



LAX/Community Noise Roundtable

Aviation Noise News Update

November 8, 2017

FAA Adopts Stage 5 Airplane Noise Standards



On October 4, 2017, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) published a notice in the Federal Register that it had set (effective November 3, 2017) new, quieter Stage 5 noise standards for new airplane designs

- The Stage 5 standards are equivalent to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 16, Volume I standard known as Chapter 14 and represent a cumulative 7-decibel reduction in noise over the Stage 4 noise standards with at least a 1-dB reduction over Stage 3 standards at each certification measurement site
 - Airplanes with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of 121,254 pounds or more must comply with the Stage 5 standards on or after December 31, 2017
 - Airplanes with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of less than 121,254 pounds must comply with the Stage 5 standards on or after December 31, 2020
- The Stage 5 standards only apply to newly manufactured aircraft as of the dates prescribed in the regulation and do not phase out aircraft complying with the Stage 3 and Stage 4 noise standards; the LAX Roundtable provided written comments on the proposed regulation seeking a Stage 3 phase out
- The A380, A350, 747-800, 787, Bombardier C-series aircraft, B737Max with Leap engine, and the A320neo family with Leap or Geared Turbofan engines meet the new Stage 5 standards

Wright Electric Aircraft Company Collaborates With easyJet



Los Angeles-based Wright Electric, which plans to produce all-electric commercial jets, has begun collaborating with the European low-cost air carrier easyJet

- Wright Electric's goal is to build a battery-powered 150-seat plane for the short-haul (under 300 mile) market, which is a focus of EasyJet
- easyJet is sharing its short-haul route expertise with Wright Electric to ensure the aircraft successfully comes to the marketplace
- In announcing its collaboration with Wright Electric, easyJet stated that it has, "a strategy to progressively decarbonise and reduce noise from aviation operations."
- Chief executive Jeff Engler said Wright Electric's goal is to have a commercial electric aircraft certified by the FAA within a decade

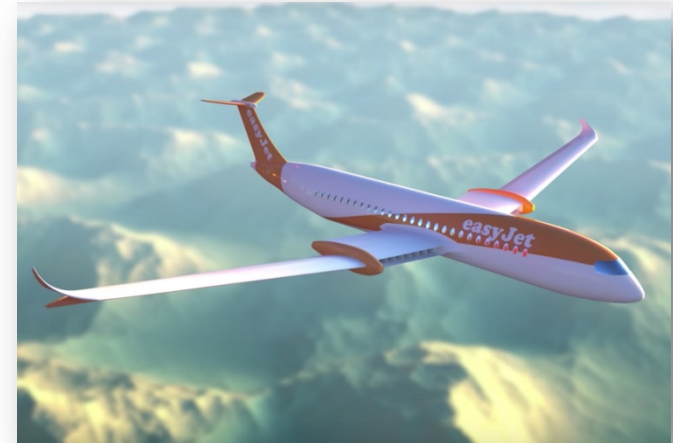


Image Credit: easyJet

(<https://electrek.co/2017/09/27/electric-airplane-startup-easyjet-join-force-all-electric-aircraft-market/>)

(<http://www.aviationpros.com/news/12370901/this-la-electric-plane-startup-is-working-with-easyjet-to-develop-electric-jetliners>)

Community Survey on Aircraft Noise Impacts



A community group near Gatwick Airport in London, Communities Against Gatwick Noise and Emission (CAGNE), launched an online survey for residents of nearby Sussex to express their opinions on aircraft noise impacts

- The goal of the ten-question survey is to see whether residents believe noise has improved or worsened since new, concentrated flight paths were introduced at Gatwick Airport in 2013
- The survey also asks residents if there should be a ban or reduction in nighttime aircraft operations and if they support plans to expand the airport
- CAGNE chairwoman Sally Pavey said the survey results be forwarded to, “...to the Government as part of the Department for Transport call for evidence on how aircraft noise significantly affects lives, wellbeing and the impact it has on sleep.”
- CAGNE is using Survey Monkey to solicit residents’ opinions through the end of December 2017

Bombardier C-Series Aircraft Assessed a 300 Percent Tariff



The United States Commerce Department ruled that a 300 percent tariff would be placed on the sales of Bombardier's C-Series aircraft in the United States

- The C-Series aircraft, which are manufactured in Canada, are the most technologically advanced and quietest 100-150 seat commercial aircraft entering the market
- Earlier in the year, Delta Air Lines had announced that it would be acquiring up to 125 CS-100 aircraft with deliveries beginning in the spring 2018. Delta CEO Ed Bastian said, "We will not pay those tariffs and that is very clear."
- Boeing, which had sought the tariff, praised the ruling stating, "These duties are the consequence of a conscious decision by Bombardier to violate trade law and dump their C Series aircraft to secure a sale."
- In a related surprise move, Airbus and Bombardier announced that Airbus had acquired a controlling interest in Bombardier and that the C-Series aircraft would be assembled at Airbus' facilities in Alabama
- This move means that the C-Series aircraft will be made in the United States, effectively eliminating the tariff and providing Airbus with additional political clout in Washington, D.C.



(<http://money.cnn.com/2017/10/06/news/companies/boeing-bombardier-trade-ruling-tariff/index.html>)

(<http://money.cnn.com/2017/10/16/news/companies/airbus-buys-majority-stake-bombardier-cseries/index.html>)

Maryland to Sue FAA on Noise From NextGen Flight Tracks



The Governor of Maryland directed the state's Attorney General to sue the FAA over the impact on residents created by FAA's implementation of new NextGen flight tracks

- Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh said in a statement, "The noise from these new flight paths is disturbing and disruptive to the lives of many Marylanders."
- In preparing for the lawsuit, Frosh retained the services of Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell, the legal firm that represented the City of Phoenix in its successful case against the FAA's implementation of NextGen flight tracks at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
- Both U.S. Senators from Maryland, Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen, issued a statement supporting the state's lawsuit against the FAA indicating, "More than two years after implementation, the FAA has yet to make any substantive changes to these shifted and narrowed flight paths, and communities around airports nationwide have experienced similar results."
- The Senators added, "We are working on legislative strategies... to ensure that the FAA gives additional consideration to cumulative noise impacts and works more cooperatively with local communities on flight path issues."