LAUNCH CUSTOMER FOR HYDROGEN-POWERED ATR 72 CARGO AIRCRAFT - ASL AVIATION HOLDINGS

News / Airlines, Manufacturer

Universal Hydrogen announced it has executed a letter of intent with ASL Aviation Holdings. ASL will be a global launch customer for the turboprop cargo market and plans to purchase up to ten of Universal Hydrogen's ATR 72 conversion kits for installation into its existing or future turboprop aircraft fleet.

Upon completion of a collaborative network study and aircraft assessment, Universal Hydrogen's conversion kits will be installed in ATR 72 planes owned by ASL and operated on services for its major customers throughout Europe. In addition to the conversion kits, ASL has agreed to provide an ATR 72 to Universal Hydrogen to use as its cargo test and certification aircraft.

The ASL CargoVision forum is an initiative to drive innovation and sustainability in the air cargo industry, and working together in this forum Universal Hydrogen and ASL will move quickly to reduce emissions in the critical regional sector served by the ATR 72.

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“Air cargo has a unique opportunity to lead the aviation industry as it moves to meet ambitious carbon emissions targets. In ASL we are committed to being a first-mover in the introduction of new emissions reduction technology in our current fleet and hydrogen has a significant role to play with aircraft such as the ATR 72,” said Dave Andrew, CEO, ASL Aviation Holdings. “Aviation cannot wait to act for a decade or more before new aircraft types become available, and by working with Universal Hydrogen we can create a bridge to new aircraft that will allow us to immediately reduce our carbon footprint in line with the environmental sustainability commitments in the ASL Group ESG Policy.”

In connection with the aircraft conversions, Universal Hydrogen and ASL will also enter into a long-term fuel services contract. Universal Hydrogen has agreed to provide green hydrogen fuel to power the converted ATR 72 aircraft in ASL’s fleet.

“In order to reach Paris Agreement targets for aviation emissions we can’t focus on passenger aircraft alone—the cargo market is significant and growing. It’s exciting to see a leading operator like ASL deeply aligned with our vision to make hydrogen the universal fuel for aviation,” said Paul Eremenko, Universal Hydrogen co-founder and CEO. “ASL’s customers represent some of the largest air freight users in the world, and we welcome the opportunity to provide them with a truly clean way to meet growing delivery demands.”

Universal Hydrogen

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