

PRESS RELEASE

Dubai, November 17, 2013

Saudi Arabia's Alpha Star Aviation Services to become the first operator of ATR-72-600s in the region

ATR and the Saudi Arabian Private operator Alpha Star Aviation Services have announced the signature of 2 ATR 72-600s, of which one is firm and one optional. The aircraft will join its smaller stablemate, an ATR 42-600, already successfully operating at the company since end 2012. Its entry into service made Alpha Star the very first operator of the ATR-600 series in the Middle East. With the addition of the new generation 70-seaters to its fleet, the company becomes the first operator in the region to fly the modern and comfortable ATR 72-600 aircraft.

Together with the profitable operations with the 42-600, the acquisition of these new planes is part of the Alpha Star's initiative to meet the growing demand in the private aviation sector and capitalize on the high market potential created. The first ATR 72-600 will be delivered in September 2014.

Alpha Star has chosen a high comfort layout for its ATR 72-600s seating 66 passengers. On the performance side, the first experience with the ATR-600 series aircraft in a harsh environment conditions coupled with the ability to operate from paved and unpaved runways in the region proved that the aircraft is ideally suited for operations even in the challenging Middle Eastern regions.

"Given the intense market dynamics with a multitude of business opportunities in the region, Alpha Star to date needs more of the reliable, comfortable and high-performance aircraft such as ATR 72-600 to better satisfy the rising demand in private transport", said Salim Al Muzaini, Chief Executive Officer of Alpha Star. "Besides, the ATR turboprops perform impeccably in a challenging environment which is extremely important to our operations. We also highly value aircraft quick turnarounds and unique capability to serve company's operational needs."

"The ATR 72-600 is a versatile aircraft with solid economic and performance credentials. I am sure it will fit perfectly Alpha Star's expectations and growth ambitions in the region," commented Filippo Bagnato, ATR Chief Executive Officer. "This versatility opens up many new possibilities and options for Alpha Star's passengers who will now benefit from available service while taking advantage of comfort."

About Alpha Star Aviation Services:

Alpha Star Aviation Services was established to meet the increasing demand in private aviation sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Its goal is to meet this objective adapting highest level of standards and quality. Alpha Star is a leading private aviation services company based in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia whose expertise span widely from Aircraft Management to Private Aviation services, chartering services, air ambulance and Aviation Consultation.

About ATR:

Founded in 1981, ATR has become the world leader on the market for regional aircraft with 90 seats or less. Since its creation, ATR has sold over 1,300 aircraft. Its customer base today comprises over 180 operators in 90 countries. ATR planes have totaled over 21 million flight hours. ATR is an equal partnership between two major European aeronautics players, Alenia Aermacchi (a Finmeccanica Group company) and EADS. Its head office is in Toulouse. ATR is ISO 14001 certified. For additional information, log on to www.atraircraft.com. You can also follow ATR on its official YouTube channel: [ATRbroadcast](#) and on Twitter: [@ATRaircraft](#).

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