

Speedi

Wings & Wheels

www.speedi.tv

April / May 2017

Issue No: 31

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Mammoth 162 Page Issue

News

Events

Features

Show Reports

Reviews



GATORNATIONALS



TICO AIR SHOW

THIS MONTH:

Gatornationals

Sun 'n Fun 2017

TICO Air Show

and Much More

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Online
Magazine

NASA Images of the Day

Hubble Homes In on a Hypergiant's Home

This beautiful Hubble image reveals a young super star cluster known as Westerlund 1, only 15,000 light-years away in our Milky Way neighborhood, yet home to one of the largest stars ever discovered.

Image credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA

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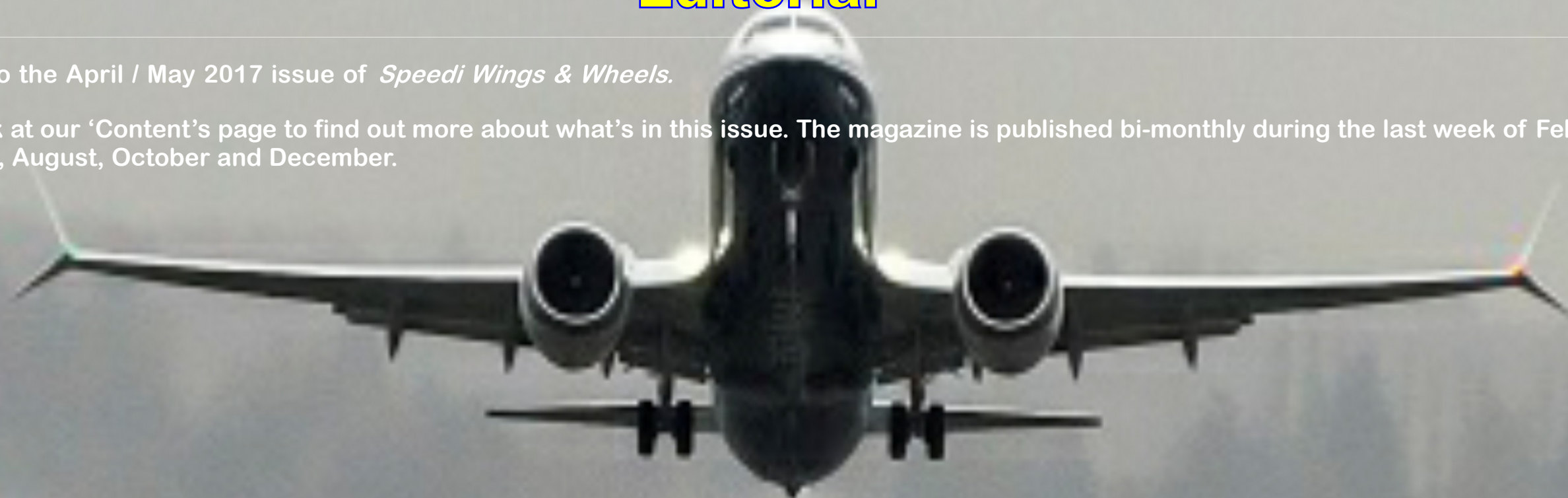
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Editorial Team: North America Editor – Steve Wood West Coast Contributor - Jim (Flybum) Pratt Canada - Jim Swan Cruisin' & Hot Rod's - Gary Rosier UK Team - The Gremlins at Kew

Editorial

Welcome to the April / May 2017 issue of *Speedi Wings & Wheels*.

Take a look at our 'Content's page to find out more about what's in this issue. The magazine is published bi-monthly during the last week of February, April, June, August, October and December.



In this issue we are featuring the annual Sun 'n Fun Air Show from Lakeland, Florida and the Gatornationals Drag Races - Plus much more . . .

Take a look at the next page - the magazine index - for more details

Blue Sky's and Safe Flying.

The Speedi Team

*Speedi Wings & Wheels is a wide screen format magazine
Best viewed in full screen single page HD mode*

Boeing 737 MAX 8 Earns FAA Certification

Boeing (NYSE: BA) announced today that the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has certified the 737 MAX 8 airplane for commercial service. The airplane is seen here taking off over Lake Washington.
(Credit:Matthew Thompson/Boeing)

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Speedi

Wings & Wheels

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Boeing Forms New Innovation Cell; Invests in Tech Companies Upskill, Zunum Aero

CHICAGO, April 5, 2017

Boeing HorizonX to uncover and accelerate emerging technologies, business models

Effort will pursue venture capital investments, expansion into new business areas, disruptive market solutions

The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] announced investments in two early-stage technology companies through the ventures arm of a new group called Boeing HorizonX, an innovation cell focused on accelerating potentially transformative aerospace technologies, manufacturing innovations and emerging business models.

Boeing HorizonX has made a venture investment in Washington, D.C.-based Upskill, a provider of enterprise software for augmented reality wearables focused on enhancing productivity, quality and safety in manufacturing, field service and logistics. Boeing has been working with Upskill for more than two years to evaluate the use of its technology across multiple locations nationally.

In addition, Boeing HorizonX is partnering with JetBlue Technology

Ventures to invest in Zunum Aero, a Kirkland, Wash.-based company that is pursuing the development of alternative propulsion aircraft, with potential for performance and efficiency improvements in a range of aerospace applications.

"Our ability to identify, shape and harness game-changing innovations wherever they are developed is key to sustaining and growing our leadership in aerospace," said Dennis Muilenburg, Boeing chairman, president and CEO.

"Boeing HorizonX is tasked with ensuring we are fully engaged with opportunities from early-stage



companies, market trends and emerging technologies while also fostering more rapid and effective internal innovation."

Boeing HorizonX is led by Steve Nordlund, who takes this role after serving as vice president of strategy for Boeing Defense, Space & Security. Prior to his strategy role, Nordlund led Boeing's Autonomous Systems division. He has led strategy and business development organizations in both defense and commercial airplane business units at Boeing and helped launch venture-backed Insitu, Inc., which developed the ScanEagle and

Integrator unmanned aerial systems. Boeing acquired Insitu in 2008.

Boeing HorizonX will operate as part of the Corporate Development & Strategy group, which reports to Greg Smith, chief financial officer and executive vice president of Corporate Development & Strategy at Boeing, with alignment also to Boeing's chief technology officer and senior vice president of Boeing Engineering, Test & Technology, Greg Hyslop.

In line with Boeing's plan for investing in future growth, Boeing HorizonX will have three focus

areas: making targeted investments in new ventures and startups; seeking unique business opportunities for the company's aerospace technology; and assessing disruptive innovations and business strategies.

"The Boeing HorizonX team will build on Boeing's advanced technology and depth of aerospace expertise in design, development and manufacturing while bringing in outside perspectives and leveraging the speed and agility of a wide range of companies and research organizations," Smith said. "As part of our company strategy to accelerate growth and productivity, we intend to be flexible and move quickly to identify technologies, business models and market opportunities that hold the promise of creating and delivering more value for our customers and other stakeholders."

Boeing Unveils Deep Space Concepts for Moon and Mars Exploration

Deep space gateway, transport critical to future human space activities

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Apr. 3, 2017

Boeing today unveiled concepts for the deep space gateway and transport systems that could help achieve NASA's goal of having robust human space exploration from the Moon to Mars.

NASA's Space Launch System, which Boeing is helping develop, would deliver the habitat to cislunar space near the Moon. Known as the Deep Space Gateway, the habitat could support critical research and help open opportunities for global government or commercial partnerships in deep space, including lunar missions. It would be powered by a Solar Electric Propulsion (SEP) system.

"The ability to simultaneously launch humans and cargo on SLS would allow us to assemble the gateway in four launches in the early 2020s," said Pete McGrath, director of global sales and marketing for Boeing's space exploration division.

The Deep Space Gateway could be the waypoint for Mars missions. Utilizing a docking system akin to what the International Space Station uses for commercial operations, it could host the Deep Space Transport vehicle, which would take humans to Mars. Once near



Mars, crews could deploy a lander for surface missions or conduct other scientific and robotic missions in orbit.

The transport vehicle would be equipped with a habitat specifically designed to protect passengers from deep space's harsh environment and its own robust SEP bus.

In fact, both of Boeing's concepts leverage proven solar electric propulsion technology and

hardware design from the 702 satellite family.

The gateway and transport systems are partially being developed as part of NASA's Next Space Technologies for Exploration Technologies (Next Step) program and an ongoing High Power SEP technology development effort within the NASA Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD).



The A350-1000 makes a big splash during water trough testing

12 April 2017

Performed this month at the Istres Air Force Base in southern France, the A350-1000 was purposely run along an inundated surface to demonstrate the robustness of the aircraft and to secure its maturity from entry-into-service.

For these tests, crewmembers progressively accelerated the aircraft through the standing water five times at speeds from 80 to 140 knots, with the A350-1000 performing as expected.

The trials were documented with video and photo coverage, as well as the first use of a camera-equipped drone to provide airborne views of the test runs.

As the latest member of Airbus' leading widebody family, the A350-1000 is scheduled to enter airline operation before year-end. In addition to having a longer fuselage accommodating 40 more passengers than the A350-900 version currently in service, the A350-1000 also features more powerful Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 engines, a modified wing trailing-edge and new six-wheel main landing gears.



The photo to the left shows Water trough testing for the stretched-fuselage A350-1000 version of Airbus' A350 XWB jetliner were carried out in southern France at the Istres Air Force Base.

Air Caraïbes has become the 11th worldwide customer to receive Airbus' A350 XWB, which is setting the standard in terms of aircraft operational efficiency and low fuel consumption. Handover of the no. 1 aircraft – an A350-900 version – to this Guadeloupe-based operator took place during a ceremony in Toulouse, France.

Passengers on Air Caraïbes' A350 XWBs will experience the industry reference for quiet comfort and superior in-flight entertainment in a three-class cabin.

The photo below, an overhead view, taken by a camera drone, captures one of the A350-1000's test runs through a purposely-inundated surface at France's Istres Air Force Base, performed to demonstrate the aircraft's robustness and secure its maturity from entry-into-service.

Airbus names finalists for "Fly Your Ideas 2017" student competition



Toulouse, 12th April – Airbus has shortlisted the five finalist student teams competing in the fifth edition of the Fly Your Ideas challenge. The radical concepts selected cover a wide range of innovations going from an alternative to satellite imagery, to improved aircraft taxiing, clever ways of boarding, new areas for luggage storage or offering a new business model using existing Airbus aircraft.

Representing nine different nationalities and eight universities across Africa, Europe and Asia-Pacific, the five finalist teams embody true diversity, which is a key driver of innovation and performance. The students, competing for a €30,000 prize, also demonstrate a wide variety of disciplines from Natural Sciences to Engineering and Business.

Their inventive ideas were selected from over 350 entries in Airbus' biennial global student competition, run in partnership with UNESCO.

Students' ideas had to answer one of five challenges identified by Airbus to provide sustainable future solutions. The innovations proposed by the five finalist teams look at alternative business models, passengers' experience and flight operations.

The ideas competing for the final prize are:

Airborne Earth Observation - Team SkyVision, University of Surrey, UK

A radical concept that turns a commercial airliner into an 'Earth Observation Device' by installing equipment into the belly of the aircraft to monitor ground activity during flight. An alternative to satellite imagery, it opens up new opportunities such as ecology analysis and urban planning.

Improving Airport Taxi Flow and Efficiency - Team Nevada, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

An airport taxiing system that uses sensors and algorithms for automated Ground Traffic Control, both in the tower and on the aircraft, to significantly improve aircraft traffic at airports and thus reduce emissions.

Compact Luggage Strategy Mobile App - Team PassEx, Institut d'Administration des Entreprises – IAE Toulouse, France

A revolutionary boarding system that uses a real-time mobile app to assign boarding status to passengers according to their luggage size. The

Compact Luggage Strategy (CLS) addresses current storage issues in over-head compartments by distributing passengers across the aircraft according to the size of their baggage.

Private Stowage Compartment - Team DAELead, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

A clever aircraft cabin design that locates a Private Stowage Compartment (PSC) underneath passengers' feet, utilizing the space between the cabin floor and the cargo ceiling.

A400M Aerial Firefighting Platform - Team Aquarius, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia

A fire-fighting solution that incorporates modular systems using pressurized fire retardant containers fixed to fast-loadable pallets for a network of Airbus A400M aircraft, to create a system of aerial firefighting platforms that can be used for rapid wildfire suppression.

The winning team will receive a €30,000 prize with the runner-up team receiving €15,000 at a live event taking place on 17th May in Toulouse.

Airbus launched Fly Your Ideas in 2008 with the aim of engaging with universities and students worldwide and from all backgrounds to: stimulate innovative ideas for a sustainable aviation industry and identify opportunities for R&T development and/or interaction with academic research teams. The challenge received UNESCO patronage in 2012 with a renewed partnership in 2014 and 2016.

SUN 'n FUN 2017



































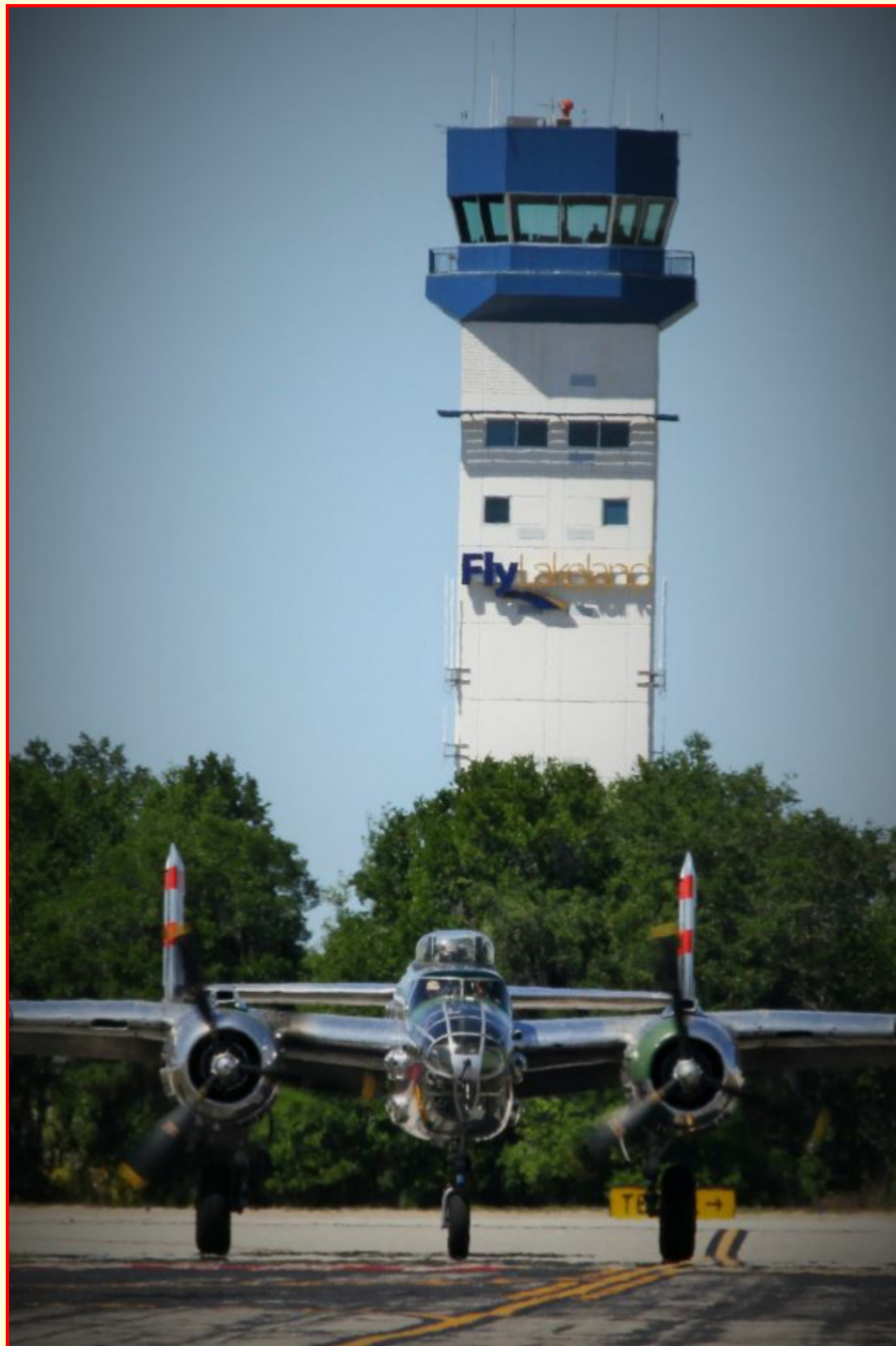
































Until Next Year . . .



SPEEDI'S BLOG

WELCOME TO SPEEDI'S Blog.

I've been formation flying for well over 15 years now and the number of accidents I have come across has been minimal - until the last 12 months.

At Spruce Creek Fly-in, where my aircraft is based there are many pilots who enjoy formation flying. With over 700 planes based at Spruce Creek there has been accidents over the years involving individual planes. Just the way it is with GA flying.

Many formation pilots at Spruce Creek have been trained to FAST (Formation and Safety Team) standards. The aim being to make formation flying as safe as possible.

Other groups of pilots around the US train to similar standards. Only by holding a 'FAST' card can a pilot fly formation

in waived airspace - an air show.

In October 2016 there was a single fatality involving a FAST training flight when 2 Yak airplanes, in a formation of 4, collided during a re-join. This was a most unusual and tragic situation.

Then on April 1, 2017 we had a double fatality involving Spruce Creek pilots when 2 planes collided during a straightforward formation flight out to breakfast. I was back in England when the accident took place and lost 2 good friends as a result.

Do these incidents put me off formation flying? The answer is a definitive NO.

What it did do was make me want to understand just how the accident happened as highly experienced and safe pilots were involved. I can only assume that there was an unforeseen problem with one

aircraft. But I do not wish to speculate on the cause, only to learn.

Personally, I always like to have an 'out' if an aircraft I am in close proximity has a problem.

Being the only aircraft in my flight to have smoke I usually fly at the back of a formation. So I see everything that goes on in front of me.



One of my pet 'themes' is pilots often fly too high when in trail behind another aircraft. What would happen if there was an engine failure in the aircraft directly ahead? In the photo above you can see I >>

>> have a significant amount of step down. Why? So if the aircraft in front suddenly lost power it would just slide back over the top of me in an instant, hopefully without making contact.



In the photo above is the #2 aircraft too high behind lead? I think so. The #3 aircraft looks well positioned.

Others in my flight also share my concerns that many formation pilots do not fly with enough step-down to minimize the collision potential if

something unforeseen suddenly happens. So much so that myself and another pilot shot a video of how quick an aircraft moves backwards when power is suddenly reduced. Imagine what would happen if there was a total engine failure!

The rearwards movement happens in an instant. Here's the link to the video - [click here](#)

But it is not just step down which is important. There should also be no wing overlap, again for the same safety reason. We certainly do all we can to fly safe and responsibly.

The photo below shows just what I mean.



Formation flying, with the right training, flight preparation and attitude

is no less safe that driving in 'formation' down a multi-lane highway.

Will the recent tragedy involving our formation pilots affect formation flying at Spruce Creek?

It already has as there has been a 'stand down' during the remainder of April of formation flying on a Friday evening at The Tree.

We will continue to encourage formation pilots to train to the highest of standards.

A planned formation by Spruce Creek Gaggle Flight members at Sun 'n Fun, due to take place 3 days after the accident was canceled.

What I hope will not change is the outreach which the Spruce Creek Gaggle Flight provides at community events in and around Daytona Beach. Missing Man flights are a prime example. Fly-pasts at Memorial and Veterans Day events are others.



N EWS FROM THE Barn is a regular feature about the happenings at the largest (and greatest) fly-in community in the world - Spruce Creek Fly-in. Situated on the Space Coast of Florida, just 7 miles south of the famous Speed City of Daytona Beach, Spruce Creek is a very special place. Our North America editor, Steve Wood, has lived there for since 2001, so he should know. We hope you enjoy this regular feature about a very special aviation community.

Spruce Creek Airport Information - Courtesy of the Spruce Creek POA Website - www.scpoa.com

The Spruce Creek Airport is the heart of the Spruce Creek Fly-In Community. The Airport is a private airport owned and operated by the Spruce Creek Property Owners Association (SCPOA). The Spruce Creek Airport Authority Committee through the SCPOA Board of Directors has the authority and the responsibility to oversee the operation of the Spruce Creek Airport. The SCPOA employs a full time, 24-7 security staff. The Airport runways, taxiways and aircraft parking areas are regularly patrolled and are under continuous video surveillance by the Security staff 24 hour a day.

All flying activities at the Spruce Creek Airport are regulated by the FAA and by the recommended procedures published in the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM). In addition, a limited number of local rules and procedures have been established to promote a safe and enjoyable airport. All resident, tenants and invitees are encouraged to cooperate and abide by these procedures.

SPRUCE CREEK AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE PACKAGE - The airport management provides information to assist all pilots operating in and out of the Spruce Creek Air, viewed or printed with Adobe Reader. [Download PDF](#)

AIRPORT SAFETY VIDEO – The airport management recommends that all Spruce Creek Fly-In residents and airport users view this very good airport safety video. Click [Here](#) Airport Info Quick List:

TEL 386/760-5884 or Airport Manager cell see below.

FAX 386/761-7808 AFTER 1700386/756-6125 (Security)

VORTAC OMN112.6 MHz 165°R/13.9 DME

VORTAC ORL 112.2 MHz 020°R/35.6 DME

FSS St. Petersburg122.2 MHz

APCH CNTRL Daytona Beach ...125.35 MHz (South) 125.8 MHz (North)

INSTR APCH (Rwy 05)GPS (Private, Residence Only)

CTAF..... 122.975 MHz (pilot actuated lights 3-5-7 clicks)

AWOS..... 121.725 MHz

FUEL 100LL & JET A (self serve and truck delivery)

FUEL 386 257-7791 (on field) or 129.7 MHz (forward request to Spruce Creek)

Airport Manager - Joe Friend: 386 872-1430



IN OUR 'News from the Barn' section we will be featuring news and photos from Spruce Creek Fly-in, the world's greatest aviation community. With over 1600 homes, and not all of them are hangar homes, and home to over 3000 people, there are over 650 airplanes based at Spruce Creek. But it's not all about aviation at Spruce Creek - there's golf, tennis, motorcycling and much more, as well as a Country Club and the Downwind restaurant right alongside Beech Boulevard - a major taxiway in the center of the airport. EAA Chapter 288 (Daytona Beech) meets at Keith

Phillip's hanger on the other major taxiway - Cessna Boulevard. Then there's the Gaggle Flight, which is quite something in its own right. Every Saturday morning (and sometimes on Wednesday too) members of the Gaggle Flight meet at The Big Tree which sits right in the middle of the airport. Upwards of 30 aircraft depart in flights of 3 or 4 (and sometimes more) flying out to breakfast. The arrivals back are usually spectacular, with overhead breaks the norm. Our North America editor, Steve Wood, is part of Goofy Flight - named after his GlaStar which has the

special registration N-600FY. Steve even has 'goofy' smoke on his airplane which can 'puff' or be continuous at whim. Everyone has great fun at Spruce Creek Fly-in which perhaps explains why there's a sign inside the main entrance which reads "Caution - Children And Adults At Play".



Sadly, on April 1, 2017 two Spruce Creek pilots *flew West* following a tragic accident.

Both were keen formation pilots and flew regularly with Lakes / Goofy Flight.

Anne Edmonson, a recently retired Delta Captain, was relatively new to Spruce Creek. She flew her Grumman Tiger with Lakes / Goofy Flight and with Tiger Flight.

Gary Somerton had lived at Spruce Creek for some time and was known as "Gimme one Gary" as he flew one of the slowest airplanes in Lakes / Goofy Flight. He had recently changed his Cessna C140 for a larger Cessna C170 and had started leading his own 'Classic' Flight.

In this issue's *New from the Barn* feature we have included some photos in memory of our dear friends who have, in the famous words of John Gillespie Magee, Jr., "*slipped the surly bonds of earth, and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings*"





Anne Edmonson flying formation in the #3 position in her Grumman Tiger



Another photo of Anne Edmonson flying formation in her Grumman Tiger



Gary Somerton leading Classic Flight in his Cessna C170



Gary Somerton, 2nd from the left, after having fun flying in Classic Flight

TICO Air Show 2017





















F-4J Phantom II
Native: United States

Model: F-4J
Length: 61 ft 10 in
Wingspan: 37 ft 10 in
Height: 14 ft 6 in
Weight: 15,000 lb
Max Speed: 2,300 mph
Range: 1,500 miles
Crew: 2
Engine: 2 x General Electric J79-1A-6

Notes: The F-4J was the last Phantom II built for the US Navy. It was the only Phantom II to have a single seat. The F-4J was built in 1968 and was the last Phantom II to be built.



























































NOSE ART & NUMBERS



In this regular Nose Art & Number feature we showcase our readers Nose Art and Special Registration Numbers. Just send in your pics, along with a bio (around 150 words) about your nose art or special registration to noseart@speedi.tv - and don't forget, spread the word.



Q BY ASTON MARTIN: VANQUISH S RED ARROWS EDITION

* Limited edition Vanquish S takes inspiration from the Royal Air Force's Red Arrows

* The third Q by Aston Martin – Commission by Aston Martin Cambridge

* Tenth car will be gifted to the RAF Benevolent Fund

09 April 2017, Gaydon: Spectacular British aviation skills are the inspiration for Aston Martin's latest Q by Aston Martin creation; the Vanquish S Red Arrows edition.

Just ten examples of the Red Arrows inspired cars are being commissioned by Aston Martin Cambridge, each with special design features, hand-crafted interiors and graphic elements that draw on the visual language of aviation, as well as the skill and agility of the RAF's globally acclaimed official aerobatic unit, the Red Arrows.

Founded in 1965, the Red Arrows quickly achieved a reputation for incredible precision and awesome spectacle. Beginning with the Folland Gnat trainer before adopting the iconic BAE Systems Hawk in 1980, the team continues to demonstrate the very best in piloting prowess. The nine pilots of the Red Arrows represent a true team effort, transforming the razor-sharp reactions of fast-jet flying into spectacular displays that have thrilled crowds the world over, from the Goodwood Festival of Speed to



important state occasions in the UK and abroad.

The Q by Aston Martin Vanquish S Red Arrows edition is finished in striking Eclat Red, mirroring the instantly familiar livery of the Hawks and referencing the word 'Eclat,' the Red Arrows' motto. A host of subtle details enhance the bodywork and interior, from white and blue carbon livery detailing to the white 'smoke trail' feature on the side strake. An exposed carbon fibre roof panel includes an inlaid 'charge' pattern mimicking the canopy design of a fast jet, while Union Jack enamel wing badges and a titanium exhaust complete the exterior package.

Inside, Red Arrows and RAF inspired details are used throughout, such as the Pinewood green inserts that evoke the design of the classic flight suit and Martin Baker Ejection Seat fabric, together with the green webbing seatbelts. The signature Red Arrows emblem of nine aircraft in classic 'diamond' formation is embroidered on the seat backs, along with unique sill and engine

inspection plaques. The latter will be signed, 1 through 10, by the equivalent number 'Red' pilot in the squadron. The Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team logo is embroidered on the transmission tunnel, and the rear of the cabin is finished in the 2+0 configuration, allowing for rear-mounted stowage of twin racing helmets, both finished in the Red Arrows livery.

The One-77-derived steering wheel is paired with a bespoke centre rotary toggle switch inspired by aviation instrumentation and switchgear, including black/yellow hatched design patterning on seat fold and door pulls. The door cards are embroidered with a graphic of the iconic 'Vixen Break,' a spectacular high-G 9-aircraft formation.

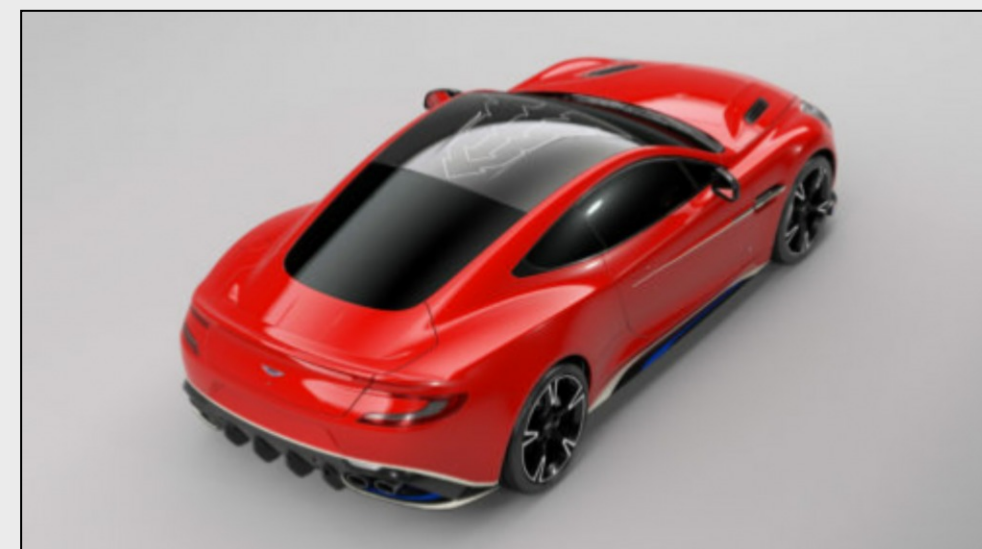
The Vanquish S is a high-performance masterpiece, a fitting culmination to this iconic model's production run. One of the most agile road-going Aston Martins ever built, it delivers muscular performance with a finely grained analogue connection between driver and road. Just as the BAE Systems >

> Hawk communicates every facet of the flying experience to its pilot, the Vanquish S provides a truly visceral drive, making it a perfect match for the spectacularly aerobatic Hawk.

Each Q by Aston Martin Vanquish S Red Arrows owner will receive truly bespoke accessories that could include racing helmets, racing suits, bespoke embroidered bomber jackets and a Vanquish S bespoke luggage set, together with a highly-detailed die-cast 1:18 model of their car and the Hawk aircraft. A specially designed car cover and Build Book will also be issued. Fittingly, nine Vanquish S models mirrors the nine-aircraft formation made famous by the Red Arrows. The tenth car is being gifted to the RAF Benevolent Fund, the charity established to provide support to former servicemen and women and their families.

The Q by Aston Martin Vanquish S Red Arrows edition is the ultimate showcase of how tailor-made design and detailing can shape a truly special automobile. Developed by the designers and craftspeople at Q by Aston Martin – Commission, the Red Arrows car marks another signature collaboration between Q by Aston Martin and its global dealership network, illustrating how special features and design elements can create authentic, intriguing and highly desirable limited run cars that appeal directly to their customers.

The limited edition is the third Q by Aston Martin – Commission from Aston



Martin Cambridge, following on from the success of last year's V12 Vantage S Spitfire 80 Edition, marking 80 years of the Supermarine Spitfire's first flight, and the earlier Vantage S Blades

Edition, developed in collaboration with the Blades Aerobatic Display Team.

The Q by Aston Martin Vanquish S Red Arrows edition was announced at the handover of the former RAF St Athan facility in South Wales, soon to become Aston Martin's second manufacturing site in the UK. Strictly limited to just nine customer cars, Reds 1 through 9 are available to purchase through Aston Martin Cambridge.



BENTLEY DEFINES THE LUXURY ELECTRIC VEHICLE AT 2017 AUTO SHANGHAI

* Effortless, exclusive and exhilarating – Bentley EXP12 Speed 6e concept brings luxury ownership experience to EV sector

* Luxury customer demands met by Bentley levels of craftsmanship and refinement, with electric performance and grand touring capabilities

* Bentley's vision includes rapid inductive charging and connected on-board concierge services

* EXP 12 Speed 6e concept to gauge public opinion and customer feedback to shape Bentley's future luxury strategy

* Bentley's personal commissioning division introduces the Bentayga Mulliner – the ultimate luxury SUV

* Limited Edition Mulsanne Hallmark Series by Mulliner also makes China debut

* Flagship Flying Spur W12 S makes Asian motor show debut One-off Continental GT Speed Black Edition for China also on stand



(Shanghai, 19 April 2017) Bentley's EXP 12 Speed 6e makes its debut in China today at the 2017 Auto Shanghai. The concept showcases the British brand's ambition to define the electric luxury segment and will allow Bentley to gauge public opinion and customer feedback to help shape its future luxury strategy.

Wolfgang Dürheimer, chairman and chief executive of Bentley Motors, said: "The EXP 12 Speed 6e is a concept to show that Bentley is defining electric motoring in the luxury sector, with the appropriate technology, high quality materials and refinement levels you'd expect from a true Bentley.

"Bentley is fully committed to China – it is a vital market for us. We are focusing on developing an electric model in the future which will meet the luxury mobility needs of customers here and right around the world," Dürheimer added.

The Luxury of Electric: Effortless, Exclusive and Exhilarating

An all-electric Bentley will not compromise the quality, refinement and high performance levels expected of the luxury brand. These renowned Bentley characteristics such as immediate, effortless surge of torque and grand touring range will be combined with new high performance technology such as rapid inductive charging and state-of-the-art on board concierge-style services for an effortless ownership experience.

Bentley's vision is for customers to benefit from high-speed inductive charging and provide a range sufficient for grand touring requirements. An electric Bentley would, for example, be able to drive between London and Paris or Milan and Monaco on a single charge and the on board experience will be enhanced for both driver and passenger thanks to the integration of state-of-the-art technology. >

> A fusion of cutting-edge technology and beautiful materials is evident right throughout EXP 12 Speed 6e's luxuriously appointed cabin, ensuring that the brand's use of technology is not cold or emotionless. The entire central console, for example, is hewn from a solid piece of elegantly curved glass encompassing a high - definition OLED screen. All of the car's principle onboard controls are accessible from here, including navigation, entertainment and climate control.

Handmade, cut-glass sections on the steering wheel contain the controls for media, communications, navigation and car set-up. There are also two buttons featured at the top of the cut-away steering wheel, one offering an instant performance boost and the other the ability to limit speed, in urban areas for example.

The passenger, meanwhile, has their own control panel on the front fascia with access to social media, email and entertainment.

Exquisite copper elements around the gear selector, Bentley Dynamic Drive dial and in the door veneer panels are integrated into the cabin to highlight the electric performance potential of the concept's advanced new powertrain.

The car's intelligent infotainment system is the central brain to access many real world services using connected-car Apps.

Designing the Future of Luxury

On the outside, the iconic Bentley mesh grille features a complex 3D geometry and smoked finish with copper highlights that identify the Bentley EXP 12 Speed 6e as a fully electric vehicle. When the car is running the '6e' logo illuminates in a striking, vibrant white.

The exterior design is an expression

through the use of a short front overhang, long bonnet, low grille and wide rear, the exterior styling hints at the high-performance potential of the car.

The twin bonnet scoops act as highly effective heat sinks that supply additional cooling to the battery and powertrain.

The wing mirrors – which are cameras rather than traditional reflective glass – are exceptionally sleek and were inspired by the sculptural form of stealth aircraft fuselages.



When rapid inductive charging is not available, EXP 12 Speed 6e can be connected to a mains AC power supply via the auxiliary charging point, subtly concealed behind the rear number plate.

A Commitment to an Electric Future

Bentley believes that the concept will open discussions with

luxury car buyers of the future – millennials, members of Generation C and the rising affluent in developing economies - to understand the desired expectations from a future electric luxury car ownership experience.

The luxury brand's electric car strategy includes the introduction of PHEV models across the Bentley model range over the next few years, starting with the Bentayga in 2018.



FORD EXTENDS SHELBY GT350 AND GT350R MUSTANG AVAILABILITY TO 2018 MODEL YEAR

* 2017 Shelby® GT350 and GT350R Mustang – the most track-ready, street legal Mustang ever produced – to continue as 2018 model year offerings

* 2018 models available in three new exterior color choices – Orange Fury, Kona Blue and Lead Foot Gray

* Iconic pony car to continue featuring powerful 5.2-liter V8 engine that produces 526 horsepower

DEARBORN, Mich., April 17, 2017 – In honor of National Mustang Day, Ford announces that the most track-capable, street legal Mustang ever built is back for another lap.

Ford Motor Company announces Shelby® GT350 and Shelby GT350R Mustang will continue for 2018, available in showrooms this fall. The new models will be unchanged from the 2017 versions, with the exception of three new exterior color choices, Orange Fury, Kona Blue and Lead Foot Gray.

Standard equipment carrying over to the 2018 Shelby GT350 and GT350R Mustang includes the incredible 5.2-liter V8 FPC engine which produces 526 horsepower and 429 lb.-ft. of torque, as well as

engine oil, transmission and differential coolers to keep the car properly cooled while on the track. In addition, a no-compromise braking system with vented 15.5-inch two-piece front rotors and six-piston Brembo® calipers along with the MagneRide™ damping system round out the standard equipment to produce the most balanced Mustang ever.

An available Electronics Package for both models includes SYNC® 3, voice-activated navigation and nine-speaker audio system. An available Convenience Package for GT350 models replaces Recaro® manual seats with six-way power, heated and cooled sport seats with Miko® suede inserts for both driver and passenger.



JAGUAR LAND ROVER BEATS 600,000 SALES BARRIER IN 2016/17

7 April 2017:

Jaguar Land Rover, the UK's largest manufacturer of premium luxury vehicles, today reported record retail sales of 604,009 vehicles (including sales from our China joint venture) in the financial year, up 16% compared to last year, exceeding 600,000 for the first time in the company's history. Retail sales for the Fourth Quarter were 179,509 vehicles, up 13% on the same quarter a year ago, and March sales reached 90,838 units, up 21% on March 2016.

Retail sales for the full financial year were up year-on-year in China (32%), North America (24%), the

UK (16%) and Europe (13%), whilst sales in other Overseas markets were down 6%. For the month of March, retail sales were up in Europe (21%), North America (21%), China (21%) and Overseas markets (6%) compared to March 2016. In the UK, March sales were up 26.5% to a record 31,778 vehicles.

Andy Goss, Jaguar Land Rover Group Sales Operations Director said: *"These numbers set the seal on Jaguar Land Rover's seventh successive year of sales growth, by breaking through the 600,000 barrier. We continue to make encouraging gains in key markets such as China and North America, as well as seeing sustained customer demand for the Jaguar F-PACE, Range Rover Evoque and Land Rover Discovery Sport."*

"The last 12 months have seen the

launch of three completely new product lines, and successful growth across many of our existing products. Jaguar sales are still increasing strongly and Jaguar is now Europe's fastest-growing car brand."

Retail sales for Jaguar were a record 172,848 vehicles in the financial year, up 83% compared to the prior year primarily driven by the successful

introduction of the F-PACE and solid sales of the XE and XF. Jaguar retails in the Fourth Quarter were 53,972 vehicles, up 81% on the same quarter last year, and 27,820 units in the month of March, up 83% compared to March 2016.

Land Rover retailed 431,161 vehicles this financial year, up 1% compared to last year, as continuing strong sales of the Discovery Sport, Evoque and Range Rover Sport were offset by the run-out of Defender and Discovery. Retail sales for Land Rover for the Fourth Quarter were 125,537 units, down 3% on quarter four last year, and retails in March were 63,018 vehicles, up 5% compared to March 2016.

Last month Land Rover launched the Velar, a new addition to the Range Rover family, positioned between Evoque and Range Rover Sport.

GONE CRUISIN'

Gary's Hot Rods & Cruisers



Welcome to Gone Cruisin', our regular feature on the cruisin' scene brought to you by Gary Rosier. Primarily from in and around Central Florida, but we'll be including interesting events around the USA. More pics from Gary at <http://www.carsplaneslandscapes.com/>























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