Airbus half year results

€28.7 billion

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Airbus Parliamentary Newsletter
Autumn 2017

Royals touch down in Hamburg

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visited the Hamburg Finkenwerder Airbus site as a part of their royal visit to Germany. The Royals were accompanied by Airbus’ Chief Procurement Officer Klaus Richter and First Mayor of Hamburg Olaf Scholz. Richter said: “It is a special honour to welcome The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge to our Airbus site. We are happy to see their interest in aircraft construction here in Hamburg. In the global Airbus network, the United Kingdom plays a key role: the wings for all Airbus aircraft at the final assembly line here in Hamburg come from the UK.”

Katherine Bennett appointed UK Senior Vice President

Following structural changes in the company, Katherine Bennett, OBE has been appointed Senior Vice President, Airbus in the UK. In this newly created role, reporting directly to Airbus CEO Thomas Enders, Katherine will assume responsibility for all of Airbus Public Affairs functions in the UK and the Airbus London office. Commenting on the announcement, Tom Enders said: “As Airbus making great progress with its integration, I congratulate Katherine on her promotion within the new organisation. During her more than a decade at Airbus, Katherine has worked tirelessly to build support and understanding of the company among the UK Government and other stakeholders, and I am looking forward to working with her more closely in this new role.”

Airbus wins Gold in support for UK Armed Forces

As a signatory of the Armed Forces Covenant, Airbus grants employees additional paid leave to participate in annual training and mobilisation activities and is also a long term advocate of national military-friendly initiatives, such as Armed Forces and Reserves days. Airbus submitted an entry for the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme, which rewards businesses that demonstrate a commitment to supporting our nation’s armed forces. Subsequently, the company was awarded Gold by the Ministry of Defence in August. Process Manager at Airbus Broughton, Ryan McAnerney, volunteers for the Queen’s Own Yeomanry regiment based in Chester and said: “Along the journey, Airbus has supported me every step of the way, with additional annual leave allowance for military training and a supportive attitude to the reservist community as a whole.”

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- The Department for Transport External Affairs team visited Airbus to discuss their plans to make 2018 a year to celebrate engineering
- Airbus hosted this year’s Families Day at the Defence and Space site in Stevenage

Airbus Public Affairs Manager Tom Page (centre) with apprentices from Airbus at the House of Commons

On 11 July, six apprentices from Airbus visited the Houses of Parliament to meet local MPs, at an event organised by ADS. Defence Secretary, Sir Michael Fallon MP, delivered a keynote speech on the importance of apprentices in the aerospace and defence industry.

Many female candidates took part in Airbus’ 2016-17 Industrial Cadets programme in Broughton. Innovative ideas were put forward in this year’s scheme, which sees competing teams of female students aged 12-14. Their challenge was to create a smart school environment over a period of 10 working weeks. The end of the project was marked with a celebration and assessment day where the students present a model of their project and a display. They are supported by Airbus mentors who lend a hand with managing the project. Funded by the Welsh Government, the initiative is aimed at inspiring students towards careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

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HMS Queen Elizabeth sails into Portsmouth

Britain’s newest aircraft carrier, HMS Queen Elizabeth, arrived in Portsmouth this August after a highly anticipated wait. The 900ft vessel is the largest warship ever built for the Royal Navy, costing £3 billion to produce. The ship features two SCOT (Satellite Communications On-board Terminal) systems which link the ship to Airbus’ Skynet 5 military satellite system, providing the warship with secure and reliable communications across the globe.

A400M star of the show at RIAT

Air cadets from the USA, Australia, New Zealand and UK visited the Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT) and were shown around the Airbus A400M with Air Vice-Marshal Warren James. Meanwhile, Airbus hosted a number of stakeholders at its hospitality chalet, including the Defence Secretary, Sir Michael Fallon MP. Defence Procurement Minister, Harriet Baldwin MP, along with other Members of Parliament and senior military figures.

Army Reserves stand at ease in Filton

As part of Airbus’ commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant, the company has been working hard to identify ways to support employees who are Reservists and those who may think about becoming one. On 12 July in Filton, Airbus and GKN hosted 12 tri-service local regiments for a showcase of their military capabilities and provide greater insight into life as a Reservist. Over 650 employees attended – the largest corporate reservist recruitment event held in the South West region.

UK should “continue participating in key EU space programmes”, says Greg Clark

Business Secretary, Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, has stated that Britain should continue its efforts with the EU’s Copernicus Earth observation programme after Brexit. Mr Clark’s comments came as Airbus in the UK debuted the latest satellite for Copernicus known as Sentinel-5 Precursor. The satellite, which was produced at Airbus’ site in Stevenage, will leave the UK for launch on the Rokot space launch vehicle from Plesetsk Cosmodrome, Russia.

Welsh wings are off to Kigali

RwandAir, the national carrier of Rwanda, has launched a new route from London Gatwick to Kigali Airport. Flights between the UK and the African nation began operation on 26 May, using the Airbus A330-200 which flies three times a week. At an event in Toulouse, easyJet’s NEO fleet will be based out of London Luton Airport and operate its first commercial flights to Amsterdam, Madrid and Edinburgh.

Airbus secures $40 billion in aircraft orders at Paris Air Show

Airbus announced $39.7 billion worth of new business during the 2017 Paris Air Show. The company won commitments for a total of 326 aircraft, including firm orders for 144 aircraft worth $18.5 billion and a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for 182 aircraft worth $21.2 billion. Airbus also revealed its newest aircraft order at Paris Air Show; the A380plus. The main feature of this updated model includes new winglets which will allow up to 4% fuel savings. The overall benefit is a 13% cost per seat reduction versus today’s A380. The plane will also have 80 more seats than its predecessor – adding to the A380’s revenue generating potential.

Team Benson in the air

In a first for RAF Benson and Oxfordshire, a mixed formation of civilian and military helicopters took to the skies in July. The three helicopters all operate from RAF Benson’s airfield and are amongst a number of RAF, air ambulance and police helicopters which are maintained and serviced at the Airbus Helicopters site in Kidlington, Oxford.