

IN BRIEF

HALL HIGHLIGHTS

Atlantech highlights backlights

Atlantech specialises in high-visibility LCD screens for cockpit applications. On its stand (Hall 4, C11n) the Massachusetts-based company is emphasising the technologies used to backlight its screens, ensuring the image is bright enough to compete with direct sunlight while providing enough contrast to make it visible in a wide range of lighting conditions. Atlantech uses two backlight technologies: the tested, more economical fluorescent lamp, and new-technology, longer-lasting LED-based systems.

Hartwell locks up A380 nacelle deal

Hartwell (Hall 4, G14) has signed a deal with Aircelle to design and build a fully remote engine nacelle latching system for the Airbus A380 nacelles. US-based Hartwell, a subsidiary of McKechnie Aerospace Structures Group, is currently awaiting certification/qualification and will deliver its first production units later this year. The self-supporting tie rod/pin latch assembly ensures the latch will always return to the position required to re-latch the nacelle for flight.

CMC delivers HeliHawk displays

CMC Electronics (Hall 4, C16a) has completed deliveries of its HeliHawk overhead head-up displays (HUD) and mission computers for AgustaWestland's Super Lynx 300. The HeliHawk HUD, combined with operational flight programmes and open-architecture mission computer, is a complete navigation and weapons delivery system based on the CMC SparrowHawk HUD for fixed-wing aircraft.

First military win for Honeywell ISS

Honeywell (Hall 1, A9) has been selected to provide its Integrated Surveillance System (ISS) for the Airbus A400M military transport, the first time this type of technology has been fitted to a military aircraft. The ISS incorporates the functions of the Honeywell Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) with ADS-B, terrain awareness and warning (TAWS) and RDR-4000M weather radar in one unit.

Thales and EMS Satcom in line for mobile millions

EMS Satcom (Hall 4, Canadian Pavilion) says deliveries of equipment to support the OnAir passenger mobile voice/data and Internet service on Airbus narrowbodies will be worth at least \$30 million over the next five years.

EMS and Thales Avionics were selected last year to supply respectively the intermediate-gain antenna and the Inmarsat terminal that will support the air-to-ground link under-

lying Airbus/SITA joint venture OnAir's service on Airbus narrowbody aircraft from next year.

The EMS AMT-3500 antenna and the Thales TopFlight compact Inmarsat SwiftBroadband terminal will allow passengers' mobile phones to communicate safely with ground networks via a miniature 'picocell' base station on the aircraft. The arrangement is due to undergo commercial trials with Air France,

BMI and TAP Portugal from the beginning of next year.

The OnAir system includes features to enable the cabin crew to control the level of service offered to passengers. During designated quiet periods, for instance, the system can be switched to data-only operation to avoid nuisance to other passengers.

"We will be retrofitting equipment in Airbus and Boeing aircraft from early next year," says OnAir chief

executive George Cooper, "and we're looking forward to the launch of the service on Air France, TAP and BMI."

Thales' TopFlight satellite terminal will offer up to two simultaneous channels of Inmarsat 432kbit/sec SwiftBroadband from the middle of next year. Weighing 10kg (22lb) and housed in a single 6MCU enclosure, it is claimed to be the smallest Inmarsat terminal with this level of performance.

Indulge in the healing touch

If the stresses and strains of airshow business leave you shattered, the healing hands of ExpoTherapy's masseurs can provide instant relief and leave you ready for business.

The Wimbledon, England company has a team of 12 trained masseurs who specialise in short acupuncture, touchpro therapy and Indian head massage at trade shows.

A 10min session costs £10 (\$18), but they can also be hired to spend the day at your chalet or stand for £300. Manager Karen McCloskey says: "A massage can relax, stimulate and actually revitalise the mind and body of your clients or visitors. The idea is to pamper your clients and stand personnel with the ultimate show giveaway."



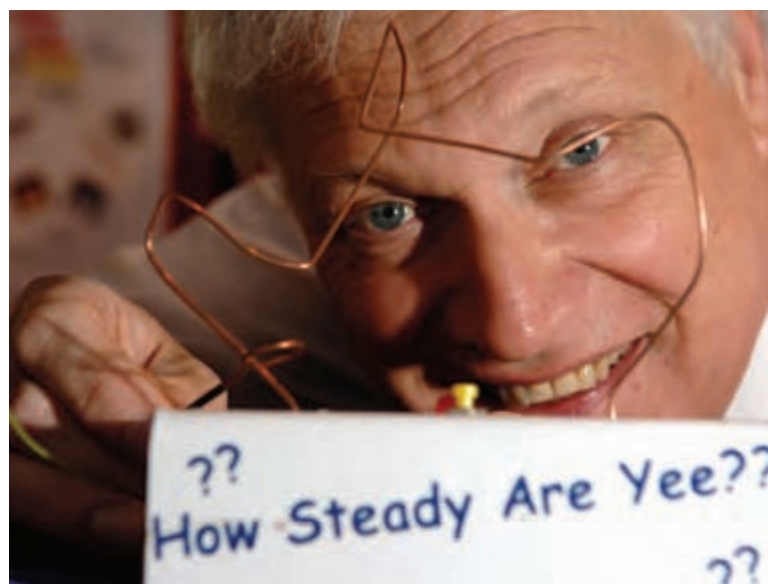
And...relax. ExpoTherapy masseuse Dorothy Ola eases some aching shoulders in the halls.

Industry backs young designers

From an award-winning land board to the hippest fashion, the work of talented young designers from the Farnborough area is on show at E18 in Hall 1. The stand is hosted by First Partnership, which promotes links between business and schools.

Aerospace industry support has come from BAE Systems hosting challenges for young people, and SBAC sponsoring this year's stand.

Partnership manager Roger Buck said: "We are trying to encourage business to work with education to promote design and encourage young people to pursue their interest through school and into their working lives."



Steady as she goes...Roger Buck tries his hand at the First Partnership stand.

UAVs present RCV with a new business opportunity

A small British company with its roots in the model aircraft engine market is exhibiting its prototype multi-fuel, compact and high power-to-weight ratio UAV engine at Farnborough (Hall 4, E13).

Already in discussions with a number of potential aerospace customers, RCV is seeking additional partners interested in developing UAV power units.

Based on the company's patented rotating cylinder valve (RCV) engine technology, the new design unveiled at Farnborough has been developed specifically for UAV applications, concentrating on reliability, performance, light weight construction and compact

packaging. It can run happily on gasoline, methanol, diesel and JP8 fuels, while JP10 and Jet A are also thought to be feasible.

The two-cylinder engine has a horizontally-opposed 'boxer' configuration of up to 60cc, with higher capacities possible in radial configuration.

Prototype testing of the UAV concept has also demonstrated highly competitive performance, fuel consumption and cold-start capabilities on JP8 fuel.

RCV engine technology is already well proven in a wide range of applications. To date the company has sold some 10,000 engines of up to 20cc capacity for model aircraft applications.

New Canadian firm goes micro

Canada's newest aerospace company, Navionex (Hall 4, C16/B), is exhibiting at Farnborough for the first time. The Toronto-based firm will be exhibiting its line of Attitude Heading Reference Systems (AHRS).

"Navionex is a new Canadian corporation which was formed to acquire the assets and intellectual property of the Belgium firm B&A Avionics," says Conrad Zalai, president of Navionex. "Based on B&A's product line, we are designing, manufacturing and marketing Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems (MEMS)-based AHRS for aircraft, UAVs, marine - and land-based vehicles."

Navionex is exhibiting three fully functional AHRS Systems: the Pico, the Micro and the Go.

Kellstrom takes Ametek to all points east

Ametek Aerospace and Defence (Hall 4, B9) has selected Kellstrom Industries as exclusive distributor of its commercial airline aftermarket products to Asia and Oceania.

Ametek and Kellstrom Industries signed the agreement at the show on Tuesday, with the deal coming into effect on

1 August. "Ametek is committed to providing world class service and support to our global aftermarket customer base.

Extension

"Having Kellstrom serve our important aftermarket customers in these areas is a natural extension to the

extremely successful agreement we currently have with them," says Wes Hardin, senior VP and general manager of Ametek Aerospace."

Kellstrom has been distributing Ametek products since 1993. Current territories include Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America.



Kellstrom Industries president and CEO Dennis Zalupski, and Laura Dion, Ametek vice-president of global sales share the spotlight.

Thermal imaging demand hots up

FLIR Systems' multi-sensor thermal imaging systems have been selected in multiple programmes for maritime patrol, surveillance, rescue and attack roles.

Compañía Aeronáutica Española has selected the Star Safire III for installation on Spanish air force (SAF) P-3 Orion and Super Puma aircraft.

Installation of seven Star Safire III systems on the SAF's Super Pumas is part of an evolution to combat search and rescue (CSAR) deployment in Afghanistan, while the P-3 installations will upgrade three earlier generation Safire imagers.

The Star Safire IIIs will quadruple range and resolution compared to the legacy systems.

Photodetector

Elsewhere in Europe, the Star Safire QWIP has been selected by the Polish border guard and Dutch coast guard for its high-definition, multisensor capabilities with a long-wave Quantum Well Infrared Photodetector (QWIP).

Optimised for performance through dust, smoke, and other common battlefield obscuring agents, the QWIP will feature on the Dutch Dornier DO-228 aircraft in an anti-oil pollution monitoring programme, and the Polish Skytruck-Bryza fixed wing aircraft for maritime patrol and surveillance.

FLIR Systems (Hall 2, B14) has also completed a uniquely flexible installation design which will allow the Colombian air force (CAF) to install either its Star Safire III system or its Brite Star laser target designation system on Super Tucano aircraft.

FLIR chief executive Earl Lewis says: "FLIR is proud to be partners with the world's armed forces and federal law enforcement agencies. The broad scope of aircraft and missions is indicative of the quality, flexibility and capability of our products."

A brush with art for the aviation aficionado

Aviation artist David Bent has been invited by Farnborough organisers to exhibit a collection of his work, entitled The Art of Flight (Hall 3, D19a), at the show.

The work, on display in a temporary mini-gallery all week, features a selection of original paintings and limited edition prints ranging from modern stealth aircraft back through 20th Century classics.

Among his clients is the SBAC, which commissioned Bent to create a piece for the association's head office. "There has been a fantastic response at the show," says Bent's spokesperson. "People have told us that they find David's work very refreshing."



David Bent brushes up some of his artwork.

New LCD panel line for Boeing 737

Steve Nichols

Innovative Solutions & Support (IS&S) has sold its first cockpit flat panel upgrade for the Boeing 737 with an order from leasing company Jet Partners.

The deal, which covers 30 B737 classics and 30 options, is a breakthrough for IS&S. "We already supply retrofit systems for the 747, 757 and 767. It has rounded out our product line for Boeings," says IS&S president Roman Ptakowski. The system will replace 65 components with 10.

The 737 classic units cost around \$380,000 each, with IS&S aiming to keep downtime below one week. Delivery to Jet Partners will be in the fiscal year starting October, once supplemental type certificates (STC) have been received.

Retrofit

IS&S is also talking to Airbus and two potential customers about a retrofit system for the A300/A310.

The company (Hall 3, B17) offers flat panel display system upgrades on a variety of aircraft including Lear and Citation business jets, Pilatus PC-12,

Boeing B-747, B-767, McDonnell Douglas KDC-10 and Lockheed Martin C-130.

IS&S chief executive Geoffrey Hedrick says its display generator with independent processors offers low power (7W) consumption, realistic colours and triple redundancy.

Its controls have been made as simple and intuitive as possible and Flat Panel Displays (IFPD) are available in all sizes up to 20in (500mm).

IS&S was recently ranked No 24 in Fortune Small Business magazine's list of America's fastest-growing small public companies.



Metal guru Josh Phillips.

Plymouth wins 787 role for extrusions

Plymouth Extruded Shapes (Hall 2, B7) is celebrating a recent contract win to provide extruded titanium parts for the Boeing 787.

The US outfit, a subsidiary of Plymouth Tube, makes a range of titanium shapes by the extrusion process, which produces complex shapes in a single operation.

Uses for Plymouth's shapes include C-tracks, used for festooning cables, for the A380 and now the 787, and Sidewinder missile brackets.

As well as C-tracks for the 787, Plymouth will provide wing stiffeners and landing gear parts for the Boeing programme.

"This will be huge for our company," says Josh Phillips, aerospace inside sales co-ordinator, of the Boeing deal.

Exciting

"We were involved with the 777 from the beginning of the programme as well - it is always exciting to get in on something from the start. There's so much going on in the aerospace industry at the moment, it's a very exciting time."

Plymouth says advantages of its extrusion process include flexibility, low design costs and the elimination of waste material.

Honeywell engine passes Army test

Honeywell's HTS900-2 turboshaft helicopter engine has completed two tests supporting certification by the FAA. "The HTS900-2 turboshaft engine has a dual centrifugal compressor giving operators more power, lower turbine temperatures and improved fuel economy," says Nasos Karras, vice-president helicopters at Honeywell. "This configuration gives operators 50% more shaft horsepower, or around a 5% increase in sea-level standard day take-off power, while maintaining the same engine installation footprint as the HTS900-1."

Parker in new Singapore service centre JV

SIA Engineering (SIAEC) and Parker Aerospace (Hall 4, A16) have announced a \$12 million Singapore-based joint venture, Aerospace Component Engineering Services (ACE Services). The 3,000m² (32,000ft²) facility will be located at Loyang Aerospace Park, near Changi airport. It will specialise in the servicing of hydraulic pumps, flight control actuators, servo-control valves and thrust reverser actuators.

Filter supply contract renewed

Fareham-based Microfiltrex (Hall 4, E15/16) has signed a five-year deal worth around £3 million (\$5.5 million) to continue supplying a hydraulic filter assembly for the Airbus A320 family. Microfiltrex, a division of Porvair Filtration Group, has supplied Airbus for several years. The filter assembly protects the actuation system on the thrust reverser used on the A319/320/321.

Repeat Typhoon business for Thales

Thales UK (Hall 3, C5), together with EuroFirst partners Galileo Avionica (Outside OE2) of Italy and Technobit of Spain, has been awarded a contract to supply a further 200 PIRATE infra-red search and track and forward looking infra-red sensors for the second tranche of Eurofighter Typhoon.

It will also provide the optical and data subsystems for the electro-optical sensor.