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12/07/2016 JAPAN'S NCA EXPANDS ITS DORNIER 228 FLEET, ORDERS ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT



RUAG Aviation and its longstanding partner Sojitz Aerospace Corporation (SOASCO) have concluded a purchase agreement for a new Dornier 228 aircraft to be delivered to New Central Airservice (NCA), expanding the Tokyo-area-based airline's Dornier fleet. SOASCO and RUAG Aviation have enjoyed a

strong business relationship that has spanned over two decades.

This latest sale follows the RUAG announcement confirming serial production of the Dornier 228 programme. Work is now underway in the RUAG Aviation operations at Oberpfaffenhofen, and the new-production turboprop is scheduled for delivery towards the end of this year. "Feedback so far has been extremely positive, and SOASCO particularly appreciates RUAG Aviation's constant communication, in particular the regular and transparent reporting. As an essential part of RUAG's commitment to transparency, the SOASCO team is invited to the production facility to inspect the progress of the aircraft every four to eight weeks, says Volker Wallrodt, senior vice president Business Jets, Dornier 228 & Components, RUAG Aviation.

NCA operates its Dornier 228 fleet in both passenger and cargo configurations between Tokyo's Chofu airport and the city's southern islands. The airliner opted for the Dornier due to the aircraft's short take-off and landing (STOL) capabilities and high crosswind stability, both of which are vital for operating safely on the islands' runways. Furthermore, the aircraft features high payload capacity at significant cruising speeds, for operational flexibility and efficiency. A robust aircraft, the Dornier 228 is easy to maintain.

SOASCO is a Japanese trading company that specialized in aerospace, defence and security equipment. SOASCO belongs to Sojitz Corporation, one of the biggest trading companies in Japan. The Sojitz Group consists of approximately 400 subsidiaries and affiliates located in Japan and throughout the world, and it is developing its wide-ranging general trading company operations in roughly 50 countries and regions across the globe.

