



Blackhawk
Worldwide Aircraft Performance Enhancements

Press Release

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Blackhawk Caravan Engine Upgrade Gains Momentum at NBAA

Orlando, Fla. (October 20, 2009) –Blackhawk Modifications, the leading provider of Pratt & Whitney engine upgrades for turbine powered aircraft, received another deposit for the increasingly popular XP_{42A} Caravan engine upgrade. More than a dozen deposits have now been received in anticipation of FAA approval which is expected early in 2010. The 850 SHP Pratt & Whitney PT6A-42A engine delivers new life to the versatile Grand Caravan by introducing 175 more SHP than the current -114A in all phases of flight.



Jim Allmon, President and CEO of Blackhawk Modifications, was pleased with the significant level of interest while the certification process for the new PT6A-42A program is under way. “It is no surprise to see Caravan operators gravitate toward a more powerful Pratt & Whitney engine. The PT6A track record of safety and dependability are the primary reasons why this is the engine of choice for the Turboprop fleet. We are pleased to use our engineering capabilities to integrate modern technology and higher horsepower PT6A engines on airframes that were certified decades ago. This engine is a game-changer for the ‘workhorse’ Caravan – now it’s a powerhouse performer with incredible flexibility.”

“Pratt & Whitney’s continuous 850 SHP factory-new engine says it all in terms of reliability,” Allmon continued. “Blackhawk is proud to have teamed up successfully with Pratt once again.”

Director of Engineering Corey Eckhart was enthusiastic after piloting the first test flight. “The performance numbers exceeded our expectations especially when considering the ISA +25 day during the first flight. I can’t wait to see what this engine will do at standard temperatures. As a pilot, it’s a good feeling to know there are greater safety margins across the board with this new engine.”

Blackhawk has the largest non OEM engine contract in force with Pratt & Whitney. The engines are priced based on the Pratt exchange program and generous credit is issued for time remaining to overhaul on core PT6A-114/A engines.

Hot day performance numbers are better than originally anticipated.

- Takeoff distances are reduced by approximately 45 %.
- Climb rate doubles and uses half the fuel.
- Less fuel burn at original Caravan power settings (20 lbs per hour).
- Max cruise speeds 35 to 40 KTAS faster.
- Over 300 lb increased gross weight kit (9,062 lbs)

Please visit Blackhawk at booth number 2935 or call 254-755-6711 for delivery schedule details.

About Blackhawk Modifications: Blackhawk Modifications is the leading turboprop aircraft engine upgrade company in the world specializing in King Air 90 and 200 series aircraft as well as Conquest I, Cheyenne and Caravan series. Headquartered in Waco, Texas, Blackhawk has now equipped over 226 turboprop aircraft with the Pratt & Whitney XP engine upgrade since 2000 and continues to certify new engine upgrades and value adding enhancements designed to increase the usefulness and safety of the turboprop fleet.

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