Starspeed signs up for second AW169

Starspeed, which has its headquarters at Fairrorks airport in the UK, has signed a preliminary sales contract to obtain an additional AW169 helicopter after previously placing an order for the twin-engine helicopter in November.

"The AW169 is just the product to meet our demands," says chairman David Voy. "Corporate customers first and foremost look for speed and supreme levels of comfort; they need operations to be available at short notice, potentially anywhere in the world, with a minimum of additional support. They demand the highest standards of safety and reliability and expect justifiable purchase costs. "Our own early faith in the potential of the AW169 has been further endorsed with the confirmation of this order."

The aircraft will perform VIP missions in the UK and is scheduled for certification in 2014.

Global Jet believes 50EX with ProLine is a first

Global Jet has taken delivery of a Falcon 50EX which has been repainted and refurbished following a major technical overhaul in May. Global Jet believes the aircraft to be the only one of its kind kitted out with ProLine 21 avionics.

It has a nine-seat cabin with entertainment system and is capable of landing on some of the shorter runways, including St Tropez and London City. It also has the potential for transatlantic travel with a range of up to seven-and-a-half hours.

Global Jet’s marketing department comments: "This new addition to the fleet follows the expansion strategy we have been working on. Since the beginning of 2013 10 new aircraft joined our fleet, eight of them available for charter. Our fleet now counts more than 50 aircraft which confirms the major role we play in the private aviation market."

The aircraft recently added to the roster include two G550s, able to accommodate up to 14 passengers and based at Moscow Shchelkovo, a Falcon 2000EX EASy and a Hawker 800XP. The number of Global Jet’s flying hours has remained stable compared to last year. The operator’s office in China has been intent on developing the business in Asia while its presence in the Middle East, Russia and Europe is also on the up.

Its sales department comments: "Being able to offer the two jets (G550s) to our clients is an additional selling strength. Added to our current fleet, they will allow us to answer more requests, and to reach further destinations non-stop. Our clients trust us and we are always looking for new ways of pleasing them."

NextGen is first to fly P2006T in Benelux

NextGen Aviation Group, of Antwerp, has brought its Tecnam P2006T twins into service, making it the first aircraft of this model to be flown in the Benelux region.

The aircraft is part of NextGen’s fractional ownership system, and will be put into the rental market. It is also available for multi-engine recurrent training, being pitched at clients who are looking for an affordable multi-engine aircraft.

NextGen supports aircraft owners wishing to rent out their machines, offering logistical aid and the P2006T is the latest recruit in this initiative.

NextGen CEO Tim de Meijer believes the twin prop is a new generation of aircraft: “The P2006T is a great aircraft because it can operate at every airfield within Belgium. It’s also equipped with the Garmin G950, which is a great experience for the pilots who nowadays prefer to fly with a glass cockpit.”

As for the fractional ownership system, de Meijer adds: “We want to help clients access cheaper private aircraft that can operate to almost every airfield. We are going to perform some recurrent checks on it and place the aircraft on the aerial survey market as a rental aircraft, because we have equipped the aircraft with two camera holes. Because of its low speeds we can also do some high tension pipeline inspections.”

BBGA and BACA join forces to deliver seminars at BGAD

The British Business and General Aviation Association and the Baltic Air Charter Association will collaborate to deliver a set of seminars at this year’s Business and General Aviation Day (BGAD), which is being held at Cambridge Airport’s newest hangar on Tuesday 17th September.

The seminars will cover a broad range of topics, including: ‘The changing buying habits of the business aviation customer,’ ‘Border Force,’ ‘Business aviation training and apprenticeships,’ ‘Illegal chartering,’ ‘Changing perspectives in the UK and European markets,’ and ‘CAA – flight data monitoring and the significant seven.’ The partnership between BBGA and BACA is notable because between them the associations represent operators and charter brokers.

BGAD itself will display 60 booths manned by a wide array of business aviation organisations. Visitors will have the chance to experience the cabins of the business aircraft on display such as the King Air 200 and Phenom 300, and can also take part in PrivateFly’s BGAD ten-pin bowling challenge. For full details of the day please visit www.bgad.org.uk.