equipment, tuition and jobs.



Next Week

The annual Flight International Ageing Aircraft Census will provide the latest data on the world's growing fleet of old airliners, such as the McDonnell Douglas DC-9, seen here in Airborne Express livery.