

Monday, 05 September 2011

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India has second runway incident in a week



A Turkish Airlines A340 skidded off the runway in Mumbai on Friday, the second runway incident in India within seven days. On Monday an A320 operated by Gulf Air skidded off the runway at Cochin airport.

According to the airline, the A340, with 93 passengers and 11 crew on board, was completing a scheduled flight from Istanbul when the incident occurred. No injuries were reported.

A Turkish Airlines statement said that it attributed the cause of the incident as being due to “excessive rainfall” and that “the necessary analysis and research is being done in collaboration with the local civil aviation authorities”.
Photo courtesy of AFP/Punit Paranjpe.

Date set for first delivery of B747-8F



Boeing has announced that September 19 has been set as the date for the delivery of the first B747-8 freighter.

The hand over to launch customer Cargolux will take place at Boeing’s Paine Field facility after which the cargo carrier will fly the aircraft away and put it into revenue service. The second -8F will be delivered to Cargolux two days later. “It is great to receive our first two 747-8 Freighters within just a few days” said Frank Reimen, president and CEO of Cargolux. “In a sense, history is repeating itself. We were pioneering the cargo industry when we put the first 747-400 Freighter into revenue service in 1993. This is what we do once again with the 747-8 Freighter, which is ultimately a testimony of our good and long-standing partnership with Boeing. We are proud to be the world's first cargo operator to benefit from the game-changing performance and efficiency of this ground-breaking aircraft”.

Image courtesy of Boeing

Bombardier Aerospace reports increased revenues for second quarter



Revenues of CA\$2.1 billion, have been posted by Bombardier Aerospace for the second quarter period, an increase of 11 per cent compared to a year ago.

56 aircraft were delivered during the three months while its backlog rose by 20 per cent during the first half of the year, to

CA\$23 billion.

The company said that "Given the economic uncertainty in the U.S. and Europe", it expects a lower level of advances (deposits) from customers "than initially anticipated for the current fiscal year, mainly due to the postponement of orders in the regional aircraft market".

Embraer "successfully concludes" Bio Fuel tests with GE



Last week Embraer and GE held a series of bio-fuel test flights with an E170 "to benchmark the operational characteristics of the airplane and its GE CF34-8E engines when powered by HEFA (Hydro-processed Esters and Fatty Acids) fuel under a broad range of unique flight conditions".

The flights involved powering one of the aircraft's engines with the maximum permissible mix of 50 per cent HEFA, which had been derived from camelina plant, with standard jet fuel.

Aegean posts improving first half performance but warns of full year loss



Aegean Airlines has reported a €19.8 million loss for the first six months of the year, comparing favourably against the €32.6 million loss incurred during the same period a year ago.

Although revenue rose 10 per cent during the six months, with the second quarter enjoying a 24 per cent growth, the airline warned that it expects to make a full year loss mainly due to "the recession in Greece and higher fuel costs".

Piece of Aviation History for September 5



1936 - Mrs Beryl Markham becomes the first woman to fly across the North Atlantic from east to west. She leaves Abingdon, Berkshire and crash lands her Percival Vega Gull (VP-KCC) 'Messenger' in a bog, without injury to herself, at Baleine in Nova Scotia after the engine cut out.

The flight, originally intended to finish in New York, had lasted 24 hours 40 minutes.

Quote of the Day

The great secret of power is never will to do more than you can accomplish.

Henrik Ibsen (1828 - 1906)

A Bit of Light Relief

I went to a medical clinic for an electrocardiogram. While the technician was lining up her machine, I told her I have dextrocardia.

"What's that?" she asked.

"It means my heart is on the right side of my chest rather than on the left," I answered.

"You should set up your machine to accommodate that."

As she attached the wires, she asked casually, " have you had that condition for long?"