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Lufthansa Technik sets up Completion Center at Bizjet in the USA

Hamburg (ots) -

- More capacity for A318 Elites
- Customer demand continues to rise

Lufthansa Technik is increasing its capacity for customized completions of VIP and business aircraft by setting up a single-aisle completion line at its American subsidiary Bizjet in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The new facility will begin outfitting Airbus A318 Elites with individually customized cabins from 2009 onwards. Later it will also provide extra capacity for other aircraft, the company announced on October 5 at the world's largest business aviation convention, NBAA 2008, in Orlando.

The demand for VIP and executive jet completions is so strong that the Completion Center in Hamburg cannot handle all orders on its own. The present need to expand production capacities in this area is due, in particular, to the market success of the Airbus A318 Elite program, in which Lufthansa Technik is Airbus' contracted completion partner.

So far, Lufthansa Technik has delivered three A318 Elites, and it is currently working on four more aircraft of this type in Hamburg. In May 2009, completion will begin on the first A318 Elite in Tulsa, where three single-aisle completion lines will be ready for use by 2011.

"Involving our experienced and renowned provider of technical services for VIP and business aircraft in the USA will enable us to continue offering the completion capacity demanded by the market", said August Wilhelm Henningsen, Chairman of the Executive Board of Lufthansa Technik AG, in Orlando. "Our single-aisle completion lines in Hamburg are already fully booked until 2012, but customer demand is still growing."

Bizjet in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been part of the Lufthansa Technik Group since 2000 and offers the complete spectrum of MRO services for VIP and business aircraft, plus comprehensive FBO (fixed base operator) services. Although Bizjet has so far concentrated on the Gulfstream, Falcon and Lear Jet models, it has a 32,000-m2 hangar capacity with all the necessary workshops for servicing and outfitting such aircraft as the Airbus Corporate Jetliner (ACJ) Family.

This year, Bizjet has already processed and delivered two Boeing Business Jets for a private and a government customer respectively. In addition to maintenance work, the aircraft underwent major cabin conversions, or modifications, and received a complete makeover of their cabin entertainment systems. A third aircraft will be delivered by the end of the year, likewise with a fully refurbished cabin.

The new completion site for medium to large business aircraft will help Lufthansa Technik to strengthen its leading position in the VIP and executive jet market. It will be able to use its capacities to the full, continue to optimize its cost structure, and cater more effectively for the individual needs of its customers from around the world, while maintaining its usual high quality standards.

Lufthansa Technik:

The Lufthansa Technik Group, with 30 production sites and more than 25,000 employees worldwide, is one of the leading manufacturer-independent providers of services for the aviation industry. In 2007, the Group's overall revenues stood at EUR 3.6 billion. Lufthansa Technik is licensed internationally as a repair, production and development enterprise. The Group's services encompass the entire spectrum of services in the areas of maintenance, repair, overhaul, modification and conversion, engines and components.

Pressekontakt:

Contact
Lufthansa Technik AG
Corporate Communications
Weg beim Jaeger 193
22335 Hamburg, Germany
Phone +49-40-5070-3667
Fax +49-40-5070-8534
press.pr@lht.dlh.de
www.lufthansa-technik.com/media

Corporate Headquarters:
Lufthansa Technik AG, Hamburg
Registration:
Amtsgericht Hamburg HRB 56865
Chairman of the Supervisory Board:
Stefan Lauer
Executive Board:

August Wilhelm Henningsen (Chairman)
Dr. Peter Jansen
Uwe Mukrasch
Dr. Thomas Stueger

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