

Buffett's aerospace pain only worsens even with airlines gone

Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. **dumped** its stakes in the four largest U.S. airlines but the billionaire investor remains deeply exposed to the collapse in air travel.

dump 倾倒; 丢下

dumpling 饺子; 汤圆

Berkshire still owns all of Precision Castparts Corp., a supplier of aerospace parts that's bracing for lean times as Boeing Co. and Airbus SE cut jetliner production.

Now the maker of jet-engine blades and aircraft structural components is facing a **double whammy** as the coronavirus pandemic all but erases demand for flights, prompting airlines to park jets and slash schedules.

double whammy 祸不单行

whammy 打击

That means less need for replacement parts and a big drop in aircraft purchasing. With carriers predicting that flying won't return to 2019 levels for as long as three years, aerospace suppliers are **hunkering** down for a **protracted slump**.

hunker 蹲下; 盘坐

protracted 拖延的

slump 衰退; 暴跌

cog 齿轮

hunk 大块; 强壮

hunky 结实性感的

Precision Castparts, with its advanced technologies for casting and forging metals, will remain a key **cog** in the aerospace supply chain. In addition to the robust defense business in aircraft parts, the company serves customers in the power and energy industries.

But with commercial air travel facing a long and uncertain recovery, Buffett's bet on Precision Castparts will remain a drag on Berkshire for the foreseeable future.