



For Immediate Release

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For more information contact:

Eric Rojek
Thrush Aircraft Company
229.789.0437

erojek@thrushaircraft.com

Thrush 510G Wins European Certification

GE-powered agricultural aircraft now ready for European operators.

(Albany, GA) –The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), has issued full type certification for the new Thrush 510G, which is powered by GE Aviation’s 800 horsepower H80 turboprop engine.

EASA certification marks the latest international approval for the newest aircraft from Thrush – following type certification last year in Canada, Argentina and Brazil. The 510G received initial certification in the United States by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in October 2012. This week’s EASA certification includes both the single and the dual-cockpit versions of the aircraft.

In addition to its well-known capabilities as an agricultural spraying aircraft, the new Thrush 510G is also seeing action as a highly effective aerial fire fighter – as a part of a new program created by Thrush known as “Agricultural Single Engine Air Tankers” or AG SEATS. This application has been met with great interest from European operators, and a variant of the 510G, the 510G Switchback, features an exclusive gatebox system that enables the aircraft to switch from aerial spray operations to fire fighting in a matter of minutes.

“There’s no question aerial fire fighting operations in Europe are extremely advanced” said Payne Hughes, president of Thrush Aircraft, “and we feel strongly that the 510G will soon play a key role there – particularly the Switchback – as with its H80 power and unique gatebox, it allows operators to serve both agricultural and fire fighting roles with outstanding results” he continued.

Service for the 510G’s H80 engine will be handled through GE Aviation’s facility in Prague – and sales and distribution for the aircraft in Europe itself will be directly through Thrush’s international sales team.

Following initial FAA certification, demand for the 510G has been strong – and is expected to remain that way as international type certifications fall into place. For



the last two years, Thrush has quickly sold out of its entire production of the 510G, making it one of the most successful products in the history of the company.

Caption for attached photo:

Ready for Europe – With type certification from EASA secured, the new Thrush 510G is expected to quickly become a favorite for both agricultural and fire fighting operations on the Continent.

About Thrush Aircraft Company

Headquartered in Albany, Georgia, Thrush Aircraft manufactures a full range of aerial application aircraft used in agriculture, forestry and fire fighting roles worldwide. Founded in 2003, Thrush is well-known for building the most durable aircraft in the aerial application industry, as well as the best flying – from both pilot and operator perspectives. All Thrush models provide superb visibility, light control response, and a high degree of maneuverability and speed, along with superior efficiency and low direct operating costs. Today there are more than 2,100 Thrush aircraft operating in some 80 countries around the world.

About the new GE H-80 turbine engine

The H80 turbine engine is built by GE Aviation, an operating unit of General Electric. The H80 combines the robust design of GE's highly regarded M601 engine family, with 3-D aerodynamic design techniques and advanced materials to create a more powerful, fuel-efficient, durable engine compared with the original M601. In addition, the H80 requires with no recurrent fuel nozzle inspections and no hot section inspection. The H80 engine will also feature an extended service life of 3,600 flight-hours or 6,600 cycles between overhauls. There are more than 1,600 GE M601 engines in service today, in business and general aviation, and these engines have accumulated a more than 17 million flight hours to date.

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