SITAONAIR TO DELIVER NEXT-GENERATION CONNECTED AIRCRAFT 'SMART CORE'

News / Airlines

SITAONAIR is delivering a next-generation connected aircraft 'smart core' that will significantly enhance airline data communications and operations. The company has partnered with Astronics Ballard Technology to provide an integrated product solution using their new webCS® Wireless Aircraft Communications Server along with SITAONAIR's e-enabled application software.

This closely-integrated software and hardware solution greatly reduces deployment complexity and will bring even greater value to SITAONAIR's airline customers – delivering enhanced capabilities and operational efficiencies – empowering airlines to realize the promises of the connected aircraft.

The 'smart core' brings together the vast connected aircraft data collected by SITAONAIR's e-Aircraft® DataCapture solutions for cockpit, cabin, and aircraft operations. It then distributes this SITAONAIR-processed data onboard using Astronics Ballard Technology's flexible webCS, a smart AID/server/router that securely bridges avionics data with wired and wireless networks in a single compact box.

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SITAONAIR already plays a central airline e-enablement and data management role, in an

age where the volume of data generated by aircraft has sky-rocketed from five parameters in 1958, to more than 200,000 today. As testament to its expertize, SITAONAIR last year launched its pioneering e-Aircraft® DataCapture solution – a result of the company's collaboration with Air France to deliver 'virtual black box' flight recording solutions for automatic data collection.

Today's offering of an integrated product will further enhance airline customers' data management approach. The combination of SITAONAIR's established portfolio of passenger, crew and flight operations solutions with Astronics Ballard Technology's innovative hardware and strong technical expertise in the area of aircraft avionics interfacing, will form a central pillar of airlines' connectivity and e-enablement strategies, delivered to airlines as a managed service.

Dominique El Bez, SITAONAIR Vice President, Product and Strategy, says: "Our new partnership marks an evolution in SITAONAIR's e-enablement strategy and is a true hallmark of the connected aircraft age. The arrival of our smart core for an intuitive, integrated connected aircraft reinforces SITAONAIR's pioneering open platforms vision, by encompassing complete, flexible and scalable aircraft data management solutions both onboard and on the ground."

Jon Neal of Astronics Ballard Technology says: "We are extremely pleased to be selected by SITAONAIR to provide the secure platform on which to build this total e-enablement solution. We share their desire to allow airline customers to access their data to enable and empower better decision-making that will streamline and transform their operations."

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