



ABOVE FIRST PHENOM 100 COMPLETES RE-REGISTRATION CHANGE PROGRAMME WITH THE UK CAA IS PROGRESSING

News / Business aviation



above, a new UK entry jet provider focused on domestic and European on-demand executive charter flights, has registered its first Embraer Phenom 100. Previously on the German registry, the former Arcus Air aircraft is now G-FABV for Fly Above, marking a key step forward in above's progress.

Its journey to service start, however, is taking longer than first envisaged, highlights Founding CEO Vince Essex. Regulatory matters requiring the UK CAA's attention, relating to aircraft survey work, have yet to conclude. The aircraft is currently undergoing engineering work and inspection at Inflight Engineering at London Stansted Airport as part of the UK CAA's change programme. Fellow Embraer operator SaxonAir at Norwich has been engaged to assist on the CAMO side.

Vince Essex commented: "We are a couple of months behind but do hope for service entry in early May, ahead of the peak summer period. Commercially, we've been actively strengthening our foundations for launch, finalising competitive city-pair pricing strategy to ensure a strong market entry."

XLR Executive Jet Centres will be Fly Above's home

above has selected XLR Executive Jet Centres, Birmingham, as its home, equidistant from London and Manchester Airports, where, in addition to executive charter requests, it is well placed for airline support work, capable of ferrying AOG parts, crew and medical-related flights. Its

Phenom 100 has four club seats and is a lean jet alternative to scheduled services.

Chris Beer, Director, XLR Executive Jet Centres stated: "XLR Birmingham is delighted to soon have a Phenom 100 light business jet available for charter directly from our base. With a flying capability of 1 to 2.5 hours, it's an ideal aircraft for both business and leisure trips across the UK and near-Europe. We very much look forward to supporting above as they launch their new operation here at Birmingham."

above has also been building relationships with charter brokers and operator peers. Vince Essex will be attending The Air Charter Association Spring lunch and the British Business and General Aviation Association's annual conference next week. At the latter, he is speaking on a media panel on the '*Evolution of charter*,' hosted by Hunt & Palmer.

above has also been progressing with its digital and sales infrastructure, including completing its Avinode integration ahead of commercial launch.

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