**GE Aviation Launches Configuration Data Exchange to Reduce Maintenance Costs**
**Tuesday, November 15, 2016 03:30:00 PM (GMT)**

- *Data connectivity across the industry drives asset productivity, maintenance optimization*

- *Capgemini and GE sign agreement for implementation services*

Today, GE Aviation launched the Configuration Data Exchange for the aviation industry, establishing an exchange of data to drive asset productivity and maintenance optimization across the aviation ecosystem.

The Configuration Data Exchange connects aviation companies and allows for the digital exchange of key operations, maintenance and configuration data. In basic terms, this can be thought of as a data pipeline that will allow for two-way asset data flow between airlines, MROs, lessors, OEMs and parts brokers, and it will be agnostic to the various IT systems of record.

"There are major inefficiencies in the management of data generated within our industry," said Jim Daily, vice president and chief digital officer for GE Aviation. "Through Predix, the Configuration Data Exchange will bring disparate systems together to provide future insights and will help to reduce the $4 billion annual spend on manually managing data within airlines."

Working together to bring Configuration Data Exchange to market, GE Aviation signed a teaming agreement today with Capgemini. The two teams are working together on customer engagements and Capgemini will provide implementation services bringing its aviation experience to help accelerate adoption and business process improvements with our mutual customers.

Disparate maintenance and engineering systems across the industry, as well as millions of paper and PDF records, have long been identified as a key barrier to reducing operating costs and improving asset utilization. While capturing and processing aircraft sensor data and fault codes has been performed for years, there is a considerable information gap with respect to maintenance, repair and installed configuration data.

"Anyone can insert a debit card into an ATM anywhere in the world to get their balance and withdraw cash in a matter of seconds. But for a lessor or operator to find a specific maintenance record for a return could literally take months," explains Ray Stetter, vice president for Capgemini's North America aviation practice.

Configuration Data Exchange is the foundation of GE's Intelligent Fleet offering that will enable customers to achieve intelligent insights around parts life management, service bulletin compliance, advanced monitoring and diagnostics, inventory planning, and maintenance optimization.

Today, more than 100 airlines covering 10,000 aircraft are GE Aviation Digital Solutions' customers for such services as flight and fuel analytics, navigation services, airline operations management and planning and recovery.

GE is the world's Digital Industrial Company, transforming industry with software-defined machines and solutions that are connected, responsive and predictive. GE is organized around a global exchange of knowledge, the "GE Store," where each business shares and accesses the same technology, markets, structure and intellect. Each invention further fuels innovation and application across our industrial sectors. With people, services, technology and scale, GE delivers better outcomes for customers by speaking the language of industry. **www.geaviation.com/digital**

Notes to Editors:

GE Aviation's Intelligent Fleet product offering will establish the ecosystem where aircraft data can be exchanged across any party in the industry, in order to drive asset productivity and maintenance optimization. To develop the best insights for aircraft fleets or aircraft maintenance, it is critical to have insight into the full history of the hardware, and therefore the first product offering is the Configuration Data Exchange. In basic terms, this can be thought of as a data pipeline that will allow for 2-way configuration data flow between airline customers and MRO providers that will be agnostic to the various maintenance IT systems of record.

The product will include a configuration data standard and data translation capability to move data from one system of record to another via the GE Digital Predix platform. We understand that transparency and data validation are critical, so the Configuration Data Exchange will also include Quality Assurance Interfaces to enable review of data and resolve discrepancies that may be identified through the validation process.

This Configuration Data Exchange will enable customers to gain efficiency in asset handoff between airlines and MROs as well as during lease returns by simplifying data transmission and storage. This product will also improve record accuracy by reducing manual data entry and will enable customers to achieve labor reduction for staff focused on configuration management.

Configuration Data Exchange is the foundation that will enable customers to achieve intelligent insights around parts life management, SB compliance, Advanced M&D, Inventory planning, and maintenance optimization. For an MRO this means better customer integration, increased productivity and advanced service offerings. An airline can increase aircraft availability through improved handoff efficiency and reduced lease return fees.

GE Aviation, powered by the Predix platform, is uniquely situated agnostically between customers and systems of record, driving the data connections that enable analytics – whether those exist in the market or if you have your own resources to build capability on your data. As an OEM, MRO and parts broker ourselves, we also understand the power of this connection, and the possibilities when you have accurate configuration data at your fingertips.

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