

For immediate release  
8<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### **AIM Aviation unveils striking concept interior at AIX**

AIM Aviation today unveils a striking new concept interior on its stand at the Aircraft Interiors Expo.

The concept interior is an exercise in design and engineering potential, showcasing what is achievable. It brings together technical innovations, engineering advances, new manufacturing processes and the latest decorative finishes.

The interior allows each visitor to consider ‘the art of the possible’, without the constraints of the specific choices of any one airline. It shows the level of imagination and craftsmanship that can be realised in a fully functioning interior and lets the individual visualise how their airline’s branding and personality could be applied to the space.

Richard Bower, Group Commercial Director at AIM Aviation, says: “The concept interior represents a new way of thinking in terms of blending the bar and galley areas, uniting form and function. The continuity of design, materials and lighting creates a greater feeling of space, as the sightlines are not restricted. It has been designed as an example of a statement piece, which could be adapted and branded to suit an airline’s requirements.”

While the space has been planned to create an encapsulated social experience for passengers and crew, it still manages to provide open viewing into the cabin. A vertically-sliding video screen cleverly secures bar-top bottles and glasses for take-off and landing, and the galleys are concealed behind smart, minimalist blinds. The monuments feature a range of options for displaying goods to improve airline revenue, and self-service areas allow passengers the personal choice to interact. Information is made easily available through new-technology media.

Visit [www.aim-aviation.com](http://www.aim-aviation.com).





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### **AIM Aviation boosts customer support**

AIM Aviation has chosen the 2014 Aircraft Interiors Expo to announce an expansion of its after-sales services. Offering greater customer support, AIM Aviation will be launching a web-based portal for spare parts and has appointed a new distributor for the Americas.

The additional focus on customer support has been realised with the appointment of Mike Tappenden, as Vice President of Customer Support, for all of AIM Aviation's products.

#### **Launch of web-based ordering portal**

AIM Aviation is currently developing an online ordering portal for standard spare parts, which will be made live within the next few weeks. The portal will give customers access to check the availability of all standard parts, consult the pricelist and place orders.

Full details will soon be announced directly to existing customers and *via* the media to all other interested parties.

#### **New sole distributor and stockist**

AIM Aviation has also appointed a sole distributor and stockist for the Americas. Commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, AIM Aircraft Spares LLC, based in Peachtree City, Atlanta, will be working within an expanded region, to include North & South America and Canada. President, Mrs Susan Green, will be building on many years of support for AIM Aviation's commuter aircraft interiors operated within the USA.

AIM Aircraft Spares will be the stockist for standard AIM Aviation parts and the distributor for all other AIM Aviation spares required within the region.

Mrs Green runs a wholly woman-owned and operated company. For more details visit [www.aimaircraftspares.com](http://www.aimaircraftspares.com).

Mike Tappenden, Vice President of Customer Support at AIM Aviation, says: “We have been investing heavily in our facilities for the production of aircraft interiors. While we are expanding at the design and manufacturing stage, it is also vital that we continue to provide the high level of customer support demanded throughout the life of the aircraft. We are working hard to ensure that our customers are able to access spare parts with the maximum efficiency, making the most of both online technology and the crucial human element.”

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Investing in the future

### **New facility for AIM Aviation in Bournemouth**

AIM Aviation is making a significant investment in facilities at its Bournemouth production site. The designer and manufacturer of aerospace cabin-interior products is set to consolidate its numerous Bournemouth-based premises into one purpose built, 16,000 square metre, facility on the Aviation Business Park at Bournemouth Airport.

This progression is part of an overall strategy to provide AIM Aviation with the best possible facilities for all cabin interior requirements and sufficient capacity to meet with the company's own plans for growth and that of the commercial aviation market. Indeed, work is nearing completion at AIM Aviation's Byfleet site in Surrey, where a major new factory is being built to add capacity to the Galleys Division. AIM Aviation has also recently increased its testing facilities by 70% and invested in a new state-of-the-art panel press at its Composites Division in Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire.

The new facility at Bournemouth will provide AIM Aviation's Cabin Interiors Division with 30% additional capacity, to meet expanding demand for its premium bars and monuments. The facility will incorporate a Customer Zone, allowing the viewing of mock-up interiors and styling options for existing and prospective customers. The office areas will be configured to provide flexible project working and the manufacturing space will be established with LEAN principles at its heart. A dedicated test facility will complete the capability on offer.

Colin Thornton, Managing Director of the Cabin Interiors Division, comments: "Having the whole team under one roof will greatly enhance our ability to meet customers' demand for reduced time-to-market and best value. In addition, this exciting project will allow AIM Aviation to have a modern facility in keeping with the high quality of product it supplies."

Works are scheduled to commence in May 2014, becoming operational in June 2015.



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### **AIM's new factory on time and on budget**

The major new facility extension being built by AIM Aviation at its Galleys and Stowages division in Byfleet, Surrey, is on schedule and nearing completion.

The build is taking place in two phases, so that the existing workload for Galleys and Stowages will have no interruption. The construction of phase one has been completed, along with the car park, and was handed over on schedule on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014. Fit-out is now in progress, with some trades already working on the final fix. The installation of a data link between the new factory extension and existing server room is also in progress.

The base build for the second phase will begin at the end of March and fit-out is scheduled for August 2014. Once both phases have been completed, AIM Aviation will benefit from an additional 31,000 square feet of state-of-the-art production and testing facilities, in support of current and future company growth.

Visit [www.aim-aviation.com](http://www.aim-aviation.com).





**High resolution images** can be obtained by emailing [gd@phillipsprofile.co.uk](mailto:gd@phillipsprofile.co.uk)

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**Notes for Editors**

AIM Aviation designs, engineers and manufactures cabin interiors for the world's major airlines on Airbus, Boeing and military aircraft, from its base in the UK.

The market-leading services of AIM Aviation include: exterior and interior composite assemblies, stowages and galleys, premium monuments and bar units, lounges, sky shops and seat modules – in fact the entire cabin interior from cockpit to rear pressure bulkhead. All inspirationally designed, meticulously engineered and beautifully crafted.

In-house research and development expertise enables innovative ideas and materials to meet with the vision of the airline and the standards of the aircraft manufacturer. Design and engineering skills allow AIM Aviation to offer both practical solutions and striking, unique, statement pieces.

AIM Aviation has grown from a small coachworks business, established in the early 1900s, to become a leading global supplier of aircraft interiors to the foremost airlines and aircraft manufacturers.

[www.aim-aviation.com](http://www.aim-aviation.com)