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FAA AVIATION NEWS FOCUSES ON HUMAN FACTORS
The latest issue of FAA Aviation News focuses on the critical role human factors play in aviation safety. Articles address fatigue, decision making, aircraft design and technology. Read More

FATAL AIRLINE CRASHES HIT 60-YEAR LOW IN 2009
Last year saw 11 fatal crashes of commercial flights around the world, making 2009 one of the safest years in six decades, according to the Aviation Safety Network. Bill Voss, chief executive of the Flight Safety Foundation, says technology gets much of the credit for the drop in fatal accidents. "There's clearly evidence that we're learning how to make airplanes safer," Voss says, while noting that "we haven't really gotten the serious issue of human error out of the system.". Read More

GULFSTREAM MAKES FIRST FLIGHT OF ITS SUPER-MIDSIZE G250
Gulfstream Aerospace and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) flew the super-midsize G250 for the first time on December 11, and at press time were expecting the new airplane to fly again, weather permitting. This second flight could see the Honeywell
HTF7250G-powered twinjet reach 40,000 feet and Mach 0.8, according to IAI chief test pilot Ronen Shapira. Read More

SIGNS POINT TO IMPROVEMENT FOR GENERAL AVIATION IN 2010
With the economy showing signs of recovery, general aviation may find its outlook improving in 2010, one analyst says. The general aviation cycle typically lasts about six years, and while the most recent down cycle was compressed into a short period of time, a full six-year upswing could be in the works, said Brian Foley, of Brian Foley Associates. Read More

CESSNA DELIVERS 300TH CITATION X
Cessna Aircraft early last month delivered the 300th Citation X to roll off the line. It went to Vienna, Austria-based Jetalliance, the manufacturer’s authorized sales representative for Russia and Eastern Europe, and will be operated from Vienna by an unidentified retail customer. Read More

CONNECTICUT PILOT FLYING HIGH AT AGE 80
Connecticut pilot Frederick G. Herbert, 80, still takes his co-owned 1973 Cessna Cardinal out for flights. Herbert flew in the U.S. Army at the end of World War II, and also joined a search for John F. Kennedy Jr.’s downed aircraft. “I had stopped flying sometime in the ’70s and thought I got it all out of my system,” said Herbert, who then joined the Civil Air Patrol in 1981. Read More

GD CHIEF OPTIMISTIC ABOUT 2010/11
At a Bank of America/Merrill Lynch Global Industrial Conference last month, General Dynamics chief Jay Johnson said that his company’s aerospace division—namely Gulfstream and Jet Aviation—hit their troughs last year. He said the prospects for both companies this year are good, and he expects next year to be a strong growth year, especially for Gulfstream. Read More

DELTA, NORTHWEST GET FAA APPROVAL FOR COMBINED OPERATIONS
The Northwest Airlines logo is set to disappear during the present quarter after the FAA ruled on New Year’s Eve that Delta Air Lines may fully integrate the subsidiary it acquired in October 2008. “For the first time, pre-merger Northwest operations will be combined into Delta’s operations,” a Delta official announced Thursday. Read More

BOISTURE ‘SURPRISED’ BY CANCELLATIONS FROM NETJET
Hawker Beechcraft chairman and CEO Bill Boisture said during a hastily arranged fourth-quarter update conference call that he was “surprised” at the “timing and magnitude” of the $2.6 billion in cancellations from fractional provider NetJets (see page 69). According to Boisture, Hawker Beechcraft had been in discussions for months with NetJets about its. Read More

NO SALARY WITHOUT PROFIT, SAYS CONTINENTAL CEO
Just days after taking the reins at Continental Airlines, CEO Jeffrey Smisek announced he would forgo both his salary and his bonus until the company achieves a full-year
net profit. "I am not asking you or anyone else to reduce their pay," Smisek said in a letter to employees. "What I am asking is that you join me in making Continental profitable again." Analysts expect Continental to earn $1.36 per share in 2010, though rising fuel prices and other factors could threaten the airline's turnaround. Read More

TEXTRON: $1.1B IN CANCELLATIONS FROM ‘LARGE CUSTOMER’
Textron late last month said that subsidiary Cessna was expected to see about $1.1 billion in cancellations in the fourth quarter from a "large customer," which is believed to be fractional provider NetJets. None of these aircraft was planned for delivery before 2012. At the same time, Textron said Cessna continues to see stabilization in the business jet. Read More

1911 VICKERS ANTARCTICA WRECKAGE POSSIBLY FOUND
A single-engine Vickers abandoned on the Antarctic ice during the 1911-1914 Antarctic expedition of Australian Douglas Mawson may have been found on New Year's Day, 2010. If true, the find itself may be as unique as the circumstances that allowed for it. Wreckage was found on ice-encrusted rocks on the shore of Commonwealth Bay. Modern-day expedition leader Dr. Tony Stewart told Reuters, "Friday was the only day in several years when the rocks were sufficiently exposed and the tide was low enough." Read More

AMERICAN AIRLINES LANDING INCIDENTS PROMPT FAA REVIEW
The FAA will increase its oversight of American Airlines following a string of non-fatal landing incidents that took place in December, including one that left an AA 737 in pieces in Kingston, Jamaica. FAA spokesperson Lynn Lunsford made the comments to CNN, adding that the FAA's review will attempt to determine if those incidents "might be indicative of a larger issue." Read More

WITH RULES IN PLAY, PILOT TRAINING UNDER SCRUTINY
Are today's airline pilots, churned out by "pilot mills" that train to minimum standards, up to the task once entrusted to ex-military pilots with millions of dollars worth of intense and highly competitive training? That's one of the questions raised by a four-part series this week in The Buffalo News, an exploration prompted by the fatal crash there early this year of Colgan Air Flight 3407, in which 50 people died. As recently as 1992, about 90 percent of new hires at the airlines had military backgrounds, according to Tuesday's installment, while today that figure is about 30 percent. Read More

REVISED INTERNATIONAL SCREENING MEASURES GO INTO EFFECT
Airports around the world on Monday began to implement new U.S. requirements for increased searches of U.S.-bound passengers from 14 nations. However, some governments vowed full cooperation, while others, including Germany, France and Spain, said they would study the guidelines further before taking measures beyond those implemented after Dec. 25. Read More
ECLIPSE AEROSPACE PLANS TO SELL JETS IN 2010
Eclipse Aerospace expects to complete upgrades to 28 jets acquired as the assets of the former Eclipse Aviation and it plans to start selling them as early as next spring. Mike Press and Mason Holland Jr., the two investors behind the new Eclipse Aerospace LLC, have now hired 60 employees and are back in business in Albuquerque. Eight Eclipse 500 Very Light Jets are currently in the care of the new company, receiving upgrades to their avionics and de-icing systems to the tune of $149,000 each...Read More

INTERNATIONAL ORDERS PROMPT CESSNA RECALL OF WORKERS
Cessna announced plans to call 180 laid-off employees back to work in Wichita, Kan. The employees will return to work on production of the Cessna Citation Sovereign. The company received several international orders for the aircraft, as overseas companies take advantage of the weak dollar...Read More

TERRORISM PUTS PASSENGERS ON ACTIVE DUTY
"Aggressive intervention has become the societal norm," the Flight Safety Foundation's Bill Voss told the Atlanta Journal Constitution, about a passenger's action to subdue would-be terrorist Umar Farouk Abdulmatallab, on Christmas Day. Abdulmatallab succeeded in burning himself and not much more when the lives of 278 passengers were at stake. That is perhaps thanks to fellow Northwest Flight 253 passenger Jasper Schuringa. Shuringa told CNN, "I basically reacted directly." Shuringa said it wasn't a matter of thought, "I just went over there and tried to save the plane." Shuringa used his hands to extinguish the fire Abdulmatallab's actions had created...Read More

SAMPLE OF PRECISION TURBINES AVAILABLE ENGINE INVENTORY

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Call for details 561-350-3028
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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, just as soon as feasibly possible.

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