



## **Thomas Cook renews and enlarge its CFM56-5B support contract with AFI KLM E&M at Le Bourget International Air Show**

**Paris, Amstelveen, 17 June 2009 – The international tourism giant has renewed its existing CFM56-5B engine support contract linking its UK and Danish fleets to AFI KLM E&M. Contract coverage has also been extended to take in five A320s operated by Thomas Cook Belgium, in addition to the 16 A320/A321s operated by Thomas Cook Airlines and Thomas Cook Scandinavia AS.**

With this contract renewal and extension AFI KLM E&M becomes Thomas Cook's sole provider for its entire CFM56-5B-equipped fleet. Thomas Cook fleet now benefits of high support level services tailored for a perfect match to its needs.

### **Sharing our know-how**

The Thomas Cook fleet operates new-generation aircraft. AFI KLM E&M has been offering MRO services for this type of aircraft from the outset and currently provides a comprehensive range of products and services to customers along with the extensive experience acquired since the new-generation aircraft first went into service. AFI KLM E&M have been supporting Thomas Cook fleet for a decade. In 2008, on top of components and engines support A320 C-checks were carried out La Croix du Sud facility in Toulouse, and in April this year, an A321 C-check, downtime was combined with a cabin modification based on an AFI Service Bulletin.

### **Trust-based relationship**

Lucas Mollan, Technical Director of Thomas Cook UK said *“Our relationship began in 1996, when our UK company first contracted for component support with AFI. Ten years down the road, thanks to the know-how of AFI KLM E&M, its rigor and attentiveness to our needs, we have developed our cooperation and extended our contracts to component support for our A330s, beginning in 1999.”* He went on: *“We added in CFM56-5B engine support in 2001. The care and attention lavished on maintaining our fleet and the quality of service were an ideal match for our requirements. Which is why 23 of our CFM56-5B-equipped A320s benefit from AFI KLM E&M engine support, while our 26 A320s and seven A330s receive component support.”*

As Bruno Delile Executive VP, Business Development, stressed, *“We have extremely good relations with Thomas Cook based on trust, shared expertise, and co-development. One recent example was joint engineering work as part of a modification to CFM56-5B top case compressors. We provide operators with all the attention they expect from us, as testified by the fact that Thomas Cook are renewing their contract today.”*

### **About Thomas Cook**

Serving nearly 19 million customers, Thomas Cook Plc is the second biggest leisure tourism group in Europe and worldwide. In France, where it is tourism and leisure market leader with a combined market share of around 10%, Thomas Cook (and its affiliate brands Aquatour, Jet tours, Eldorado, Austral Lagons, and Secrets) has 674 branches around the country and a workforce of 1,700. The multi-channel strategy pursued by Thomas Cook guarantees its customers greater flexibility and comfort in choice of reservation method (Internet, telephone, or travel agency). Faithful to its desire to take its customers *“anywhere but not anyhow”* Thomas Cook France is also committed to a sustainable tourism program by involving its customers and staff in the partnership set up with NGO Planète Urgence.

### **About AFI KLM E&M**

Following the merger between Air France and KLM, Air France Industries and KLM Engineering & Maintenance joined forces to become the world-leading multi-product MRO (Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul) provider. With a joint workforce of over 14,000, AFI KLM E&M offers comprehensive technical support capabilities for airline operators ranging from engineering and aerostructures work to the management, repair and supply of aircraft parts and components, backed by a powerful logistics network. Together they support more than 1,230 aircraft operated by over 150 major international airlines.

For more information please contact :

**AIR FRANCE INDUSTRIES & KLM Engineering & Maintenance**

External Communications Director

Nicole Goineau

Phone : +33 1 49348721

e-mail : [nigoineau@airfrance.fr](mailto:nigoineau@airfrance.fr)

[www.klm-em.com](http://www.klm-em.com) - [www.airfranceindustries.com](http://www.airfranceindustries.com)