

777X MAY GET THIRD ENGINE ● VENEZUELA SELECTS AMX

FLIGHT

INTERNATIONAL

15 - 21 JULY 1998 £2

A Reed Business Publication

Denmark Dkr 33 ● France Fr20
Germany DM 11.80 ● Greece Dra1100
Holland Dfl 8.95 ● Italy L6000
Norway Nkr37.00 ● Malta LM1.15
Spain Ptas650 ● USA \$4.75



Ref: BL09SEPT97 PF 071197/ Df: 26521660
FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL (G B)
15.07.98 Vol: 153 No. 4634
0015-3710 21872678 21.07.98
LIBRIS
144 BLVD KRIM BELKACEM
ALGER
ALGERIE

TIGER TRAINING

**HELICOPTER
DIRECTORY**

**AMERICAN
THINKS
AHEAD**

**THE WORLD'S TOP
MARKETPLACE
FOR AEROSPACE JOBS**



9 770015 371129

29 >

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 Carol Reed	+44 (181) 652 4989
Editor's PA Lisa Jenkins	+44 (181) 652 3882
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
Editorial Assistant	+44 (181) 652 3842
Art & Production Editor Alexis Rendell	
Design Editor Stephanie Fenner	+44 (181) 652 3828
Chief Sub-Editor Chris Thornton	+44 (181) 652 4994
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
Air Transport Intelligence	+44 (181) 652 8724

EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

European Editor (Paris) Julian Moxon	+33 (1) 47 55 95 60
	Fax +33 (1) 47 55 95 61
Munich Correspondent Andrzej Jezorski	+49 (89) 910 76 780
	Fax +49 (89) 910 76 217
Israel Correspondent Arie Egozi	+972 (3) 967 1155
Moscow Correspondent	+7 (095) 393 4717
Alexander Velovich	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	Fax +1 (949) 252 8972

ASIA PACIFIC

Asian Editor (Singapore) Paul Lewis	+65 434 3309
	Fax +65 338 6171
Australian Correspondent Paul Phelan	+61 (7) 4053 2791
	Fax +61 (7) 4053 3003

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
 e-mail rbi.subscriptions@rbi.co.uk

US subscriptions PO Box 7542, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126-7542
Fax +1-800 (637) 6073
from Canada +1-800 (327) 9021
 +303 (470) 4426
Fax +303 (470) 4691

Far East subscriptions +65 338 3398
Fax +65 338 3213

Newtrade enquiries +44 (171) 261 7704
US Newtrade 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 £70 £124 £158

North America \$184 \$315 \$402

All Other Countries £79 £139 £180

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 airframe 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

UPS order boosts A300 freighter.. 4

Sales surge at Airbus and Boeing

Boeing plans triple-engined 777X 5

P&W warns IAE partners 6

EC ruling opens slots competition

■ Air Transport

Fairchild Dornier complains to EC 8

Fire sparks fresh problems for GE

A320 beats 737 in Qatar contest... 9

Kyrgyzstan becomes first CIS A320 operator

Asia-Pacific traffic plummets 10

Aerpostal orders first widebody airliners

Transafrik adds to Hercules fleet.. 12

U-Land steps closer to Air Philippines

Bombardier rethinks marketing... 14

Swissair plans for Stansted-Zurich services

■ Defence

Venezuela selects trainer mix 15

Russia to overhaul nuclear arsenal

Pentagon backs THAAD..... 16

UK reviews tanker/transport requirements

Spar schedules C-130 deliveries.... 18

DARPA selects communications suppliers

■ Business

American gets Aerolineas approval 19

Kuwait Airways heads for privatisation

Aer Lingus renews alliance hunt ... 20

B/E takes bigger share of cabin interiors

■ General Aviation

A119 Koala approval delayed..... 21

AlliedSignal denies Beriev Be-200 claim



Be-12P-200 could boost Beriev

JAA approves Learjet 45 22

Conair hopes for fire-fighting C-130

■ Simulation & Training

Dragonair buys A320 simulator 23

FSI disperses business simulator fleet

■ Spaceflight

Japan craft heads for Mars 24

More doubts assail Mir despite cash promise

■ Industry

GE moves to remote monitoring.. 25

Pratt & Whitney holds UMC acquisition talks

■ News Analysis

Rhetoric or reality? 26

The UK examines its modern defence needs

■ Features

COVER STORY

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL
 TIGER TRAINING
 HELICOPTER DIRECTORY
 HELICOPTERS: THE NEW FRONTIER
 HELICOPTERS: THE NEW FRONTIER
 HELICOPTERS: THE NEW FRONTIER
 HELICOPTERS: THE NEW FRONTIER

France's army helicopter pilot school is preparing for its role as the Franco-German Tiger training base. 28

Japanese challenge 30

Japan's emergency services need helicopters

Helicopter directory 35

Comprehensive list of civil and military types

Hercules tours the world..... 42

Lockheed Martin is optimistic for C-130J

American examines its fleet..... 44

American and American Eagle look ahead

Better late than never 46

ESA starts work on the Vega launcher

■ People 48

■ Letters 49

■ Straight and Level 51

■ Classified 53

The top international marketplace for aircraft, equipment, tuition and jobs.

NEXT WEEK

1998 has started badly for airline safety. We examine accidents in the first six months for worldwide safety trends.