



Wednesday, November 12, 2008

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I hope you'll join us in being ever mindful, not just today but every day, of the courage and sacrifice on the part of our fellow citizens who are serving in trouble spots around the world.

Vigilance, determination and selflessness—the core values that our nation's veterans hold dear—also apply to aspects of everyday life such as taking care of our families, and ensuring a safe operation. The brave men and women who risk everything for their fellow Americans should serve as an inspiration to us all.

On behalf of the Precision Turbines Team we would like to honor and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, so that we can continue to live as free men and women. We owe them a debt that can never be repaid but must always be remembered.

The world of aviation is most thankful for your service and many contributions to our industry. Thank you and God Speed. [www.precisionturbines.aero](http://www.precisionturbines.aero)

Veterans Day, formerly known as Armistice Day, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In legislation that was passed in 1938, November 11 was "dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day.'" As such, this new legal holiday honored World War I veterans. In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress -- at the urging of the veterans service organizations -- amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. Veterans Day, formerly known as Armistice Day, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In legislation that was passed in 1938, November 11 was "dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day.'" As such, this new legal holiday honored World War I veterans. In 1954, after having been through both World War II and the Korean War, the 83rd U.S. Congress -- at the urging

of the veterans service organizations -- amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

### **BOEING MACHINISTS STRIKE SETTLED**

Some 27,000 of Boeing's machinists, who walked off the job on Sept. 6 after contract talks failed to adequately address their interests, should be back at work after an agreement was reached on Oct. 27. The contract doesn't just keep, but increases, pension payments, brings wage increases totaling 15 percent and preserves health-care benefits while addressing the key issue of job security, according to Market-Watch.com. It also adds lump-sum payments for each employee totaling \$8,000 per worker over four years ... and, by ending the strike, makes the future of some of Boeing's suppliers more certain. Boeing said in a statement that the new agreement "addresses the union's job-security issues while enabling Boeing to retain the flexibility needed to run the business." The company, which during the strike faced losses estimated at \$100 million per day along with production delays, has amassed an order backlog worth \$349 billion. It expects production to reach pre-strike efficiency within two months. Boeing will soon face talks with 21,000 other workers.. [Read More](#)

### **CRUDE OIL and JET FUEL**

Friday's (Nov. 7) closing fuel prices:

Crude oil was \$61.04 a barrel, up \$0.27 from the previous day. Jet fuel price was \$85.40 a barrel, up \$1.72.

### **FEWER PLANES IN THE AIR, MORE FLIGHTS ON TIME**

With fewer flights airlines have become more punctual. Flights arriving on time jumped in September, a month when carriers implemented the bulk of capacity cuts. In August, 78.4 percent of all flights arrived on time. That figure rose to 84.9 percent in September. All major carriers showed month-to-month improvement. And some airlines reported especially good results. American's on-time rate rose from 70.6 percent in August to 81.5 percent in September. JetBlue, which ranked last in August with a 64.7 percent on-time arrival rate, improved to 80.8 percent.

### **BEYOND FLY BY WIRE**

Even before fly by wire becomes the standard, companies have been exploring the next steps to remove hydraulics from the aircraft control equation. In mid-October, Gulfstream successfully demonstrated primary aircraft flight-surface control using "fly-by-wireless" technology. And, last week, Bombardier announced it had executed a first test flight with an all-electric Meggitt braking system, called EBrake. For the earlier test, Gulfstream outfitted a GV test aircraft with mechanical, fly-by-wire, fly-by-wireless, and fiber-optic fly-by-light systems to control ailerons, outboard spoiler, mid-spoilers and inboard spoilers respectively. Pilots noted consistent handling regardless of the applied control-actuation technology and Gulfstream noted that test results make fly-by-wireless -- and its benefits of reduced complexity and weight -- a potential backup for other flight control systems. Bombardier's test of the EBrake sys-

tem during normal, emergency and parking-brake functionality showed improved control in normal and emergency modes "resulting in tight centerline control even during maximum brake applications," according to test pilot Gary Bruce. The system couples brake-by-wire control with electric brake actuation and removes relevant hydraulically actuated control systems, with the benefits of increased reliability and (fire) safety, decreased maintenance and associated costs. Both Gulfstream's fly-by-wireless and Bombardier/Meggitt's EBrake systems could reduce system weight on aircraft while removing toxic hydraulic fluids and therefore can claim environmental friendliness as side benefits to improved performance.. [Read More](#)

### **CREDIT CRUNCH FELT BY GA MANUFACTURERS**

The most obvious effects of a worldwide credit crunch this past week were reported by Cirrus Design, AAI Acquisition (formerly Adam Aircraft), and Grob. But all general aviation companies are affected. AOPA interviewed some of the major players, including analysts, manufacturers, and associations, for a pulse check on the GA industry. Find out who's cutting back, who's weathering the crisis OK, and who's projected go into bankruptcy next year.. [Read More](#)

### **PILOT SUFFERS STROKE, LANDS NEARLY BLIND WITH RAF HELP**

Jim O'Neill, 65, was flying at 15,000 feet in clear weather over the UK when he suffered a stroke that compromised his vision. The pilot of 18 years sent a mayday and eventually made contact with an RAF base at Leeming in Northallerton. During that contact, O'Neill complained of trouble seeing the instrument panel. "At first he believed he was being blinded by sunlight," Wing Cdr Andy Hynd, commanding RAF officer at RAF Linton-on-Ouse, told BBC news. But the situation was worse -- O'Neill had a blood clot pressing against his optic nerve blinding him in one eye and compromising his vision in the other. Hynd's facility took the handoff from Leeming and directed O'Neill to a landing at Linton-on-Ouse but O'Neill in seven attempts failed to see the facility. Finally, with a chief flying instructor Wing Cdr Paul Gerrard flying O'Neill's wing in his Tucano T1, "telling him to turn left and right, to lower the plane and to do his pre-landing checks," and zigzagging to keep pace with the slower aircraft, O'Neill managed to pilot the aircraft down. It was "only at the last minute" on the eighth attempt and some 40 minutes since first contact that O'Neill visually picked up the runway as he touched down near its halfway point and came to a stop at its end.. [Read More](#)

### **DELTA, AIRTRAN KEEP WARY EYE ON DEMAND**

Delta Air Lines CEO Richard Anderson has warned 75,000 employees that the world's largest carrier is "moving into an unprecedented time in all of our lives in terms of the financial crisis around the world, and we just don't know what it's going to do to our demand." Though fuel prices have dropped dramatically, softening demand could force further cutbacks just as employees begin the process of voting on union representation. AirTran Airways, Delta's main discount competitor in Atlanta, also faces tough decisions, according to CEO Bob Fornaro. "We're going to be cautious about how

we manage our expenses, and we're going to be biased toward having fewer airplanes," he says..[Read More](#)

#### **AIRLINE UNIONS HOPE OBAMA HELPS THEM**

The election of Barack Obama has added one more ingredient into a volatile mix of factors that could make 2009 a pivotal year for airlines. The president-elect's courting of organized labor has stirred hopes..[Read More](#)

#### **DEUTSCHE POST TO CUT 9,500 JOBS FROM DHL IN US; COULD GREATLY AFFECT AIR-HAUL TALKS WITH UPS**

Delivery company DHL, hit by heavy losses and fierce competition, is significantly reducing its air and ground operations in the U.S. and cutting 9,500 American jobs, leaving rivals like FedEx, UPS and the U.S. Postal Service to fight over the customers it will stop serving..[Read More](#)

#### **BIO-FUELED JET FLIES CROSS-COUNTRY ON SOY-BASED BIOFUEL**

Green Flight International has completed the first U.S. cross-country flight with a jet-powered aircraft fueled predominantly with biofuel. The flights used a first-generation biodiesel, and the team is now planning flights using algae-based bio-jet fuel..[Read More](#)

#### **A380 WAKE IS 'NO WORSE THAN ANY OTHER HEAVY', SAYS AIRBUS**

Unprecedented tests of conditions for aircraft following the Airbus A380 in flight demonstrate that the wake turbulence it creates is no worse than that..[Read More](#)

#### **VIRGIN LOOKING FOR UP TO A DOZEN INTERIM JETS TO FILL 787 GAP**

Delays to Boeing's 787 delivery schedule are forcing Virgin Atlantic to seek up to 12 aircraft as an interim solution to its fleet plans from 2011..[Read More](#)

#### **CESSNA CUTTING BACK ON CITATION PRODUCTION**

Cessna Aircraft will defer a previously planned ramp-up in business jet production next year because some of the Wichita manufacturer's customers are having trouble securing financing for their aircraft purchases, according to Lewis Campbell, chairman and CEO of Textron, Inc., the parent company of Cessna..[Read More](#)

#### **HAWKER 4000**

Imagine an airplane -- or house or car or spouse, for that matter -- that you have loved for decades but over those years you have wished for some changes and improvements in key areas. The Hawker line of business jets has been admired by legions of pilots and passengers for more than 40 years, and it continues to be a huge success. But many want more of the good things the Hawker delivers, and that's why there is a new Hawker 4000. The new 4000 does everything the Hawker is famous for, and a lot more..[Read More](#)

## GENERAL DYNAMICS COMPLETES JET AVIATION ACQUISITION

General Dynamics Corp., maker of Gulfstream business jets, has completed its \$2.18 billion acquisition of Jet Aviation. The Falls Church-based defense..[Read More](#)

## RECONNECT AMERICA- GIVE BACK TO THOSE THAT GIVE IT ALL

The Military Channel and Military.com have joined forces to create "Reconnect America," a nationwide program that makes it easy for you to show your support for the men and women of our Armed Forces. Together, we can join forces to say "thanks" in ways that matter most. The non-profit organizations below are doing great work for our troops. Click on any of the links to learn more and lend a hand..[Read More](#)

## THE HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Did you know that most Americans confuse Veterans Day with Memorial Day? Learn the history of Veterans Day..[Read More](#)

## LETTER OF THE DAY: LET'S GIVE OUR VETERANS THE DAY OFF THEY DESERVE

It is once again the 11th day of the 11th month and time to celebrate Veterans Day. This Veterans Day finds the men and women of our armed services in the deserts of Iraq and the mountains of Afghanistan and stationed elsewhere around the world..[Read More](#)

## IT'S A FACT

At the end of the third quarter, American's fuel hedging program was projected to save nearly \$600 million in 2008.

[Our Website](#) | [Company Information](#) | [Engine Inventory](#) | [Exchange Program](#)

All contacts, comments, and inquiries will be reviewed immediately. You will have a response from our company principal, Robert Spahr, whose personal email address is: [rspahr@precisionturbines.aero](mailto:rspahr@precisionturbines.aero), just as soon as feasibly possible.

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