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As Memorial Day approaches we at Precision Turbines honor and remember those who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. Though we have our National Issues we have been blessed in the USA and we thank the Veterans' for preserving our country and our blessings.

A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.  
~Joseph Campbell

And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free.  
And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to me.  
~Lee Greenwood

#### Freedom Is Not Free

I watched the flag pass by one day.  
It fluttered in the breeze.  
A young Marine saluted it,  
And then he stood at ease.  
I looked at him in uniform  
So young, so tall, so proud,  
He'd stand out in a crowd.  
I thought how many men like him  
had fallen through the years.  
How many had died on foreign soil?  
How many mothers' tears?  
How many pilots' planes shot down?  
How many died at sea?  
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?  
No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of Taps one night,  
when everything was still  
I listened to the bugler play  
And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times  
That Taps had meant "Amen"  
When a flag had draped a coffin  
Of brother or a friend.  
I thought of all the children,  
Of mothers and the wives,  
Of fathers, sons and husbands  
with interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard  
At the bottom of the sea  
Of unmarked graves in Arlington...  
No, freedom is not free.

Author Unknown

#### AEW&C VERSION OF C295 TO FLY

Airbus Military is exploring an airborne early-warning and control version of the C295 tactical airlifter. A company-owned aircraft that has been modified with a six-meter-diameter dummy rotodome will start a three-month flight-test campaign next month. A feasibility study for the modification was completed last December, during which engineers assessed the..[Read More](#)

#### GERMAN MAGAZINE REPORTS AF447 CAPTAIN AS NOT IN COCKPIT AS TROUBLE BEGAN

Unofficial, and we stress unofficial, reports about the analysis of the cockpit voice recorder recovered from Air France Flight 447 indicate that the captain of the Airbus A330 was not in the cockpit as the events leading to the accident began to occur. [Read More](#)

#### EUROCONTROL EXPECTS MINIMAL IMMEDIATE IMPACT FROM VOLCANIC ERUPTION

As of 1000 CET Monday, Eurocontrol says it expects no significant impact on flights Monday as a result of the eruption of the Grimsvötn volcano in Iceland. However, according to the Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) in London, depending on the continuing eruption of the volcano and the meteorological conditions, there is a risk that some ash cloud may reach parts of northern Europe in the next 48 hours..[Read More](#)

#### HTF7500E ENGINE EXPECTED TO REDUCE NITROUS OXIDE LEVELS BY UP TO 25 PERCENT

Honeywell has reached a flight testing milestone on what it says its most energy efficient engine ever, the HTF7500E. The engine powering Embraer's Legacy series 450/500 business jets has completed approximately 20 flights and more than 140 test hours on Honeywell's B757 flying test bed. With this milestone, the engine is on track to certify in 2012 on the Embraer platforms..[Read More](#)

## ITALY'S 767 TANKERS FINALLY ENTER SERVICE; AUSTRALIA'S A330 TANKERS YET TO BE ACCEPTED

There was news last week of two long-delayed air-refueling tanker contracts. The Italian air force (AMI-Aeronautica Militare Italiano) formally accepted into service two of the four Boeing KC-767 tanker-transporters that it ordered more than eight years ago. But Airbus Military conceded that another few weeks will likely pass before the Royal Australian Air.. [Read More](#)

## NAVY SAYS F-35C TEST AIRCRAFT EXCEEDING TEST AND EVALUATION GOALS

Naval Air Systems Command said Wednesday in a news release that the test aircraft for the carrier variant of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter have exceeded test and evaluation program goals so far this year. According to the announcement, the F-35C test aircraft, 'CF-1,' currently at Naval Air Station Patuxent River has completed 36 test flights as of May 11, nearly half the program's goal for the year of 85.. [Read More](#)

## VOLCANO AFFECTS EUROPE'S AIR TRAFFIC

A volcano in Iceland is sending ash plumes into the atmosphere that are affecting aviation in Europe, but the impact is not expected to be nearly as dramatic as last year's eruption. In April 2010, Europe's airspace was shut down for five days due to volcanic ash, grounding more than 100,000 flights. Since then, flight rules have changed to require much higher ash concentrations before airspace is closed.. [Read More](#)

## RAF ANNOUNCES NEW REAPER SQUADRON

A new Reaper squadron is to form at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire which will control the aircraft over Afghanistan from the UK for the first time. Speaking at the disbandment of Number XIII Tornado Squadron at RAF Marham last week, Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stephen Dalton, announced that the squadron number will transfer to a second Reaper squadron next year.. [Read More](#)

## BILL WOULD KILL MAINE PLANE TAX

Maine legislators are expected to pass a bill (PDF) that will eliminate a so-called use tax on aircraft purchased outside the state but used within it for more than 20 days in the first year after the purchase. Although the current law affects relatively few aircraft, publicity surrounding a few cases of enforcement and attention from AOPA have led to a subtle but detectable boycott of Maine by some private aircraft owners. That, and the creation of an aviation business park and executive airport at the former NAS Brunswick, have focused attention on the tax and prompted bills proposed by state Senate President Kevin Raye and Sen.. [Read More](#)

## DELTA AND ITS PARTNERS TO CUT NUMBER OF TRANS-ATLANTIC FLIGHTS

Delta Air Lines and its partners, Air France-KLM and Alitalia, will cut 7% to 9% of their flights between the U.S. and Europe this fall. Delta President Ed Bastian said the changes would eliminate some markets and decrease flights to others, although the airlines did not identify the cities that would see cuts. Bastian noted that Delta alone would reduce flights across the Atlantic by 10% to 12% after Labor Day.. [Read More](#)

## CFO: \$850M RISE IN FUEL COSTS CONTRIBUTED TO AMERICAN'S 2010 RESULTS

Bella Goren, chief financial officer at American Airlines, said the carrier's 2010 financial performance was "certainly unsatisfactory," despite being an improvement over 2009 results. Goren cited an \$850 million fuel-bill increase and other high costs as contributing to the results. American plans to counter higher fuel expenses by "rapidly replacing older MD-80 aircraft with new Boeing 737s, which are 35% more fuel-efficient than the aircraft they are replacing," she said..[Read More](#)

## DRAWING JET A FROM A STONE

Shell is betting \$19 billion that it can pull natural gas from shale rocks and then convert that gas into diesel fuels, including a Jet A product for aircraft. A facility the company is building in Qatar will reportedly become the world's largest gas-to-liquid plant and could establish technology that would be used on a smaller scale in the U.S..[Read More](#)

## ASH FROM ICELANDIC VOLCANO IS EXPECTED TO REACH SCOTLAND SOON

The Grimsvotn volcano in Iceland began erupting on Saturday, prompting the closure of the country's main airports the following day. Airlines have been warned that ash from the volcano will likely reach Scotland by Tuesday, followed by Britain, France and Spain later in the week depending on the intensity of the eruption and the weather..[Read More](#)

## AIR FORCE TO OPEN RESEARCH CENTER FOR ALTERNATIVE JET FUELS

The Air Force's new center for research into alternative jet fuels will feature scientists from the University of Dayton Research Institute and the Battelle Memorial Institute, as well as researchers from the Air Force. The center will strive to help reduce the Air Force's \$6 billion annual aircraft-fuel bill..[Read More](#)

## FACE-TO-FACE BUSINESS EVENTS ARE PROVEN TO INCREASE REVENUE

especially when held in a creative destination like Orlando. A recent economic impact study showed that for every \$1 spent on business travel, companies benefited an average of \$12.50 in increased revenue and \$3.80 in new profits.

## SHELL MIGHT BE ABLE TO CONVERT NATURAL GAS INTO JET FUEL

Royal Dutch Shell is investing \$19 billion in a massive gas-to-liquids plant in Qatar. The company might also be able to use the technology to convert natural gas from shale rocks in the U.S. into jet fuel and diesel. Marvin Odum, head of Shell in the Americas, said the capital costs would need to be reduced to achieve that goal..[Read More](#)

## FAA NPRM: AIRBUS RUDDER PEDAL INPUTS

On Nov. 12, 2001, American Airlines Flight 587 crashed in Queens, N.Y., killing all 260 on board, plus five on the ground, and now an FAA NPRM aims to address one of the accident's causal factors -- over the next four years. The NTSB found that Flight 587, an Airbus A300 out of JFK for Santo Domingo, had lost its vertical tail in flight, due in

part to pilot control inputs, before the aircraft fell out of control. Data suggests the first officer managed to..[Read More](#)

#### BOEING, EUROPEAN COMMISSION SEE WTO APPELLATE REVIEW VERY DIFFERENTLY

Both Boeing and the European Commission have released statements indicating that the ruling by an appellate body of the WTO vindicates their position on government subsidies to the plane makers. "This is a clear, final win for fair trade that will level the playing field for America's aerospace workers,"..[Read More](#)

VIDEO: 100 YEARS OF NAVAL AVIATION-ERIK HILDEBRANDTS 'FLY NAVY'  
No one does aviation quite like the Navy, and carriers are only half of the story. In this vodcast, author/photographer Erik Hildebrandt talks about his experiences in shooting and compiling an impressive history of a century of naval aviation..[Watch Video](#)

#### FAA REAUTHORIZATION AMENDMENT IS WITHDRAWN

Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa., withdrew a bill that would have required the FAA to consider adverse effects on the economy before issuing aviation safety rules. "It is apparent that the inclusion of my amendment in the FAA bill may slow down conference negotiations and delay the adoption of this critical legislation to dramatically reform and streamline" FAA programs, Shuster said..[Read More](#)

#### INTERNATIONAL PREMIUM TRAFFIC WAS UP 2.9% IN MARCH

The International Air Transport Association reported a 2.9% increase in international premium traffic in March, compared with the same month the previous year. However, growth cooled from 7.8% in February. Economy travel was up 1.1% in March. The group noted that last year's disruptions due to volcanic ash will skew comparisons in the second quarter..[Read More](#)

#### JSF MAKES 1ST AIR SHOW APPEARANCE

The F-35C Joint Strike Fighter made its first public appearance at an air show May 21. Piloted by Lt. Cmdr. Eric "Magic" Buus, the F-35C made a single pass down the show line at the Joint Service Open House at Andrews Air Force Base, MD. The flight commemorated 100 years of naval aviation by highlighting the future of tactical air power for the U.S. Navy..[Read More](#)

#### PRIVATE TANKER CRASHES IN CALIFORNIA

Three crew somehow escaped serious injury when their fully loaded Boeing 707 tanker crashed and burned on takeoff from NAS Point Mugu in California late Wednesday afternoon. The airframe is obviously a writeoff. The aircraft was one of two 707-300 passenger aircraft converted to tankers owned by Omega Air Refueling, which has been contracted to the Navy and the Marines for inflight refueling for seven years. The company also has a DC-10-40 converted to a flying filling station..[Read More](#)

## GROUND TESTING BEGINS ON FIRST PW1217G ENGINE

Ground testing of Pratt & Whitney's first PW1200G family engine -- the PW1217G engine for the Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) -- is well under way. The engine, the first of an eight-engine validation and certification program, has completed nearly 16 hours of testing..[Read More](#)

## TOPGUN COMMANDER, CHIEF OPERATION OFFICER TAPPED BY ATAC

Former TOPGUN Commander Thomas "Trim" Downing has joined ATAC (Airborne Tactical Advantage Company), a company which provides tactical airborne services to the Department of Defense. Businessman Ralph Kunz has also joined the company as Chief Operating Officer..[Read More](#)

## FLYING IN CHINA-ILLEGALLY

In China it may not always be easy -- or legal -- to fly a general aviation aircraft, but a very small, very select group of Chinese are doing it anyway. There are an estimated 1,000 registered private aircraft in all of China. Among that group, there is a tiny subset of wealthy individuals that chooses to bypass protocol altogether. According to the New York Times, such pilots are called "black fliers" (think "black ops") for their habit of taking flight on the sly..[Read More](#)

## GENDER SHIFT IN AVIATION?

The number of women pilots has increased since 2000 by 18.6 percent and the number of those with ATP certificates is up 35 percent while the number of male pilots has dropped, according to statistics updated Monday by the FAA. There were an estimated 42,218 female certificate holders in 2010, which puts the group at 6.7 percent of the estimated total 627,588 certificated pilots recorded by the FAA..[Read More](#)

## EBACE 2011 ACHIEVES RECORD NUMBER OF EXHIBITORS

The 11th Annual European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE 2011) ended its three-day show with records in the..[Read More](#)

## ROCKWELL COLLINS FMS-4200 CERTIFIED ON NEXTGEN AIRCRAFT

The Rockwell Collins FMS-4200 Flight Management System is now certified and will be standard fit on Bombardier..[Read More](#)

## AIRBUS FDR SHOWS NO MECHANICAL MALFUNCTIONS

Preliminary analysis of the flight data recorder from Air France Flight 447 has not revealed any mechanical malfunctions that would require safety recommendations for the A330 fleet, according to a notice Airbus sent to its customers this week. That notice sparked speculation in the French media that pilot error was the likely cause of the June 2009 crash, but BEA, the French accident investigation bureau, objected to such reports as "sensationalist" and premature..[Read More](#)

## BOMBARDIER SAYS DEMAND FOR BUSINESS JETS IS SLOWLY RECOVERING

Bombardier, one of the world's largest plane makers, said that it sees the business jet market returning to "sustained growth." Gary Scott, president of commercial aircraft

at Bombardier Aerospace, said China will emerge as a leading customer of the aviation industry over the next 20 years. "China is incredibly important," Scott said. "The bottom line is that China is the No. 2 economy in the world, at around \$5 trillion, and they're still growing at 7% a year..[Read More](#)

#### EXPERTS AT EBACE VOICE CAUTION ON BUSINESS AVIATION OUTLOOK

The global financial crisis caused a slump in the business aviation market, and experts at the EBACE show voiced concerns about the market turning around. Analysts said the market's outlook has faded somewhat, following the recent disasters in Japan and the political unrest in the Middle East..[Read More](#)

#### SUPREME COURT FINDS IN FAVOR OF BOEING, GENERAL DYNAMICS OVER A-12

The U.S. Supreme Court has set aside a ruling by a Federal Appeals Court what would have forced Boeing and General Dynamics to repay over a billion dollars to the Pentagon over a stealth aircraft that was cancelled in 1991..[Read More](#)

#### NEW HONEYWELL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM HELPS MANAGE MAJOR AIR-CRAFT EXPENSE

Honeywell introduced the Mechanical Protection Plan (MPP) Thursday at EBACE. The new extended repair and replacement program is designed to help customers avoid downtime while driving predictable and manageable maintenance costs..[Read More](#)

#### EMBRAER LAUNCHES AHEAD FOR PHENOM JETS

Embraer is now offering the AHEAD (Aircraft Health Analysis and Diagnosis) solution to Phenom 100 and Phenom 300 executive jet..[Read More](#)

#### BLUE ANGELS CANCEL DEMONSTRATION SHOWS

The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, The Blue Angels, have canceled the practice demonstration and air show scheduled for May 24 and 25 at the United States Naval Academy (USNA). This cancellation is due to..[Read More](#)

#### AIR FRANCE 447 DATA RECOVERED

Investigators have successfully downloaded all the data from the flight recorders from Air France Flight 447 that were recovered two weeks ago, the French accident investigation bureau announced on Monday. The data includes two hours of cockpit voice recordings and all the information stored in the flight data recorder that monitored the systems of the Airbus A330, which crashed into the Atlantic nearly two years ago while en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris..[Read More](#)

#### SOUTHWEST CEO VIEWS "STRONG" FUTURE DEMAND

Southwest Airlines Chairman and CEO Gary Kelly remained optimistic about demand trends as the company posted "very strong" numbers for May and June bookings. Kelly added that the company has no plans to lower its dividend despite the rising costs of jet fuel, but that any raise in payout would have to wait..[Read More](#)

## CANADIAN GOVERNMENT DENIES DIAMOND DOLLARS

The new Conservative Canadian government has denied a \$35 million loan request from Diamond Aircraft, possibly affecting the D-Jet program and the Canadian segment of Diamond Aircraft. The Liberal party had made it clear that, if elected, it would be in support of the request after Diamond laid off 213 of its 380 workers at its London, Ontario, factory on March 28..[Read More](#)

## DASSAULT LAUNCHES FALCON 2000S

Dassault unveiled the Falcon 2000S on Monday at EBACE in Geneva, positioning the new model as a lower-priced Falcon 2000DX replacement that will compete directly against the Gulfstream G250, Bombardier Challenger 300 and Hawker 4000 in the super-midsize business jet segment. With a price tag of around \$25 million, Dassault claims the Falcon 2000S will feature the largest cabin, longest range and best performance in its class when the twinjet enters service in early 2013..[Read More](#)

## JET FUEL FROM WOOD

The dawn of the wood-burning aircraft may be near thanks to an agreement between a California biofuel company and the Province of Ontario, Canada. Rentech Inc. hopes to build a plant capable producing 23 million gallons of jet fuel per year in the small community of White River in northwestern Ontario. It will use 1.3 million tons of wood waste and tree species that are not otherwise used commercially in the Olympiad Project..[Read More](#)

## CRIMINAL CULPABILITY FOR ROLE IN GOL 737 DISASTER

A judge in a Brazilian court has sentenced the American pilots of an Embraer Legacy bizjet, Joseph Lepore and Jan Paul Paladino, to more than four years behind bars for their role in the 2006 crash of a Gol 737 that killed all 154 aboard the airliner when it crashed in the jungles of Brazil. All seven aboard the bizjet survived after the pilots made an emergency landing..[Read More](#)

## AIR FRANCE 447 DATA RECOVERED

Investigators have successfully recovered all the data from the two recorders that went down with Air France Flight 447 two years ago. The recorders were found last month and recovered last week from the wreckage of the Airbus A330 that crashed on a late night flight from Rio de Janeiro to Paris when it flew through areas of convective activity over the Atlantic Ocean. Debris was spotted the next day. It took nearly two years, however, to locate the wreckage on the ocean floor..[Read More](#)

## LIGHTNING HAS NOT CAUSED U.S. AIRLINE CASUALTIES IN ALMOST 50 YEARS

A JetBlue flight was struck by lightning this week as it made its way to John F. Kennedy International Airport. "The electrifying episode caused passengers and crew to smell smoke onboard, leading the pilot to ask that emergency vehicles meet the plane upon landing," a newspaper report said. Lightning, however, is not a common threat to air traffic; the last time it was responsible for a commercial airline casualty was in 1963..[Read More](#)

## FAA WANTS BOEING 757 OPERATORS TO PERFORM CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The Federal Aviation Administration has proposed that operators of Boeing 757s prevent possible roll axis motions by performing corrective actions within the next five years. "We have received numerous reports of Boeing 757 events where flight crews experienced unintended lateral oscillations during final approach, just before landing," the FAA said in a notice of proposed rule-making.. [Read More](#)

## THUNDERBIRDS TEST CAMELINA-BASED JET BIOFUEL

At the Andrews Air Force base air show in Maryland over the weekend, the Thunderbirds used "camelina-based hydro-treated renewable jet fuel" blended with regular Jet Propellant 8 fuel. The alternative jet fuel uses derivatives from plant seed oil and animal fat as well as waste oils and greases, the Air Force says.. [Read More](#)

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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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