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Kuwait: Current Defence Inventory and Future Procurements





Although Kuwait's state revenues are feeling the effects of low oil

prices, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) still allocates significant amounts of funds to defence. According to several reports, at the beginning of 2016 the parliament of Kuwait approved a request by the government for 10 billion US dollars in additional funds for military spending

during the next 10 years. This amount is expected to be used for the procurement of defence equipment. Due to the limited size of the local defence industry, such equipment will be sourced from abroad, creating several opportunities for foreign defence companies.

The abovementioned increase should be perceived as part of the country's larger modernisation program, which aims to replace ageing military equipment. Under this context, Kuwait purchased on April 5, 2016 22 single-seat and 6 twin-seat Eurofighter Typhoons becoming the eighth customer in the programme and the third customer in the Gulf Region next to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman. Currently FA-18 consists the core of the country's combat aircraft fleet, as the country operates 40 such aircraft purchased in 1992. Additionally, the country operates a fleet of three KC 130J tanker aircraft, which among others, provides aerial refuelling to the FA-18s.

Kuwait had also signed an agreement with Abu Dhabi Ship Building (ADSB) to build and supply landing crafts and high speed protection vessels worth over 260 million AED (70.8 million US dollars). The vessels will be the latest acquisition of Kuwaiti navy and will protect the country's territorial waters and maritime facilities. Kuwaiti Navy, currently operates the Um Al Maradim class, which is a derivative of DCN's Combattante I class small fast attack craft. The vessels key role is to carry out coastal defence operations and sea surveillance in Kuwait's EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone). Deliveries of the vessels started in 1998 and were concluded in 2000, representing the first stage in Kuwait's naval rearmament after the losses suffered in Operation Desert Storm.

Armored Vehicle	No. of vehicles Operated	Country of Origin	In service with the Kuwaiti Army
S-600 APC	22	Australia	1998
Pandur APC	40	US Production Line	1999
PCZ-45 ALV	27+24	China	2001-2003
Panhard Véhicule Blindé Léger (VBL)	20	France	2009
TM-170	15-8	Germany	1993-2004
BMP-2and BMP-3	245	Russia	1994
MCV-80 Warrior	254	Great Britain	1997
Humvee	Unidentified	USA	Unidentified
M-88A2 HERCULES	14	USA	1996
M-113A3	46	USA	1995
M-1A2 Abrams	218	USA	1997

Finally, it should be noticed that within the next 10 years, Kuwait is expected to procure new armored vehicles and tanks. The main reason is that the majority of such vessels currently in service with the Kuwaiti army are in operational use for several years. Thus, they need more maintenance work which must be provided ad hoc. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that Kuwait operates military vehicles which were procured from several different countries. This diversity creates an increased need for MRO facilities as vehicles of different country of origin need different MRO processes.

Kuwait is deliberately trying to collectively enhance the defence capabilities and security of the GCC region. It is indicative that they purchased missile defence equipment in support of the US efforts to forge a joint GCC missile defence network for the Gulf. Under this context, Raytheon was awarded a \$523 million undefinitized contract action to upgrade the State of Kuwait's Patriot Air and Missile Defence Systems to the most modern configuration currently fielded.

Kyriazis Vasileios Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Kuwait: Defence Industry



Currently, indigenous defence industrial capabilities are rather limited. Nevertheless, Kuwait as part of its



economic diversification strategy works towards the expansion of the local defence industrial base. The main goal is the progressive production of a greater amount of military equipment in a bid to reduce foreign dependence and help with national industrialisation.

In order to achieve this Kuwaiti authorities promote the creation of cooperative schemes with foreign partners. Through this process strategic partnerships between Kuwaiti investors and foreign entities have been formed leading to the import of sophisticated technologies to Kuwait.

Under this context, SELEX Galileo, a Finmeccanica Company, formed a Joint Venture (JV) with the Kuwaiti company Al Safwa Security and Defence Systems Co, with the scope to provide defence services to the Kuwait Armed Forces, initially in the field of Electronic Warfare (EW).

Additionally, it is worth mentioning that several local educational institutions have effective auspice agreements in place with leading educational and international training institutions, bringing educational programs to Kuwait that will enhance the educational background of Kuwaiti nationals in domains related to defence. One such case is the Australian College of Kuwait (ACK) which offers an Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Training program. ACK has been approved as a Part-147 Maintenance Training Organization, by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Kuwait and the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Another similar example is the courses Massachusetts University offers in Kuwait in fields such as engineering, business and science. The new partnership includes the Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) in the campus of which courses are held. Under the auspices of the program more than two dozen undergraduate and graduate degrees will be offered, beginning with:

- bachelor's and graduate degrees in engineering
- master's degree in business
- master's degree in computer science
- master's degree in education
- master's degree in security studies

More on that we should notice here that Kuwait allocates a significant amount of its annual budgets to defence. The real significance of this fact goes beyond the massive spending as it signals a unique growth opportunity for the country's defence industry through the implementation of the offset agreements generated by the purchase of defence equipment from foreign countries. Considering that roughly 30% of these funds are dedicated to capital expenditure, we can estimate that a rather huge amount of money can be redirected to the local economies (through offsets) in order to further ameliorate their performance.

Currently, Kuwait does not officially operate an offset program. The Kuwaiti offset program was officially suspended as of Sep 2014 and a new program is expected.

Kyriazis Vasileios

Epicos Newsletter Head Editor

Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects"

Cpicos.com Epicos "Industrial Cooperation and Offset Projects" provides a unique set of online tools enabling the structure, identification and implementation of comprehensive Offsets programs, through a searchable database. By introducing different offset projects and ideas proposed by local A&D industry it ensures the optimum cost for Prime Contractors and reassures that the priorities of local industry are fully met...

For Further Information Press Here

Mini-UAV compact avionics package



A leading company in the design and development of advanced avionics systems is proposing the development and installation of a miniaturized avionics package system to be used in several Unmanned Airborne Vehicle (UAV) designs. The proposed system will utilize state of the art sensors technology and it will include rate sensors, acceleration sensors, GPS, air data sensors and multiple I/O signals, all controlled and monitored by a

single powerful processor. The developed system will be capable of fulfilling the related requirements of existing or new UAV designs.

For Further Information Contact our ICO Department

Mail at: a-kintis@epicos.com

Multi spectral representation device (target) for Dry and Live training



A technology start-up company with registered patent applications in the area of visual products used for day & night forces training, based on technologic platforms which include targets identification & marking products for the fighting forces is proposing to partner with another company in a targeted country. The partnership can include the provision of a cost effective training solution and a knowledge transfer of the company's multi spectral representation device (target) for Dry and Live training.

For Further Information Contact our ICO Department Mail at: a-kintis@epicos.com

News from our A&D Business Network

epicos.com Boeing to Manufacture 777X Components with Composite Material Made in U.A.E.



Boeing announced today that it will source carbon fiber pre-impregnated (prepreg) composite material for the Boeing 777X from a new joint venture formed by Mubadala Development Company and Solvay. Boeing is the first customer for the Mubadala-Solvay joint venture, which will produce primary structure

composite material for use in manufacturing the 777X empennage and floor beams. Mubadala and Solvay are planning for the joint venture to be operational by 2021 in a new facility built in Al Ain, U.A.E.

"After close collaboration with Mubadala and Solvay to expand the supply of aerospace composites, Boeing is pleased to be the first customer for their new joint venture in the U.A.E.," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner. "Our commitment to purchase this prepreg material for the 777X meets several important goals for Boeing, from further advancing aerospace industry development in the U.A.E. to expanding highquality materials in our supply chain."

"Boeing has been a key global partner of ours for years," said Homaid Al Shimmari, CEO of Aerospace & Engineering Services, Mubadala. "Together with Solvay, we will further develop our capabilities in advanced composite materials production in order to expand the supply chain and create a materials ecosystem. The creation of a new manufacturing facility at the Nibras Al Ain Aerospace Park supports our efforts of delivering on Abu Dhabi's Economic Vision 2030 by developing a regional Aerospace Hub for Abu Dhabi."

First introduced in the 1970s, prepreg composites - a combination of high-strength carbon fiber and toughened epoxy resin - reduce weight and therefore improve fuel efficiency in aircraft. Boeing has been a leader in the use of aerospace composites. The 777 was the first commercial airplane to contain structurally significant composite parts. Composites account for 50 percent of structural weight of the 787 Dreamliner, and the 777X will have the world's largest composite wing. Production of the 777X will begin in 2017, with its first delivery in 2020.

Since 2009, Boeing and Mubadala have signed several agreements to advance their collaboration in mutually beneficial ways, including in aerospace composites manufacturing. In 2013, Boeing and Mubadala announced a new Framework Strategic Agreement to increase the long-term role of Mubadala as a direct supplier to Boeing, including support as Mubadala developed prepreg manufacturing in the U.A.E.

Solvay, providing composite materials and adhesives in support of all Boeing Commercial Airplanes programs, has been a valued supplier to Boeing for over 30 years.

Contacts: Jessica Kowal Supplier Management Communications Boeing Commercial Airplanes +1 206-660-6849 (Seattle) jessica.m.kowal@boeing.com

Dana Salloum Boeing Middle East Communications +971-4-213 4703 (Dubai) <u>dana.salloum@boeing.com</u>

For Further Information Click Here

Kalstar Aviation Signs Firm Order for up to 10 E190-E2s



Embraer announced today, at the 2016 Farnborough Airshow, that Kalstar Aviation, an Indonesian regional operator, signed a firm order for five E190-E2s. The contract also included five

purchase rights for the same model, bringing the total potential order to up to ten aircraft. The order has an estimated value of USD 582 million, at current list price, if all the purchase rights are confirmed.

The transaction will be included in Embraer's 2016 third-quarter backlog. The deliveries of Kalstar's orders are scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 2020. This new order brings the E-Jets E2 backlog to 272 firm orders plus 388 Letters of Intent (LoIs), options and purchase rights – a total of 660 commitments from airlines and leasing companies.

"Kalstar Aviation has taken a differentiated path in the Indonesian market by utilizing current generation E-Jets, and soon the E2s, to grow their business sustainably and to provide their passengers an unparalleled cabin experience," said John Slattery, President & CEO, Embraer Commercial Aviation. "The E190-E2 jet promises to be the best aircraft in its category and will provide greater efficiency to Kalstar Aviation."

"We are looking forward to the enhanced performance and economics that the E190-E2 brings, while still maintaining a high level of cockpit commonality with the existing E-Jets. This means an easy transition for our pilots when they operate both the current E-Jets and the E-Jets E2," said Andi Masyhur, CEO Kalstar Aviation. "Passenger feedback on the existing E-Jets we operate has been very positive and we look forward to impressing them further with the new E190-E2 in the coming years."

Established in 2007, Kalstar Aviation, named after 'Kalimantan Star', has been connecting passengers to cities in the province of Kalimantan – an area known for mining and agriculture. The airline currently operates an E190 and two E195s on domestic routes in Indonesia.

Embraer is the world's leading manufacturer of commercial jets that seat up to 130 passengers. The Company has 100 customers all over the world operating the ERJ and E-Jet families of aircraft. For the E-Jets program alone, Embraer has logged nearly 1,700 orders and over 1,200 deliveries, with the E-Jets redefining the traditional concept of regional aircraft by operating across a range of business applications.

For Further Information Click Here

Epicos NewsRoom

AAR Awarded New Rotary Wing Services Task Order in Afghanistan



AAR announces US Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) has awarded its Airlift division a task order for additional rotary wing airlift services in Afghanistan, as part of an existing services contract to support US Central Command (CENTCOM). The task order for nine months of service is valued at \$21.7 million.

Under the contract, AAR Airlift will provide utility helicopter services to include passenger and cargo transport and external cargo transport to US Department of Defense (DoD) forces. AAR Airlift will provide two helicopters, flight operations, maintenance and logistics support, and personnel. "We are very well positioned to respond rapidly to requirements across the globe with our fleet of fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft and our dedicated team of professionals," said Steven B. Harrison, President of AAR Airlift Group.

"Leveraging our extensive flight operations experience in this austere and inaccessible region, AAR will field an additional operational hub in fewer than 10 days following contract award notification, including two aircraft, personnel, spares, tooling and consumables." The Company has operated rotary wing aircraft in Afghanistan since 2009.

TRANSCOM is the DoD's single entity for transportation, sustainment and distribution to the nation's warfighters. Its responsibilities include the procurement of commercial transportation services for U.S. military forces. CENTCOM is one of six of the DoD's geographical combatant commands and works with national and international partners to respond to crises and support development in the Middle East and Central Asia.

AAR Airlift Group provides expeditionary airlift services in support of contingency operations worldwide. The Company provides passenger and cargo transport, air ambulance, night vision operations, search and rescue (SAR), airdrop, and other special mission services. AAR Airlift Group includes Rotorcraft Services, a provider of engineering and design for rotorcraft modifications and completions, asset sales, component repair, life cycle support programs, and field maintenance. AAR Airlift's fleet of fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft serves defense and NGO customers in Afghanistan, Africa, the Mediterranean, Indian Ocean and Western Pacific, and the Falkland Islands.

Since 2005, AAR Airlift Group has flown more than 242,000 hours, delivering over 302 million pounds of mail and cargo, and transporting more than 1.9 million passengers in remote and austere locations around the globe.

About AAR

AAR is a global aftermarket solutions company that employs more than 4,500 people in over 20 countries. Based in Wood Dale, Illinois, AAR supports commercial aviation and government customers through two operating segments: Aviation Services and

Expeditionary Services. AAR's Aviation Services include inventory management; parts supply; OEM parts distribution; aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul; and component repair. AAR's Expeditionary Services include airlift operations; mobility systems; and command and control centers in support of military and humanitarian missions. More information can be found at <u>www.aarcorp.com</u>.

Source: Epicos, AAR

'Make in India' boost: Mahindra to make parts for Airbus Helicopters AS565 MBe Panther rotorcraft

Airbus Helicopters has awarded a contract to Mahindra Aerostructures to make airframe parts for the AS565 MBe Panther. These parts will be produced at the Mahindra facility in Bengaluru. They will be shipped directly to the Airbus Helicopter production line in Marignane, France where they will be integrated with the rest of the airframe assembly and will form a critical part of the Panthers sold worldwide.

The contract positions Mahindra Aerostructures as the first Indian company to receive a direct manufacturing contract from Airbus Helicopters as a Tier 1 supplier. Mahindra Aerostructures will gradually emerge as the global single source supplier to Airbus Helicopters for these parts. This work package is the first amongst a series of work packages which would embed Mahindra Group firmly in the Airbus Helicopters' global supply chain and bind the two companies in a long-term 'Make in India' partnership.

"We are playing an active role in the development of a helicopter-focused Indian industrial eco-system, and are embedding Indian suppliers into our global supply chain," said Fabrice Cagnat, Director - Make in India, Airbus Helicopters. "The contract will allow us to qualify Mahindra Aerostructures as a Tier 1 supplier, establish a manufacturing relationship with them on the Panther, and also lay the ground work for a rapid acceleration in terms of industrializing production in India, in case we are selected for the Naval Utility Helicopter programme," he added.

"We believe this manufacturing relationship will allow us to demonstrate the quality and competitiveness of Mahindra Aerostructures to Airbus Helicopters. We are already committed to become a trusted partner and supplier to the Airbus Group for airframe parts and assemblies. This contract with Airbus Helicopters signals our further commitment to work with them to develop a robust Indian ecosystem for both design and build capabilities in aerospace," said Arvind Mehra, Executive Director & CEO, Mahindra Aerospace.

As announced earlier, Airbus Helicopters and Mahindra Defence are in the process of forming a joint venture to target India's military helicopter programmes such as the Naval Utility Helicopter, the Naval Multi-Role Helicopter and the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Helicopter. The AS565 MBe Panther is competing for the Naval Utility Helicopter

programme. In case the Indian Government selects the Panther, Airbus Helicopters will establish India as a global hub for Panther production in partnership with Mahindra Defence. Airbus Helicopters' Panther is an all-weather, multi-role light rotorcraft, designed for operation from ship decks, offshore locations and land-based sites. It is made for a multitude of naval warfare and coast guard missions such as maritime surveillance, search and rescue, casualty evacuation, EEZ Surveillance & control counter-terrorism and Anti Surface / Antisubmarine warfare. Some 250 Panther are operated in more than 20 countries by military customers, including 100 in service with the US Coast Guard. Recently, Panther has won contracts in Indonesia and Mexico. With an unmatched state of the art 4-axis digital autopilot, high temperature performance, capability to carry 2 x torpedoes / depth charges and long range radar, the combat proven AS565 MBe Panther is the perfect candidate for the Indian Navy's Naval Utility Helicopter programme.

About Mahindra Aerospace & Defence

Mahindra Aerospace has led the Mahindra Group's foray into utility aircraft and aerostructure manufacturing since 2008. Its utility aircraft business, based in Australia, currently produces the Airvan 8, the most capable, rugged and versatile utility aircraft in its class. Certified in more than 30 countries, over 220 are in service. Mahindra Aerospace is also developing a next-gen 10-seat turboprop, the Airvan 10. In the Aerostructures domain, Mahindra Aerospace operates a 250,000 sq ft (25,000 sq. m.) facility in Bengaluru that provides comprehensive capabilities to produce sheet metal parts, surface treatment and assemblies. Approved to AS9100C standards, the facility holds all relevant NADCAP certifications as well as numerous OEM and Tier 1 approvals. Inaugurated in 2013, the plant currently exports parts, components & sub-assemblies for global aircraft platforms.

Mahindra Defence has companies engaged in catering to needs of all three wings of Defence forces –Army, Airforce and Navy. Our product range includes armoured vehicles, underwater warfare equipment, radars and surveillance equipment's etc. Through our Land Systems units in India and UAE we have been supplying customized armoured vehicles to the Indian Army and Para Military Forces and overseas customers. Naval Systems unit based in Pune has been supplying Sea Mines, Decoy launcher & Torpedo launchers, large composite structures for defence applications to the Indian Navy. We are also engaged in Defence Electronics through our Telephonics JV.

www.mahindra.com

About Airbus Helicopters

Airbus Helicopters, a division of Airbus Group, provides the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions worldwide. Its in-service fleet includes nearly 12,000 helicopters operated by more than 3,000 customers in 154 countries. Airbus Helicopters employs more than 22,000 people worldwide and in 2015 generated revenues of 6.8 billion euros. www.airbushelicopters.com

Source: Epicos, Airbus Helicopters

Elbit Systems to Supply Uruguay with a "Safe District" Project under a Contract of Approximately \$19 Million

Elbit Systems Ltd. announced today it was awarded an approximately \$19 million contract from the Maldonado District Administration in Uruguay, to provide a Safe District project. The project will span across six municipal authorities, including the well-known Punta Del Este tourist resort, over a total of 2000 km². The contract will be performed by the Elbit Systems' subsidiary, Elbit Security Systems Ltd. (ELSEC), over a two-year period.

The Safe District project will include more than 1000 cameras and sensors, including vehicle traffic control, laid out at strategic standpoints. The collected information will be transferred to a control center, which will include C2 (command and control) systems with unique analytics capabilities. The sensors and cameras infrastructure will allow the operators of the control room to obtain real-time data from the field and alert law enforcement officials, including logistics and emergency personnel, in conjunction with the nature of the event.

"We are proud to have won this Safe District contract, demonstrating our ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) and HLS (Homeland Security) capabilities. I hope that more customers, with similar needs will follow the Maldonado District and will choose our unique operational solution as the means to maintain the security of both tourists and residents" commented Elad Aharonson, Elbit Systems ISTAR Division's General Manager.

About Elbit Systems

Elbit Systems Ltd. is an international high technology company engaged in a wide range of defense, homeland security and commercial programs throughout the world. The Company, which includes Elbit Systems and its subsidiaries, operates in the areas of aerospace, land and naval systems, command, control, communications, computers, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance ("C4ISR"), unmanned aircraft systems, advanced electro-optics, electro-optic space systems, EW suites, signal intelligence systems, data links and communications systems, radios and cyber-based systems. The Company also focuses on the upgrading of existing platforms, developing new technologies for defense, homeland security and commercial applications and providing a range of support services, including training and simulation systems.

For additional information, visit: <u>www.elbitsystems.com</u>

Source: Epicos, Elbit Systems Ltd.

10 year arrangement to support Royal Air Force Typhoon fleet

BAE Systems has welcomed a 10 year partnership arrangement, expected to be worth £2.1bn, with the Ministry of Defence (MOD) to support the UK Typhoon fleet.

Working in partnership with the Royal Air Force (RAF) and Leonardo-Finmeccanica, the arrangement will introduce new ways of working to further reduce the costs of operating the fleet at RAF Coningsby and RAF Lossiemouth by more than a third. The deal could see more than £500m of savings reinvested to develop new capabilities for the aircraft.

For the first time in the support of the UK Typhoon fleet, the formal Typhoon Total Availability eNnterprise (TyTAN) agreement, which is expected to be signed shortly, will combine contracts with suppliers from across Europe into a single programme. It will include a joint avionics solution with Leonardo-Finmeccanica. This builds on the former Typhoon Availability Support contract that we delivered to the RAF over the last seven years.

Minister for Defence Procurement, Philip Dunne MP, said: "This will be an exciting, innovative support arrangement for our Typhoon aircraft, and will help ensure Typhoon continues to meet the RAF's future operational requirements, including replacing our Tornado jets from 2019.

"It represents a substantial change in the way support is provided, optimising and driving efficiency through improved ways of working."

Chris Boardman, Managing Director of Military Air & Information, said: "Combining support arrangements into one programme will help to increase reliability and availability of the fleet, whilst making it cheaper to support. The efficiency savings generated will enable new capabilities to be developed for the RAF Typhoon aircraft.

"We've worked with partners across our supply chain to drive improvements ensuring that we deliver the lowest possible costs to the MOD. We are extremely pleased that the agreement will extend our close working relationship with the MOD and will enable us to continue to support the Typhoon fleet until 2026 as it continues to perform its vital role in safeguarding our nation at home and overseas."

For Further Information <u>Click Here</u>

Source: Epicos, BAE Systems

Porter Airlines Signs for Three More Bombardier Q400 Turboprops

Bombardier Commercial Aircraft and Porter Airlines Inc. of Toronto announced today that they have signed a firm purchase agreement for three Bombardier Q400 turboprop airliners.

Based on the list price of the Q400 aircraft, the firm order is valued at approximately \$US 93 million.

The three aircraft on firm order will increase Porter's Q400 aircraft fleet to 29 aircraft. Porter exclusively flies Q400 airliners. The first two deliveries are scheduled for December 2016.

"The Toronto-built Bombardier Q400 aircraft is everything you could ask for in a turboprop," said Robert Deluce, President and Chief Executive Officer of Porter Airlines. "It is an important component of our award-winning customer experience. The combination of operating efficiency, speed, very low noise levels inside and out, and excellent passenger appeal are unbeatable."

Porter's home base at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is known as one of the world's best urban airports. It is located within three kilometers of the central business and entertainment districts. Approximately 2.5 million passengers used the airport in 2015.

"Porter Airlines and the Q400 aircraft are providing access to a very convenient airport close to downtown Toronto, akin to that of London City Airport in the U.K., and the growth in passenger traffic reflects that," said Fred Cromer, President, Bombardier Commercial Aircraft. "The aircraft's low noise levels on take-off and approach make it a good-neighbor aircraft for the downtown, while its operating economics make it a very valuable asset for an airline."

About the Q400 Aircraft

Designed as a modern, 21st-century turboprop, the Q400 aircraft is the most recent development in the Q Series family of aircraft. It provides unmatched performance, operational flexibility and passenger comfort. In addition to the standard single-class configuration, Q400 aircraft are available with an optional dual-class interior for enhanced passenger comfort; in an optional extra-capacity configuration offering up to 90 seats for higher-density markets; and in a cargo-passenger combi configuration.

Thanks to its combination of turboprop attributes, jet-like features, industry-leading passenger experience and environmental footprint, the Q400 aircraft is exceptionally versatile and can be adapted to a variety of business models. By offering a 30 per cent reduction in fuel burn over the jets it often replaces, the Q400 aircraft radically reduces carbon emissions and increases cost efficiency. Its high-speed cruise -- 160 km/h faster than conventional turboprops -- places the aircraft's flight time within minutes of jet schedules, at the same seat cost as larger single-aisle jets. Its large propellers operate at a lower RPM, generating more power with less noise and making it a friendly option for city centres.

The Q400 aircraft family includes over 60 owners and operators in almost 40 countries. The worldwide fleet has logged more than 6.9 million flight hours and has transported more than 429 million passengers. Long recognized as a high-value asset by operators, the Q400 aircraft is now also attracting growing interest from the leasing community.

Bombardier has recorded firm orders for a total of 562 Q400 aircraft.

About Porter Airlines

Porter Airlines has revolutionized short-haul flying with a warm and effortless approach to hospitality, restoring glamour and refinement to air travel. Porter is an Official 4 Star Airline[®] in the World Airline Star Rating[®] and also rated as Best Regional Airline in North America by Skytrax.

The airline currently offers flights to 23 North American destinations.

Visit <u>www.flyporter.com</u> for more information.

For Further Information Click Here

Source: Epicos, Bombardier