

Round-up of Texas aerospace companies

AOG Aviation Services

Dallas-based AOG Aviation Services provides fuel system inspection, assessment and repair services for commercial and military customers. Services include component removal and reinstallations, pressure injections, positive/negative pressure tests, high pressure water sealant removal, base and line maintenance, structural repairs, and leak path analysis. The company was formed in 1985 and has satellite repair stations in Everett, Washington, and in Cardiff, UK.

Associated Air Center

Dallas-based Associated Air Center forms part of StandardAero's MRO network. Aside from line and base maintenance for Airbus, Boeing and McDonnell Douglas aircraft, including structural repairs, the company also provides interior modifications, VIP conversions, avionics installation and upgrades; IFE installations; as well as engineering and certification services.

Avatas Engine Support Services

Avatas is a full-service, FAA-approved engine repair station specialising on the Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A series. The Carrollton-based company claims to provide highly individualised engine repair services: "We invite the operator to participate in the overhaul process by presenting and explaining all of the vast options and alternatives available, taking into consideration their flight mission and financial requirements," says Joe Kolo, VP sales and marketing. "This allows the operator the means to make well-informed decisions."

Dallas Airmotive

Dallas Airmotive is the centre of BBA Aviation's global engine repair and overhaul (ERO) network, which provides OEM-authorized repair and overhaul services for turbine engines used in

business and general aviation, government, military, airline, and rotor wing aircraft applications. The Dallas facility is certified to service the following engines: General Electric CF34; Honeywell TFE731, ALF502, CFE738; Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A, PT6T, JT15D, PW100, PW300, PW500; Rolls-Royce Spey, Tay, Model 250; and Honeywell's GTCP 36 APU series.

M7 Aerospace

M7 Aerospace of San Antonio has five business units: supplying technical support and spare parts for Fairchild Metro and Merlin aircraft; MRO services to operators of business jets and regional aircraft, including cargo conversions for ATR aircraft; US government contract logistics support; aerospace engineering manufacturing for customers such as the FAA, EASA, Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman; and purchasing and supply chain management. M7 is located at the 426,000ft² (39,500m²) manufacturing and support facility formerly operated by Fairchild Dornier, which the company acquired in 2002.

San Antonio Aerospace

San Antonio Aerospace is an aircraft maintenance and modification centre, which forms part of the global MRO network of Singapore Technologies Aerospace (ST Aerospace). Its 560,000ft² (52,000m²) hangar facilities can accommodate six widebody and seven narrowbody aircraft simultaneously for a wide range of aircraft maintenance work, including D checks and structural maintenance and repairs. The operations are supported by an extensive inventory and 98,000ft² (9,100m²) of back shops for component MRO and aircraft fabrication services.



available space to 654,000ft² (60,760m²), and the opening of forward stocking facilities in Dubai, UAE, and New Delhi, India. Since August 2008, Aviall also signed global exclusive engine spare parts contracts with Pratt & Whitney (JT9D), Pratt & Whitney Canada (JT15D) and GE (CF34-3).

Flight Director

Austin-based Flight Director is a sales and leasing firm for complete engines and auxiliary power units (APUs) as well as a supplier for rotatable spares such as engines nacelles, landing gear, primary flight surfaces, avionics and line replaceable units (LRUs), for both the commercial and military arena. The company started as an avionics supplier in California in 1984, but relocated to Austin in 1991. An office on the West Coast (Irvine) was retained and another one opened in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in the meantime. Over the last 15 years, the firm has grown and, with the purchase of more than 30 commercial aircraft and 75 jet engines across both Boeing and Airbus product lines, broadened its scope to the entire aircraft. It also attained engine consignments and entered the leasing business for CF6-50, JT8D-2 and CFM56-3 series engines. Today, Flight Director stocks an aircraft inventory worth \$30m, and its 36 employees create an annual revenue of \$36m. The main customers are: Air New Zealand, American Airlines, CIT Aerospace, Engine Lease Finance Corporation (ELF), Lockheed Martin, KLM, DHL subsidiary European Air Transport in Brussels, and Raytheon Corporation.

Echoing TAESL's market assessment for older aircraft, Don Hanrahan, president of Flight Director, reckons that 737 Classic and MD-80 aircraft will continue to remain viable in the future given the worldwide credit issues involving new aircraft acquisitions. Nevertheless, he reports that the company has invested also in current generation aircraft such as the 737NG and A320.

Regarding the firm's geographical location, Hanrahan says: "Austin is a wonderful city that is home to the second largest university in the USA and dozens of high tech corporations such as AMD, Dell, Samsung and IBM. Austin has a solid economic base and is consistently ranked near the top of the list for 'best cities in the USA', which has helped both in the recruiting and retention of key personnel."

Chromalloy

Chromalloy Gas Turbine is the world's largest independent supplier of repairs, coatings, and PMA parts for turbine airfoils and other engine components for commercial airlines, the military and industrial turbine engine applications. This includes services and parts for General