

Aviation Sub-Group Newsletter

Doug Read

November 1999



Saudia Discussing Sale Of 24 Old Planes To US Firm

Saudi Arabian Airlines is holding talks with an American aviation company to sell 24 old airplanes – 16 Tri-stars and 8 Boeing 737s.

The aircraft offered for sale are not in operation and are parked at Qasim and Taif airports. Saudia purchased its first Tri-star in 1975 and the planes have covered 655,000 flight hours.

Saudia Privatisation

The government is understood to be preparing to appoint a consultant for the privatisation of Saudi Arabian Airlines. Analysts expect international banks and law firms to be among the frontrunners to advise on the sell-off of the flag-carrier.

Defence & Aviation Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz announced on 20 September that a committee was to be set up to push the privatisation of the airline, comprising board members and civil aviation officials. The committee is expected to negotiate with prospective consultants, though a formal tender

process is not anticipated.

An analyst in Riyadh says that the political framework for privatisation of the airline could be in place by the end of this year.

Airbus News

China Airlines plans to order seven A340-300s, contrary to expectations that it would order Boeing 777s given the two high-profile accidents involving Airbus A300-600s in recent years. (Nagoya, 1994 and Taipei, 1998)

Defence

The US House of representatives Appropriations Committee has voted unanimously to cut all production funding for the F-22 Raptor from next year's Department of Defence budget.

Rolls-Royce News

R-R has entered into a joint venture with Finmeccanica in the form of Europea Microfusiononi Aerospaziali to produce high-precision turbine blades for the RB211 and Adour engines. R-R has a 66% share in the company.

Doug Read
British Aerospace
doug.read@bae.co.uk



Local sub-contract machine shop using state of the art CNC machinery.

Supervised by British Application Engineers.

Reliable, precision parts to exact client specifications.

A level of quality and service we are proud to provide.

Tel: 242 0047
Fax: 241 4855

micron Parts & Precision engineering