GKN AEROSPACE SIGNS SIGNIFICANT AGREEMENT WITH SAFRAN AIRCRAFT ENGINES TO EXPAND SUPPORT FOR LEAP ENGINES

News / Manufacturer

GKN Aerospace has strengthened its long-term partnership with Safran, after signing a decade-long agreement to expand its support for the LEAP engines. The contract covers new shafts and spare part production for the Leap 1A variant for the Airbus A320neo aircraft, with the expectation to produce similar components for the LEAP 1B for the Boeing 737-MAX aircraft in the future.

Through this Contract GKN will support Safran with its significant future demand and will start up new Shaft production at GKN Aerospace's global center of excellence in Kongsberg, Norway. The first shafts are expected to be delivered from GKN Norway to Paris in the second half of 2024. GKN Aerospace and Safran have worked together closely for more than 35 years, with long-term partnerships in place for the industry-leading CFM56 and GE90 engines, as well as on the next-generation RISE technology development program.

Alexander Andersson, Senior Vice President of GKN Aerospace's Engines business, commented: "This is a significant agreement and another important milestone in our partnership with Safran.

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The LEAP is at the forefront of the industry and we are proud to increase our presence on the engine today, while continuing to explore new technology development for the next-generation RISE engine."

Dominique Dupuy, Senior Vice President, Purchasing for Safran Aircraft Engines, said: "We are satisfied with our partnership with GKN, which began several decades ago and continues with the manufacture of rotating parts for the LEAP programs."

More than 5,000 LEAP engines are currently in service, with a backlog of 10,000 more engines on order. With more than 30 million flight hours to date, the LEAP engine has achieved the fastest order and flight hour ramp up in commercial aviation history.

20 MARCH 2024

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https://50skyshades.com/news/manufacturer/gkn-aerospace-signs-significant-agreement-with-safran-aircraft-engines-to-expand-support-for-leap-engines

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