

AUSTRALIAN AVIATION
Avalon Show Daily 2009

Show Daily Editor
Andrew McLaughlin

Managing Editor
Gerard Frawley

Show Daily Reporter
Ellis Taylor

Photographer & Production Manager
Paul Sadler

Proof Reading
Bruce McLaughlin

Advertising & Events Manager
Lee-Anne Simm

Circulation Manager
Alex Howe

Accounts Manager
Belinda Stamatias

Publisher
Phantom Media Pty Ltd
ABN: 50 112 691 666

PO Box 1777,
Fyshwick ACT 2609, Australia.

Publisher of *Australian Aviation* magazine

Phone: (02) 6280 0111
Fax: (02) 6280 0007
Email: mail@australianaviation.com.au
Web: www.australianaviation.com.au

In partnership with
Business Communications Group



Editor-in-Chief
Trevor J Thomas

Research Director
Nick Merrett

Printed in Melbourne by:
bluestar*

© Phantom Media 2009. All material published in *Australian Aviation Show Daily* is copyright and may not be used without the express permission of the publisher.

JSF turns the corner



The F-35 JSF program has turned the corner according to Lockheed Martin's executive vice president for F-35 Program Integration, Tom Burbage.

Mr Burbage told Avalon Airshow media on March 10 that the F-35's flight test campaign is progressing

on track, and that the aircraft and its systems are performing extremely well. The systems "are proving to be significantly more mature at this stage of testing than those of past programs," he said. "Milestones achieved in 2008 and 2009 continue to validate the F-35's continued

AUSSIE COMPANY BENEFITS FROM JSF WORK

Cheltenham based company Metaltec Precision Engineering has found that the best in the world can come from Australia as it conducts work for the Joint Strike Fighter Program.

Metaltec is currently making assembly/disassembly tooling for the GE/Rolls-Royce F136 engine for the JSF. It is has also been producing JSF tooling for BAE Systems UK.

"Through our Aerotech joint venture, we have recently completed our first spar tool for BAE Systems UK for the JSF empennage. We're currently awaiting purchase orders for follow-on work," Metaltec's national business development manager Michael Taylor told Australian Aviation.

In order to complete some of its JSF work, the company searched the world for a firm that could build the specialised high speed five-axis milling machine required. That search led all the way back to Melbourne. H&H Machine Tools of Campbellfield is now in the process of building the machine in association with Metaltec.

"It's amazing to think that two Australian companies have been able to show their capabilities in what is

the biggest fighter program in the world," said Taylor.

GOOD POTENTIAL FOR Do228NG IN AUSTRALASIA

Switzerland based RUAG Aerospace sees a good market potential in the region for its re-birthed Do228, primarily as a utility aircraft.

RUAG has already sold five Do228s to an undisclosed customer in Australia, while it has also sold six to a customer in Japan and

success, including: the successful first flight of F-35 BF-1 on 11 June 2008; deployment of F-35 AA-1 to Edwards AFB with all tests accomplished ahead of schedule; and recently, the successful first flight of F-35 BF-2 on 25 February 2009. The program remains on schedule to deliver the first production model F-35s to Eglin AFB, in 2010, and to meet all services' IOC dates, starting in 2012."

He also expects 2009 to be "a big year" for all the international JSF partners, with all facing some major decision this year in relation to the program. "In the case of Australia, it's the Defence White Paper release and second pass review later on this year," he said. "Every single partner country is facing a major decision this year, leading to a firm decision to buy operational jets in the next couple of years."

Lockheed Martin has a full-scale mockup of the F-35A on static display for the duration of the show.

two each to customers in Argentina and Mexico.

"We can see 15-20 airplanes in this region over the next 10 years," RUAG's Wolfgang Kofen told Australian Aviation. He also said that the majority of those aircraft would be used in either utility or specialist roles, such as maritime patrol or cargo.

Local representative Ian Blackie also said that the aircraft "has good potential" to replace the RAAF's retiring Caribous, as it has good field performance and soft field capabili-

RE RANDOLPH SUNGLASSES

STANDARD ISSUE FOR THOSE WHO DEMAND THE BEST.

now proudly supported in Australia

Now available at Skylines Moorabbin
the one stop pilot shop 03 9587 3400

randolphsunglasses.com.au