CIRRUS BREAKS GROUND ON NEW ENGINE RUN-UP FACILITY

News / Manufacturer

Cirrus Aircraft has broken ground on a new 15,000-square-foot Engine Run-Up Center that will centralize engine testing, fuel calibration and certification activities for the SR Series, Vision Jet and the recently introduced TRAC10 training aircraft. Representing an investment of more than $8 million, the facility is designed to provide a dedicated, climate-controlled environment that supports year-round operations and improves manufacturing efficiency. The center is expected to become operational in summer 2027.

The purpose-built facility will include two engine calibration stalls where technicians can perform engine setup, testing and adjustments while aircraft are running. A separate control room will allow for safe monitoring, data analysis and remote system adjustments. Advanced air-handling systems, including an eight-foot exhaust collector, will provide ventilation, while integrated sound-mitigation measures are intended to minimize noise levels around the airport.

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Fuel calibration operations will be conducted in two dedicated stalls specifically engineered for fueling and defueling activities. These areas will be equipped to handle flammable fluids safely and will incorporate fire protection systems while meeting stringent fuel-handling requirements.

According to CEO Zean Nielsen, the Engine Run-Up Center represents a significant enhancement to Cirrus' manufacturing capabilities and reflects the company's ongoing commitment to operational excellence. He noted that engine run-ups and fuel calibration are critical steps in the aircraft production process and that the new facility will streamline operations, improve efficiency and provide employees with a dedicated environment in which to perform this specialized work.

Patrick Waddick, President of Innovation & Operations, said the project expands Cirrus' manufacturing footprint, which now exceeds 1.3 million square feet. He highlighted the company's legacy of innovation across more than 12,000 SR Series and Vision Jet aircraft produced in Duluth, adding that the new facility will further strengthen safety, support employees and help maintain the quality and precision customers expect from the Cirrus brand.

Cirrus manufactures the SR Series, the world's best-selling high-performance single-engine piston aircraft, and the Vision Jet, the best-selling jet in general aviation. The company recently introduced the TRAC10, a purpose-built flight training aircraft powered by a FADEC-equipped engine, and continues to be recognized for safety innovations such as the Cirrus Airframe Parachute System (CAPS) and Safe Return Emergency Autoland.

25 OCTOBER 2026

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https://50skyshades.com/index.php/news/manufacturer/cirrus-breaks-ground-on-new-engine-run-up-facility

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