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Sydney - Australia

Spairliners supports Qantas A380 fleet

- Global component availability
- Technical services ultimately for 47 A380s

Spairliners, a joint venture between Lufthansa Technik AG and Air France Industries, has started work on component support for the Airbus A380 with a contract from the Australian airline Qantas, a year before the first A380s are due for delivery to Lufthansa and Air France. The technical service agreement with the world's second-largest A380 customer calls for the repair and replacement of around 750 components held in readiness in the well-stocked Spairliners warehouse.

The ten-year contract awarded by Qantas to the Hamburg-based company covers all 20 wide-body aircraft ordered by the Australian airline. Added to the future Air France and Lufthansa fleets, this means that Spairliners will be responsible for providing component support for a total of 47 Airbus A380s.

“The predicted reliability and cost of A380 components, combined with a medium size fleet of 20 aircraft, had led Qantas Engineering to investigate options outside its traditional acquisition and maintenance approach. Entering into a component and repair arrangement with Spairliners will provide a number of benefits to Qantas,” the Executive Manager of Qantas Engineering, David Cox, said.

Spairliners CEO Jean-Luc Fattelay declared that “Qantas’ choice demonstrates the capacity of Spairliners to ensure a global availability of components – far beyond the European borders”. And Spairliners CFO, Dr. Georg Fanta, adds: “Our unique concept will offer economies of scale by allowing spares investments to be shared and will guarantee Qantas additional operational comfort by providing access to our large inventory pool.”

Backed by the expertise of both Air France Industries and Lufthansa Technik, as well as a state of the art information system, the component support provided by Spairliners covers the full range of services from MRO activities to spare parts inventory management and the associated logistics. The repair of A380 components is distributed between Air France Industries’ new component overhaul facility E.O.L.E. near Paris-Orly airport and Lufthansa Technik’s component workshops in Hamburg. Operators will be globally supplied with components via Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport through an efficient spare parts supply network.

Spairliners

A joint venture of Air France and Lufthansa Technik, Spairliners operates as an independent company. Spairliners provides full component support for A380 operators in all market regions. The headquarters – company management, customer support, inventory management and AOG center – will be located in Hamburg, Germany. The operational center – central stock location as well as the logistics platform and logistics management – will be in Paris, France.

Air France Industries and KLM Engineering & Maintenance

Air France Industries and KLM Engineering & Maintenance, which joined forces following the Air France KLM merger, are world-leading multi-product MRO (Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul) providers with a joint workforce of 15,000, offering comprehensive repair capability, integration expertise, component pool operational support and a powerful logistics network. Together they support more than 900 aircraft and serve upwards of 150 major international airlines.

Lufthansa Technik

The Lufthansa Technik Group, with more than 30 subsidiaries and about 26,000 employees worldwide, is one of the leading manufacturer-independent providers of services for the aviation industry. In 2007, the Group's overall revenues stood at 3.6 billion euros. Lufthansa Technik is licensed internationally as a repair, production and development enterprise. The Group's portfolio encompasses the entire spectrum of services in the areas of maintenance, repair, overhaul, modification and conversion, engines and components.

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