

Gama's global scale brings Global 6000 owner on board

Gama Aviation has added a Global 6000 to its European fleet, shortly after inducting two of the same type onto its Asian roster.

Although primarily for private use, the aircraft will be available on a limited basis for charter out of Farnborough, UK. MD for Europe Air Mark Gascoigne comments: "I'm delighted that our client selected us after a hard-fought process. We offer a simple solution that combines our local client service with the ability to leverage our global scale, breadth and depth to support the aircraft wherever and whenever the owner flies."

Gama has also extended its seven-year Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) contract. Commencing in June 2020 for a further period of three years, the deal is expected to be worth £50m.

"I am delighted that we have been awarded this contract extension," says group chief executive Marwan Khalek. "Our work with SAS over nearly three decades demonstrates the effectiveness of our business model, supplying both air and ground support to deliver mission-critical services where high availability and rapid response times are vital."

"This is testament to the dedication and expertise of our people, resulting in an excellent track record for delivery."

SAS CEO Pauline Howie adds: "Gama Aviation's expertise has been central to delivering our mission in a challenging operational environment and we look forward to continuing our strong relationship with the company into the next decade."



Embraer president and CEO Michael Amalfitano and Air Hamburg owner Simon Ebert display some Legacy 650E models while sitting in the type's three-zone cabin.

Air Hamburg cements spot as Legacy leader with order for four 650Es

Air Hamburg has signed a purchase agreement with Embraer for four additional Legacy 650E jets.

The deal will expand the German operator's Embraer fleet to 17 aircraft, comprising 15 Legacy 600/650 types and two Phenom 300s, and ensure its position as the world's largest L600/650 operator.

Delivery of the four 650E aircraft is slated to begin in June 2018 and the aircraft will be added at a rate of one per quarter. The contract has a value of US\$103.6 million.

"Our partnership with Embraer dates back to 2013 with our first

Legacy 600," says owner Simon Ebert. "With this order, we will grow our Embraer fleet by 30 per cent to meet market demand for these popular aircraft. The comfort of the Legacy 650E's three cabin zones and convenience of its onboard amenities, coupled with its reliability, performance and generous baggage allowance, will satisfy our customers."

Embraer president and CEO Michael Amalfitano adds: "As the global launch customer of the Legacy 650E, Air Hamburg has proven the success of the aircraft in delivering a superior customer experience. We

are proud to support the operator's continued growth."

The Legacy 650E is offered with a 10-year or 10,000-flight hour warranty for systems and components (OEM and supplier), matching the warranty period to that of the airframe.

Air Hamburg was established in 2006 by entrepreneurs Floris Helmers and Alexander Lipsky, after the pair managed their Hamburg-based flight school Flugschule Hamburg since 2001. The company generated a turnover of €123 million in 2017, and has more than 300 employees.

Air Zermatt marks 50 years with B429 delivery

Switzerland's Air Zermatt has taken delivery of a factory-new Bell 429 helicopter just as the company celebrates 50 years in business. It is the second B429 that was ordered by Air Zermatt at Helitec in October 2017 and will be used for HEMS and SAR. "There is no better way for us to celebrate such a significant milestone than with an exciting addition to our fleet," says CEO Gerold Biner. "The Bell 429 has incredible performance, especially in the tough terrain of the Swiss Alps. Bell continuously surpasses our expectations in terms of products and customer care, and we are thrilled to receive another beautiful aircraft."

The operator's latest B429 will be supported under Bell's Premier level Customer Advantage Plan. The plan offers access to Bell's pool of parts and competitive rates when using an authorised service centre. Air Zermatt's flight crew also train on the B429 full flight simulator at the Bell Training Academy in Valencia.



Snowy terrain is demanding for any helicopter.



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