

Press Release

For Immediate Publication

## **GippsAERO to invest in North American Assembly**

**July 26 2011, Oshkosh:**

GippsAERO, the Australian manufacturer of the GA8 Airvan multi-purpose utility aircraft, has today announced plans to establish an assembly plant in North America to meet local demand for the aircraft.

Based on plans already announced for an increase in the dealerships in North America, the company anticipates that production volume of the domestic assembly and finishing plant to be in excess of 10 aircraft per annum.

Mr Randy Juen, General Manager for North America said “many of the high value components of our aircraft originate in the USA (engine, propeller, avionics etc), so it makes sense that we ship critical airframe components from Australia for assembly locally. For our customers, we expect to be able to reduce lead time, increase production capacity, and improve flexibility in delivering more customised solutions for the NA market”.

The company currently assessing a number of options for final assembly with investigations underway to identify suitable locations and strategic partnerships.

Dr Terry Miles added “ GippsAERO is committed to a permanent presence in the North American market, and we believe that this initiative will strengthen the local aviation industry, whilst also increasing our responsiveness to the local market”.

### **About GippsAERO**

GippsAERO, the Australian manufacturer of the GA8 AIRVAN, is the aircraft manufacturing division of Mahindra Aerospace. The company has manufactured in excess of 200 aircraft, which fly in 34 countries around the world, including USA, Australia, Europe, Africa and Asia.

Mahindra Aerospace is the aircraft and aero-structure manufacturing division of Mahindra Systech, and a new global player in the delivery of aircraft, aero-structures and aircraft development services. With its acquisition of two Australia-based aviation companies, Aerostaff Australia – producer of aerospace components for the world’s OEMs – and GippsAERO – producer of the Airvan family of utility aircraft – Mahindra Aerospace has laid the foundations towards achieving its goals.

## About The Mahindra Group

The Mahindra Group focuses on enabling people to rise. Mahindra operates in the key industries that drive economic growth, enjoying a leadership position in tractors, utility vehicles, information technology and vacation ownership. Mahindra has a presence in the automotive industry, agribusiness, aerospace, components, consulting services, defence, energy, financial services, industrial equipment, logistics, real estate, retail, steel and two wheelers.

A US \$12.5 billion multinational group based in Mumbai, India, Mahindra employs more than 119,900 people in over 100 countries.

In 2011, Mahindra featured on the Forbes Global 2000 list, a listing of the biggest and most powerful listed companies in the world. Dun & Bradstreet also ranked Mahindra at No. 1 in the automobile sector in its list of India's Top 500 Companies. In 2010, Mahindra featured in the Credit Suisse Great Brands of Tomorrow. Its flagship company Mahindra & Mahindra Limited is the only Indian automobile manufacturer to feature in the top 10 list of the Carbon Disclosure Leadership Index in India - 2010, created by the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP).

In 2011, Mahindra acquired a majority stake in Korea's SsangYong Motor Company.

For further information, please visit [www.mahindra.com](http://www.mahindra.com)

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**For further information regarding GippsAERO or this media item please contact:**

**Mr Mark McNamara**

Marketing Manager  
GippsAERO Pty Ltd.  
PO Box 881  
MORWELL VIC 3840  
Ph + 61 3 5172 1200  
M + 61 467 491 284  
Fx + 61 3 5172 1201  
E: [mmcnamara@gippsaero.com](mailto:mmcnamara@gippsaero.com)  
[www.gippsaero.com](http://www.gippsaero.com)

**For further information regarding North American Sales and Distribution opportunities please contact:**

**Randy Juen**

General Manager  
Representing GippsAERO Pty Ltd  
P: +1 (715) 318.0938  
C: +1 (651) 253.8136  
STOL Aviation, Inc.  
New Richmond Regional Airport  
625 West Hangar Rd  
Hangar 11-12, Suite 101  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
[rjuen@gippsaero.com](mailto:rjuen@gippsaero.com)  
[www.gippsaero.com](http://www.gippsaero.com)