

PRESS RELEASE

ATR Achieves Major Milestone in Chinese Certification

ATR 42-600 test flight performed with Chinese and European Airworthiness Authorities

Toulouse, 6 July, 2020 – As part of the validation for the certification process of the ATR 42-500 with modification 5948 in China a certification flight test took-off and landed from Franczal airport in Toulouse. The flight, which took place on Friday 3 July, is a major step toward ATR type certification validation in China, expected in autumn 2020. The ATR 42-500 with modification 5948 is also known as the ATR 42-600 and certification will allow the first delivery of this latest generation aircraft to a customer in China. The three-hour test was performed in cooperation with the Chinese and European airworthiness authorities CAAC (Civil Aviation Administration of China) and European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the latter of whose pilots were on-board the flight alongside an ATR crew.

China is looking to expand its connectivity, with 100-seat-below regional aircraft representing only 2.5% of the overall Chinese fleet, compared to a worldwide average of 25%. In 2019, China had 238 airports though 83% of Chinese traffic is concentrated through just 39 airports each with over 10 million passengers per year. While 164 regional airports, accounting for 7% of total passenger traffic, would benefit from quick and reliable connections. Given the distances involved there is a need for a versatile aircraft to operate these routes. An ATR 42-600 in a 30-seat General Aviation configuration would be an ideal solution to provide this essential connectivity and increase the local economy.



Photo caption: The ATR and EASA crews celebrate the completion of the Flight Test, which gathered important data for the certification process.

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About ATR:

ATR is the world number one regional aircraft manufacturer with its ATR 42 and 72 aircraft the best-selling aircraft in the less than 90-seat market segment. In 2019 the company had a turnover of US\$1.6 billion. The unifying vision of the company's 1,400 employees is to help everyone, no matter where they are in the world, to connect and develop in a responsible manner. Thanks to the efficiency of turboprop technology and the benefits of the company's focus on continuous innovation, ATRs open more than 100 new routes every year, burn up to 40% less fuel and emit up to 40% less CO₂ than regional jets. For all of these reasons, ATR aircraft have been chosen by some 200 companies in 100 countries around the world. ATR is a joint-venture between Airbus and Leonardo.

For more information, please visit <http://www.atr-aircraft.com> and www.atr-intolife.com.

ATR Media Relations:

Charlotte Giuria

Tel.: +33 (0)6 80 48 20 96

Email: charlotte.giuria@atr-aircraft.com

Ben Peggie

Tel.: +33 (0)6 07 86 37 29

E-mail: ben.peggie@atr-aircraft.com

