

Press release

## **Liebherr Air Management System Selected for Aerion AS2 Supersonic Business Jet**

**Liebherr-Aerospace has been selected by Aerion to develop and supply the integrated air management system for the new AS2 supersonic business jet. One of the system's key components will be an electrical air conditioning pack, which contributes to a higher efficiency and greener aircraft operation.**

Toulouse (France), September 2020 – Liebherr-Aerospace announced that the supersonic aircraft company Aerion Supersonic, based in Reno, Nevada (USA) and Melbourne, Florida (USA), has commissioned Liebherr-Aerospace Toulouse SAS, Toulouse (France), Liebherr's center of excellence for air management systems, for the development of the integrated air management system for the AS2 supersonic business jet.

Aerion and Liebherr first began formal collaboration mid-2019, working on preliminary designs of the AS2's integrated air management system. Following the initial technical discussions, Liebherr-Aerospace and Aerion converged on a next generation electrical pack with an integrated air management system.

The electrical air-conditioning pack, under development for several years at Liebherr-Aerospace, is a major step towards greener aircraft operation. In lieu of the traditional methods of utilizing bleed air from the aircraft's engines, the innovative design selected by Aerion draws ambient air from an inlet located on the leading edge of the wing strake, enabling electrically powered compression. Fuel consumption due to the air-conditioning packs will thus be considerably reduced compared to current bleed air systems.

"Developing an air management system, which is to perform at supersonic speed comes with many challenges that we intend to work through with the Aerion team. Liebherr has a decades long experience on air and thermal management systems for both commercial and military platforms, that we can contribute for the benefit of the AS2", explained Francis Carla, Chief Technology Officer of Liebherr-Aerospace & Transportation SAS.

"We are seeking innovative, technology-led partners at the top of their fields who are passionate about accelerating the evolution of human mobility while at the same time being kind to our planet. I am confident that in Liebherr-Aerospace we have found such a partner

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who will support bringing the AS2 to production," said Tom Vice, Aerion's Chairman, President & CEO.

Aerion's pursuit of faster point-to-point travel begins with the launch of the AS2 supersonic business jet that will commence production in 2023. Designed to be inherently environmentally responsible from first flight, the AS2 is the first supersonic aircraft designed with the ability to accept 100% synthetic fuel and reach supersonic speeds without the need for an afterburner.

The AS2 will be the first aircraft to be assembled at Aerion's new global headquarters called "Aerion Park" in Melbourne, Florida (USA). The state-of-the-art development, powered by clean energy, will incorporate headquarters operations plus an integrated campus for research, design, build and support of the company's new supersonic aircraft.

#### **About Liebherr-Aerospace & Transportation**

Liebherr-Aerospace & Transportation SAS, Toulouse (France), is one of eleven divisional control companies within the Liebherr Group and coordinates all activities in the aerospace and transportation systems sectors. Liebherr-Aerospace is a leading supplier of systems for the aviation industry and has more than six decades of experience in this field. The range of aviation equipment produced by Liebherr for the civil and military sectors includes flight control and actuation systems, gears and gearboxes, landing gear and air management systems as well as electronics. These systems are deployed in wide-bodied aircraft, single aisle and regional aircraft, business jets, combat aircraft, military transporters, military training aircraft, civil helicopters and combat helicopters.

Liebherr's aerospace and transportation systems division employs around 6,200 people. It has four aviation equipment production plants at Lindenberg (Germany), Toulouse (France), Guaratinguetá (Brazil) and Nizhny Novgorod (Russia). These production sites offer a worldwide service with additional customer service centers in Saline (Michigan/USA), Seattle (Washington/USA), Montreal (Canada), Hamburg (Germany), Moscow (Russia), Dubai (UAE), Bangalore (India), Singapore and Shanghai (People's Republic of China).

#### **About the Liebherr Group**

The Liebherr Group is a family-run technology company with a highly diversified product portfolio. The company is not only one of the largest construction equipment manufacturers in the world, but also provides high-quality and user-oriented products and services in a wide range of other areas. The Liebherr Group includes over 140 companies across all continents, employs more than 48,000 staff and in 2019 achieved combined revenues of over 11.7 billion euros. Since its foundation in 1949 in Kirchdorf an der Iller in Southern Germany, Liebherr has been pursuing the goal of achieving continuous technological innovation, and bringing industry-leading solutions to its customers.

#### **About Aerion:**

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Aerion is founded on a core belief of bringing humanity closer. The company's vision is a future where humanity can travel between any two points on our planet within three hours using new transportation networks – powered by clean energy solutions and enabling a world where distance is no longer a barrier. The starting point is sustainable supersonic flight, led by the world's first supersonic business jet – the AS2. More information can be found at [www.aerionsupersonic.com](http://www.aerionsupersonic.com)

### Image



Aerion\_Reveal-Hanger\_3300x1524\_Web\_HRes\_FINAL.jpg

Liebherr supplies the air management system for the AS2 - © Aerion Supersonic

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