Press Release

CSIR-NAL & MESCO AEROSPACE signs Collaborative Agreement to develop two seater HANSA-NG aircraft

Bangalore, September 7, 2018: CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bengaluru and Mesco Aerospace Ltd., New Delhi signs the collaborative agreement for the design, development, production and marketing of two seat Hansa-NG aircraft which will ease the availability of indigenous aircraft for pilot training to obtain private pilot and commercial pilot licenses.

The collaborative project on 'Hansa-Next Generation(NG) aircraft development' being implemented by CSIR-NAL and Mesco Aerospace has been approved by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi. The aircraft will be ready for first flight in the next 11-13 months and will be certified under DGCA for commercial flights by March 2020. Post certification, the Hansa-NG shall be manufactured by Mesco Aerospace under a license agreement. Mesco Aerospace would also set-up service centre for Hansa and undertake maketing of Hansa-NG in India and abroad. As per the recent market reports, the immediate market potential for 2 seat aircraft in India is about 70-80 aircraft. The targeted selling cost of the aircraft would be around Rs.80 lakhs for the basic version and Rs.100 lakhs for fully loaded version. The Hansa-NG can also be used in bird reconnaissance at airfield, cadet training, coastal surveillance and hobby flying in the country.

CSIR-NAL has built totally 14 production version 2 seat aircraft of Hansa-3 from 2001 to 2010 out of which 11 were delivered to DGCA, one aircraft to IIT-Kanpur and two aircraft are with CSIR-NAL out of which one has been leased to M/s Mesco Aerospace Ltd. during Aero India 2017. All the pilots who have flown Hansa-3 aircraft have expressed that the aerodynamics, power and controls harmony makes flying very comfortable and the aircraft has got excellent flying characteristics. The flying community suggested a few upgrades/modifications to Hansa-3 aircraft by implementing latest technologies and enhancing its roll and to make it more useful as a trainer aircraft.

Now CSIR-NAL jointly with Mesco Aerospace Ltd will modify Hansa-3 aircraft by incorporating new technologies and bring out Hansa-NG (New Generation), which will satisfy the requirements of flying clubs for obtaining PPL (Personal Pilot License) & CPL (Commercial Pilot License) by the young generation. The modifications that are planned on Hansa-3 aircraft are : use of an advanced Rotax 912 iSc Sport engine with better fuel consumption, changing the instrument panel from analogue instruments to digital state-of-the-art display system, increasing the range and endurance by reducing the airframe weight and drag, reducing the pilot load by changing the mechanically operated flaps to electrical operation, aircraft steering operation to be made simple by introducing steerable nose wheel, providing heated pitot for IFR compliance, LED lights, provision for baggage, ergonomically designed doors for better ingress and egress and improvement in interior aesthetics. In summary, HANSA NG is expected to now incorporate state of art/contemporary technology that enhances range and flight safety, is cheaper to operate and has increased availability.

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Photo captions:

Jitendra J Jadhav, Director, CSIR-NAL and Manoj Pandey, COO Mesco Aerospace Exchanging Collaboration Agreement

Hansa-3 in flight at Aero India 2017