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VOLGA-DNEPR GULF EXPANDED ITS EASA PART-145 BASE MAINTENANCE CERTIFICATE

Volga-Dnepr Gulf (VD Gulf) company, which represents Volga-Dnepr Technics Subgroup in the Middle East region has successfully completed the full cycle of procedures required for being granted the authorization by European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) to perform base maintenance checks (C-Checks) on Boeing 747-400 and Boeing 737NG aircraft in the Company's hangar facility at Sharjah Airport, UAE.

Air carriers who operate such type aircraft will be able to enjoy advantages of conveniently located VDG's maintenance base and become the first customers of MRO services in the nearest future.

"Our team is proud of the effort we made to expand EASA Part-145 base maintenance certificate, which was recognized by the European Agency. Now the Company starts implementing a larger scale service works in Volga-Dnepr Gulf hangar facility. I am convinced that we are able to cope with such tasks because we operate all the required resources and capabilities" said Viktor Sherin the Managing Director of Volga-Dnepr Gulf.

Volga-Dnepr Gulf started working in UAE in 1996. In Sharjah Airport the Company operates a brand-new advanced hangar facility of approximately 22 000 square meter area designed to provide airplane maintenance and repair services, which can accommodate six narrow body or two wide body airplanes of 747

or AN-124-100 type at a time. The hangar is provided with all required equipment for quality maintenance checks of various type airplanes in the scope of up to C-check, and it incorporates air conditioning and fire protection systems. The hangar has fully furnished structural and wheel repair sections. Volga-Dnepr Gulf is a holder of approval certificate granted by General Civil Aviation Authorities of UAE (CAR-145) and certificate granted by the European Aviation Safety Agency (PART-145). Volga-Dnepr Gulf is rated to provide maintenance checks on Boeing 747-200/300/400, B737 CL, B737NG, A320 Family airplanes, as well as Russia made airplanes of IL-76, AN-24, AN-26, AN-32, AN-74 and AN-124 types. In Fujairah city there is operational line maintenance station, which provides all kinds of maintenance and supporting services to AN-124-100, AN-74 and IL-76TD airplanes operated in Russia, European, Asian and African countries, for which Volga-Dnepr Gulf holds the applicable authorizations and permits.

VOLGA-DNEPR TECHNICS MOSCOW TO SET UP A COMPANY-BASED AVIATION TRAINING CENTER

Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow (VDTM) one of the lead players on Russia market of western aircraft maintenance and repair services is set to establish a Company-based Aviation Training Center located within the Moscow Aviation Cluster. EASA Part-147 Certificate granted by the European Aviation Safety Agency authorizes the Company to provide classroom and hands-on training of engineering and mechanical personnel for Boeing 747-type airplanes.

The VDTM Training Center is staffed with highly qualified and professional instructors and trainers having ocean-wide experience in maintaining and servicing western-made aircraft. In addition the new training institution is furnished with required facilities and equipment.

“Aviation is a business sector requiring continuous self-development and acquiring new knowledge from people working in it. EASA Part-147 Certificate should be deemed as recognition and approval of our active work input and successful growth of the Company in the Russian MRO market. We are determined to expand the range of airplanes maintained on the basis of the market demand and our customers’ expectations. I am confident the training process will increase accessibility to specialists and will be conducted on adequate level able to meet the appropriate global industry standards and there will be more and more well-trained and certified airplane maintenance engineers in Russia”, said E.P. Kochetov VDTM General Director.



Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow (VDTM) is a part of Volga-Dnepr Group and a provider of western airplanes MRO services. Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow was established in May 2009 and is part of a stand-alone business set up in 2008 on the basis of existing and new established aircraft repair and maintenance facilities for the purpose to centralize management of and coordinate MRO operations within the Group and improve quality of services. The Company operates line maintenance stations in Moscow Aviation Cluster (SVO, DME, VKO), Krasnoyarsk (KJA), Krasnodar (KRR). The Company is a holder of current certificates enabling maintenance and servicing airplane types B737 NG, B737CL, B747-200/300/400/8, A320 Family. The Company is the operator of Aviation Training Center for B747-type airplanes in the Moscow Aviation Cluster ■

VOLGA-DNEPR AIRLINES AND BOLLORE LOGISTICS NICE HELP TO DISCOVER 'IS THERE LIFE ON MARS?'

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has operated three An-124-100 cargo flights for global logistics company BOLLORE LOGISTICS carrying equipment and materials for the ExoMars space exploration programme that aims to discover any traces of life on Mars.



The flights, which operated on December 18, 20 and 22 for consignor, Thales Alenia Space Italia, departed from Turin in Italy to Kazakhstan's Baikonur Cosmodrome via Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport.

Volga-Dnepr's cargo included the Entry, Descent and Landing Demonstration module (EDM) as well as the Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) which will be launched into space in the first mission in March 2016. In total, Volga-Dnepr transported 20 x 20-foot containers, including two 'hi-cube' containers with materials for the ExoMars project launch campaign, loose cargo and

a satellite container. Each of the flights commenced loading at 0900hrs and departed from Turin Airport at 1530hrs on their way to the Russian consignee, FGUP TsENKI, which provides launch services for the space industry.

ExoMars is a joint programme between the European Space Agency and the Russian space agency, Roscosmos. The 2016 mission will reach Mars in October and aims to demonstrate Europe's ability to land a probe on the Red Planet. Meanwhile, the Orbiter will help to

determine the landing site for the second mission in 2018 when the descent module will place a rover on Mars to drill down two metres into the Martian soil to take samples and perhaps discover any traces of life. The data captured by the probe is expected to feed the work of researchers for many years to come as they analyse the soil's chemical, physical and biological properties.

This, however, is not Volga-Dnepr's first 'Mars mission'. In November 2011, the airline transported major parts of the launch vehicle for NASA's most ambitious 'Curiosity' rover mission to Mars. In support of the mission, a Volga-Dnepr An-124-100 freighter delivered the Atlas V launch system, part of the Atlas

rocket family operated by the Lockheed Martin-Boeing joint venture, United Launch Alliance, from Huntsville, Alabama, to Cape Canaveral in Florida.

Dennis Gliznoutsa, Vice President, Sales at Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said: "We are extremely proud to once again be the chosen air transportation partner for what could be a historic mission to Mars. We are excited to be part of the project and will be closely following the results of the first mission in 2016. We wish all of the partners in ExoMars great success in their endeavours."

Volga-Dnepr Airlines is one of the world's leading carriers of Aerospace cargoes, which account for some 30% of the Group's



business. To date, it has operated over 5,250 flights for customers in the industry, delivering more than 173,395 tonnes. The main cargoes carried by Volga-Dnepr are satellites, helicopters, aircraft and parts ■

Volga-dnepr gulf receives honorary diploma for supporting fellow citizens abroad



Russia National Citizens Committee awarded Volga-Dnepr Gulf represented by its Managing Director, Victor Sherin, for effective work in providing social support to fellow citizens in foreign countries, and pro-active good morale position noting successful activities of the Company in the Middle East Region.

Russia National Citizens Committee includes the following: Public Recognition National Fund, Russia National Citizens Committee for Interaction with Law Enforcement, Legislative and Judicial Authorities, and Civil Society Independent Organization. Awards are handed out to dignified citizens and organizations for implementing international, all-Russia or regional socially important, humanitarian, cultural and charitable programs and projects.

Established as early as in 1996, Volga-Dnepr Gulf has for over 15 years served as a reliable supplier in aircraft maintenance services, both Russia- and Western-made. Specialness and high-quality services along with high-qualified personnel are key factors to the Company's successful work for many years ■

Thai Fleet Commander boarded the Ruslan freighter

January 8, the delegation of The Royal Thai Navy headed by Naris Pratoomsuwan, Commander-in-Chief of The Royal Thai Fleet, visited An-124-100 aircraft of Volga-Dnepr Airlines at the U-Tapao airport.

It was the first time that Naris Pratoomsuwan took a view of An-124-100 aircraft. His visit objective was to learn the aircraft capabilities from the standpoint of further cooperation. The flight and technical crew demonstrated the loading process, cargo lashing, use of onboard loading devices, opening of the front and rear cargo doors to the representatives of the Royal Thai Navy.

The visitors expressed their gratitude to the Volga-Dnepr Airlines team for the demonstration. "We were greatly impressed by the Ruslan freighter. We are satisfied with the flight arrangement procedure and the aircraft technical capabilities. We look forward to consider the cooperation with the Airline for the benefit of the Royal Thai Army, the Fleet and the Air Force of Thailand," said Naris Pratoomsuwan ■





Volga-dnepr's il-76td-90vd aircraft 'parachutes' cargo to remote antarctic airfield

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has completed its first-ever 'air drop' by parachuting 208 barrels of fuel from an IL-76TD-90VD freighter onto a remote airfield in the Antarctic.

The delivery from Novo will be used for inland scientific missions, vehicles and small airplane operations.

The 34-ton shipment was placed onto 26 special parachute platforms and was dropped from a height of 500 meters through the aircraft's rear cargo door at a pre-selected site. "This unconventional delivery formed part of the IL-76TD-90VD operational tests we conducted in November, which proved the aircraft's capability to successfully complete aerial cargo drop missions in virtually any remote regions of the South and North Poles, as well as in mountainous and forest environments," said Sergey Kostin, senior specialist for IL-76 fleet modernization at Volga-Dnepr Airlines.

Volga-Dnepr has also obtained an addendum to the IL-76TD-90VD airplane flight manual to enable it to operate to ice airfields.

"To date, the joint crew onboard these flights has comprised of test pilots from Russia's State Research Institute of Civil Aviation (GosNII GA) and Ilyushin Design Bureau and technical personnel from Volga-Dnepr Airlines. So far, we have operated five return flights connecting

Cape Town and Novolazarevskaya Station. It is safe to say that performing our first air drop in such austere conditions has already demonstrated a wider operating scope for the commercial IL-76TD-90VD freighter than we had expected to confirm during our field trials in the Antarctic," added Sergey Kostin.

Volga-Dnepr Airlines' fleet of modernized IL-76TD-90VD aircraft features ICAO Chapter IV-compliant engines and new avionics that meet existing and future ICAO mandates. The aircraft has been operating in the Antarctic since 4 November 2015 when it made its first landing on an ice airfield and performed a series of 'ice runs' to check the performance and thrust reverser application procedures. The airlift-and-drop solution was provided by Volga-Dnepr Airlines as part of a new Antarctic project run by the Antarctic Logistics Centre International (ALCI) ■



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