

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Skylander SK-105 in the French West Indies  
February 22, 2012



**Passion for excellence and innovation**

### **Skylander SK-105 in the French West Indies**

#### **CAIRE (Compagnie Aérienne Inter-Régionale Express) signs MoU for two Skylander aircraft**

On February 8, *Compagnie Aérienne Inter-Régionale Express*, or CAIRE, signed an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with GECI Aviation's subsidiary, Sky Aircraft, for the acquisition of two passenger versions of the Skylander SK-105, with the first delivery scheduled in 2014. The contract is due to be signed in April 2012.

CAIRE is a French airline operating in the French West Indies and French Guiana. Founded in 2002, CAIRE and its subsidiaries carried 260,000 passengers in 2011, of which 86% to the French West Indies and 14% in Guiana. CAIRE is the fourth largest airline in the French West Indies, with a 10% share of the local market. The airline flies to Saint-Barthélemy, Saint-Martin, Fort-de-France, Pointe-à-Pitre, Sainte-Lucie and Saint-Domingue.

#### **The Skylander: a no limits next-generation aircraft**

The Skylander is the best solution to replace aircraft as Twin Otter, Let 410 or Dornier 228, due to its performance, cabin volume, flexibility, range and operating costs.

The SK-105's performances are especially well suited to regional island-hopping, in particular thanks to its ability to use short runways that are difficult to access.

Designed to operate in extreme environments, the Skylander offers unmatched performance in terms of takeoff, landing and climbing speed, which allows the aircraft to use airports that are reputed to be difficult to access, such as Saint-Barthélemy, while carrying up to 19 passengers over long-mission ranges. Moreover, thanks to its specific corrosion-proof treatment, the Skylander is also well suited to the salty and humid conditions that prevail in inter-island transport in the French West Indies and Guiana.

#### **The Skylander: a resounding commercial success**

Most of Skylander's successes have been scored with passenger or cargo transport operators.

Since the 2011 Paris air show, agreements with air transport operators have been coming thick and fast. As of today, business agreements have been signed for 413 aircraft, including 10 orders.

The air transport industry is currently booming, thanks to the economic development of a large part of the planet, where the needs of millions of new consumers are on the increase and economic exchanges are being driven by globalization.

These latest success stories are further proof that the Skylander is very well positioned and confirm the ambition of the GECI International Group and its subsidiary, GECI Aviation, to produce 1,500 aircraft by 2030 and its aim to play a leading role in the global light turboprop aircraft market.

### **About GECI International**

For 30 years, GECI International has been established as a specialist in high technology engineering, with a preponderant presence in the world of aeronautics. Working in the four corners of the world, GECI International's 1,000 staff, engineers and researchers are constantly ready to meet today's and tomorrow's technological challenges.

GECI International combines excellence, passion to innovation to propose, on the one hand, via its GECI Engineering division an offer of expertise and global solutions in the fields of aeronautics, transport and infrastructures and, on the other, via its GECI Aviation a range of twin turboprop aircraft: the F406 and the Skylander SK-105.

The F406, produced by Reims Aviation Industries, is recognised by operators worldwide as an aircraft that is particularly suited to surveillance missions. The Skylander SK-105, produced by Sky Aircraft, stands out due to its exceptional performances, its ability to operate in extreme environments and its very competitive purchase and maintenance costs.

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