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Trans States Embraer skids off Ottawa runway – no injuries



An Embraer E145 operated by Trans States Airlines, exited the runway at Ottawa's Macdonald-Cartier airport on Sunday afternoon after a flight from Chicago.

No injuries have been reported among the 44 passengers and three crew. Local reports speak of damage to the

right wing and undercarriage to the aircraft but this has not been confirmed by the operator.

Trans States said in a statement that it "cannot speculate as to the cause of the incident" but it will be actively involved in the investigation, which is being lead by the Transportation Safety Board of Canada. *Photograph courtesy of CBC*

AF-KLM looking for more savings



According to a report in yesterday's Les Echos, Air France-KLM is looking to make savings of between €700 - €800 million per year as it faces the uncertainty of the economic climate.

The French daily did not name its sources, but if correct, the latest savings go way beyond the previously announced figure of €470 million that the airline group had targeted for this year. A recruitment freeze will be continued and a cut in the forecast capacity growth for next summer is planned, said the report.

A decision regarding an order for 100 new aircraft is expected to be announced towards the end of next week.

ILFC breaking away from American International ?



The International Lease Finance Corp., (ILFC) has filed a Registration Statement with the U.S Securities and Exchange Commission for a proposed Initial Public Offering (IPO).

The move would lead the way for the Los Angeles based lessor to begin to break away from its parent, the American International Group.

A number of a conditions were set out in ILFC's statement, among which were that AIG Capital, the relevant subsidiary of AIG " must dispose of more than 50 per cent by value of its interest" in

ILFC “within two years after the completion of the IPO. In addition, pursuant to a Plan of Divestiture that AIG will adopt, AIG Capital intends to dispose of at least 80 per cent by value of its interest....within three years after the completion of the IPO”.

Bids received in Spanish airport sale



A number of potential bidders have expressed interest in the tenders for Spain’s Madrid-Barajas and Barcelona-El Prat airports.

Five of the parties are interested in both airports and four are consortiums led by Ferrovial, Fraport AG, Changi Airports International and Aeroports de Paris respectively. India’s GMR Infrastructure is bidding by itself.

Spain’s SA Abertis Airports, in association with Borealis and Ibervias, is interested in Barcelona-El Prat while another consortium headed by Grupo San José is only interested in Madrid-Barajas. The tender is selling a 90.5 per cent stake in both airports, which could raise over €5 billion.

Piece of Aviation History for September 6



1910 - Blanche Stuart Scott (1885-1970) is credited in some quarters as the first woman to fly solo in the US.

Glen Curtiss was instructing her at Hammondsport, New York, and had the aircraft she was learning in fitted with a limiter on the throttle, to prevent it gaining enough speed to become airborne while she practiced taxiing on her own. However either the limiter moved or a gust of wind lifted the aircraft and she flew to an altitude of forty feet before executing a gentle landing. Even though the flight was short and possibly unintentional she is credited by the Early Birds of Aviation as the first woman to pilot and solo in the United States. The Early Birds also credited the date of the ‘flight’, as there is no

verifiable evidence for an exact date but Blanche was known to have been receiving tuition between 2-12 September.

However Bessica Medlar Raiche’s flight on September 16 was accredited as first by the Aeronautical Society of America at the time.

Quote of the Day

It is not always the same thing to be a good man and a good citizen. Aristotle, (384 BC - 322 BC)

A Bit of Light Relief

Farmer Josh killed a pig and hung it up for the night, intending to butcher it in the morning, but the next day it was gone. He didn’t tell a soul about it, and nothing happened for more than two months.

Then another farmer, who lived down the road, came by and said, "By the way Josh, did you ever find out who stole your pig?"

"Nope," said Josh. "Not until now."