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Closing Report AERO Friedrichshafen 2024

Exhibitor and visitor numbers at the 30th AERO at top level – Numerous European and world premieres – Innovations for more sustainability in aviation – Industry offers great career prospects

30th AERO Friedrichshafen inspires more than 30,000 visitors

Friedrichshafen - The 30th AERO will not only be remembered as an anniversary edition, but also as a trade fair with a particularly large number of innovations and premieres. With 31,500 visitors from 81 nations, the numbers were significantly higher than the previous year's edition and the proportion of pilots among visitors increased once again. The AERO Drones, the AERO Gliding Expo and the AERO Career Days proved their worth.

The 30th edition of AERO Friedrichshafen (April 17 - 20, 2024), the leading global trade fair for General Aviation, Air Sports and Business Aviation, has come to a successful close. "We already had high expectations for the anniversary AERO, but the trade fair far exceeded our expectations this year despite the far from ideal weather conditions," says Stefan Reisinger, Managing Director of trade fair organizer fairnamic GmbH. Tobias Bretzel, Show Director AERO, adds: "Over 680 exhibitors from 38 countries and the high number of visitors from all over the world underline the international significance of AERO. The many European and world premieres show that the exhibitors meet a very knowledgeable and international audience. Visitors were able to see over 270 aircraft in the exhibition halls and in the static display - from motor trikes to ultralights, touring and training aircraft and long-range business jets." In the latest survey, over 53 percent of AERO visitors stated that they had a pilot's license.

Among the premieres at the show were the electrically powered eDA40 aircraft from Diamond Aircraft in Austria, the electric aircrafts RX-1E-A from Rhyen Aircraft Industry Co. Ltd. in China and the Integral E from French manufacturer Aura Aero, the Piper M700 FURY single-engine turboprop aircraft from Piper Aircraft in Vero Beach, Florida, and the Phoenix motor glider from JMB Aircraft in Belgium and the Czech Republic.

In Zeppelin CAT Hall A1, the largest hall at the exhibition center, all major glider manufacturers were represented at the AERO Gliding Expo. The new concept for this segment with its own conference area was well received.

Helicopters have also become an integral part of AERO. Visitors were able to view 20 helicopters, including - for the first time ever at a trade fair - all current production



models from Robinson Helicopter Company from Torrance, California. Leonardo Helicopters from Italy was represented at AERO for the first time and exhibited two helicopters: the AW109 GrandNew and the AW139. The extensive lecture program as part of the HeliForum of the DHV (Deutscher Hubschrauber Verband e.V. – German Helicopter Association) was well attended and offered up-to-date information on all aspects of rotorcraft.

The three-day AERO Drones has firmly established itself as a trade fair for unmanned aerial vehicles. The Björn Steiger Foundation and Mintmasters GmbH used the exhibition to present their newly developed rescue system "RescueBee" for the first time worldwide. It supports rescue teams in their search for people in distress, for example in the event of swimming accidents, and consists of one or more drones, a hangar and an emergency telephone.

The AERO Conferences offered the most extensive lecture and presentation program in the history of the trade fair. As part of the 30th anniversary edition, the AERO General Aviation (GA) Academy was introduced. It is characterized by high-quality training and further education offers in various areas of aviation. Every day, numerous lectures were offered on topics such as powered flight, soaring, engine handling, instrument flight, meteorology, aviation law and insurance, which met with great interest from the public.

Aviation is changing, and General Aviation with all its segments is an incubator for new technologies and innovations that will also influence the commercial aviation of the future. Visitors to AERO were able to get a good overview of the industry's activities towards more sustainability. The AERO Sustainable Aviation Trail highlighted exhibitors who are particularly committed to sustainability by means of a special marking with green balloons that was clearly visible to visitors.

Qualified personnel are sought in all areas of aviation, be it for the cockpit, engineering, dispatch, air traffic control or the manufacturing of systems and entire aircraft. Aviation offers good career prospects and many different career opportunities. With the AERO Career Day (April 19 and 20), the show supports the industry in its search for new personnel, which places great value on greater diversity. At present, for example, only around six percent of all professional pilots worldwide are women. This is set to change, and AERO is an ideal starting point.

Margrit Waltz, the world's most experienced ferry pilot, who alone has flown 960 aircraft across the North Atlantic, was at AERO 2024 in Friedrichshafen and motivated young people to pursue their dreams. She herself learned to fly gliders at the age of 15 and flew an airplane solo across the Atlantic for the first time at the age of 20. Today, she has over 26,000 flying hours in her logbook.

AERO is now a globally recognized brand. In addition the event in Friedrichshafen, fairnamic GmbH organizes AERO South Africa (3 - 5 July 2024) in cooperation with Frankfurt Messe South Africa, and AERO Asia (6 - 9 November 2025) together with the



Zhuhai Airshow Group in China. This year, for the first time, the AERO Fly-In "Future meets History" (August 31/September 1, 2024) will take place at the Aalen-Elchingen airfield in cooperation with Luftsportring Aalen and Luftraum Süd.

The next AERO will take place from April 9 - 12, 2025 in Friedrichshafen.

Exhibitor comments:

Sascha Costabel, Managing Director, Schempp-Hirth-Flugzeugbau GmbH:

"We are totally happy and have met very interesting people here and had long conversations. We have also met many loyal customers here who really enjoy the personal meetings. We were certainly helped by the bad weather this week. The fairnamic GmbH team is doing a great job!"

Drew McEwen, Chief Commercial Officer, AURA AERO:

"It has been a very successful AERO Friedrichshafen for AURA AERO. We have signed several contracts for our Integral E electric aircraft and had great discussions with other interested parties for the Integral S and R. Here at the show we have even seen a lot of interest for our regional aircraft program ERA."

Jean-Marie Guisset, CEO, JMB Aircraft sro:

"We had a successful trade fair. Unfortunately, the weather prevented many customers from coming by plane, but they came by car instead. We also made some sales at the show. 90 percent of the visitors to the stand were interested in our VL3."

Nicolas von Mende, CEO, Atlas Air Service AG:

"AERO 2024 was a successful anniversary show and celebration. Augsburg Air Service has been a loyal exhibitor since 1978 and always enjoys attending AERO. It is a good platform for exchanging ideas with colleagues and customers and a great opportunity to meet existing customers. We were frequently approached by people interested in jobs and had good discussions in the Special Mission area. Visitors showed great interest in our trade fair topic of Inflight Connectivity with our partner Gogo Business Aviation. We would like to see more exhibitors from the business aviation sector."

Ole Gehrman, Managing Director, Heli-Flight JLR:

"We have felt a bigger rush than in the past. We had good discussions and the AERO has a great audience. There was particular interest from the public in training. In close cooperation with the German Helicopter Association (DHV), we were able to exhibit all of the Robinson Helicopter Company's helicopter models here. That was a real eye-catcher. The presentation by Tim Pittelkow and Andreas Hennig at the HeliForum, who together produce the helicopter podcast "Abgehoben", was great. It particularly appealed to young people who came to AERO especially for it."



Please find further information at <https://www.aero-expo.com/> and <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/aeroshow>

About AERO:

AERO 2025 will take place from April 9 – 12, 2025 at the Messe Friedrichshafen exhibition center. AERO is the leading international trade show for General Aviation, business aviation and air sports. Aircraft ranging from civilian drones to gliders, ultralights and gyrocopters, helicopters, touring and training aircraft powered by piston engines or turboprops, and business jets will be on display. New propulsion systems, electric flight, state-of-the-art avionics, services and accessories for pilots are further focal points. These topics are also reflected in the AERO Conferences, making Europe's largest general aviation event also an important platform for knowledge exchange and continuing education.

About fairnamic GmbH:

With the founding of fairnamic GmbH, the Frankfurt and Friedrichshafen trade fair companies have sealed a partnership with a focus on innovative mobility. Combined expertise as well as market knowledge, global positioning, brand strength and speed will strengthen the market position in the future markets of General Aviation, ecomobility, e-bikes and bicycles. The AERO and Eurobike brands and their satellites form the focus of the joint venture. The aim is to expand and further develop the two leading trade shows.