

# GLOBAL BUSINESS JET

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Barflies at PrivatAir's Paris FBO  
See our Base Report  
Pages 10-11



Million Air SLC on the challenge  
of a Winter Olympics  
Page 14

## Seattle BBJ contains 'comforts of a house at 40,000 feet'

As GBJ goes to press, the aircraft certification flights for Seattle-based Flight Center's BBJ are within weeks of completion. The company's Mark Pool told us: "The FAA has a person in Basel [where the aircraft is being completed] doing the certification flights as we speak. It is a long process from green plane to flying plane but this has been a hassle-free completion."

Flight Center bought its BBJ in August 2000. The aircraft seats 19 passengers in executive style, has eight auxiliary long-range fuel tanks and was chosen, says the company's Mark Pool, for several reasons.

He explained: "The aircraft's best qualities are its state-of-the-art equipment, its extremely long range of 6,000nm, its speed due to the altitude it can fly within and the space it offers."

"It's roomy enough to comfortably accommodate the ceo and major officers of a company for long trips and it contains all the comforts of a house but at 40,000 feet."

In October 2000, the aircraft flew to Basel, Switzerland for Jet Aviation to start the engineering work for the interior. Said Pool: "We chose Jet Aviation for two reasons: One, they do excellent work and have the expertise and experience of working on large aircraft interiors. And secondly, they are very good at completing aircraft on time."

During the completion process, Jet Aviation constructed a full-size, wood mock-up of the entire aircraft to allow the owner to do an actual walk-through for the purpose of making sure everything was going to be the correct size for the owner's needs.

The interior consists of six separate compartments, each able to be closed off for privacy. The first section is a crew area, complete with galley, rest area, lavatory, and baggage storage area. The passenger sections include a social lounge, a main lounge, a passenger galley, passenger lavatory, executive office and the master bedroom complete with master lavatory.

The aircraft has a satellite telephone communications system, digital phone system, dual fax/scanner and printer machines in

Continued on page 4



While the Montreal Canadiens have been battling it out in the NHL play-offs this season, owner George Gillett - who regularly travels to games in corporate aircraft - has been extolling the virtues of his latest business jet, a Challenger 601-3A. See page 9 for full story.

## New Yorker's imagination runs wild on Middle East super jumbo project

A New York company has won the right to design a vip interior for the forthcoming A380 Super Jumbo. President Edese Doret was approached by a Middle Eastern customer at the Paris Air Show last year and his company - Edese Doret Industrial Design - is now busy completing the two-deck interior.

Doret told GBJ: "Working on this project is like being in a designer's playground. There's so much room to play with that you can just let your imagination run wild."

"Having said that, when I was first approached, it took me by surprise because I had never actually conceived of the idea of putting a vip interior into such a large aircraft. Up until now, we have only worked on some Boeing and Airbus wide-body

aircraft so I figured we had quite a task ahead of us."

The project is in its preliminary stages and says Doret, involves the use of every inch of the aircraft for the owner's use and comfort. He said: "We've been working on the project for about 10 months now and our concept work should be complete by September."

"We're also planning a CGI animated walk-through of the aircraft so you can get a pretty good feel for what the aircraft will look like when it's completed. It's an excellent tool for customers, particularly if you're not a visual person per se."

Asked about any restrictions Doret has had to adhere to during the project, he said: "We have been pretty much free to create whatever we

wanted and whatever the client asked of us. Admittedly, there were some pie in the sky requests like a jacuzzi and a pool table but we've pulled him away from things that we didn't think

Continued on page 3

Continued on page 14

## Bringing business aviation to life...



Comments: p3  
Contents: p8  
Portfolio aircraft: p15

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