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Photo Etch Designs Aerospace Industry's First Interactive, Visual Simulator for Load Master Training

Overcomes Past Training Inefficiencies, Including Aircraft Usage

FORT WORTH, TX – November 14, 2006 – Photo Etch, a leading aerospace manufacturing company, is breaking new ground by designing and manufacturing all non-aircraft hardware (including the console frame work and panels, simulated aircraft hardware and COTS LCD screens) for the Load Master Part Task Trainer (LMPTT) for CAE USA Inc. The LMPTT's realistic and interactive simulation capabilities will resolve the shortcomings in traditional training and allow users to exercise all aspects of training, including emergency situations. The color display, referred to as a Visual Awareness Recognition Screen (VARs) Monitor, will offer a high resolution view into an interactive simulated cargo area, thus, eliminating the need for a large cargo area or use of an actual aircraft. As a result, training using the LMPTT will be much more cost-effective.

Currently, emergency procedure and load release training is done by dedicating an actual aircraft or using a Fuselage Trainer (FuT). These methods are rather costly and have other disadvantages as well. For one, using an aircraft for training purposes impacts flight missions and loads can be pulled out only once. Aircraft must be landed for reloading, resulting in several hours of delayed training. Furthermore, no actual low-altitude parachute extraction system (LAPES) missions can be conducted or simulated because parachutes cannot be deployed from traditional ground-training methods. So, while very limited load release training and emergency procedures could be rehearsed, they lacked realism and maximum training value.

The LMPTT hardware Photo Etch has designed will house a MFCD bezel, a Ramp Emergency Control Panel, Locks Indicator Assembly and a non-functional Circuit Breaker Panel Assembly. CAE USA is developing the controlling software and will integrate Photo Etch components and the Lockheed Martin provided aircraft equipment. A prototype of the simulated MFCD and RECP, manufactured earlier, was well received by Lockheed Martin. Following customer feedback from a recent design review, production is set to begin the second week of November.

About Photo Etch:

Photo Etch designs and manufactures displays and control panels used for military and commercial airborne and ground communications, as well as navigation systems. The company also manufactures flight simulation and training components. One of Photo Etch's specialties is night vision technology for airborne military operations. Photo Etch's client base includes major defense contractors like Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Grumman Aerospace, as well as U.S. Department of Defense agencies like the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy. Founded in 1960, Photo Etch follows ISO 9001 and SAE AS9100 quality standards, as well as a company-wide lean manufacturing initiative. The firm operates from a 50,000-square-foot facility in Fort Worth, Texas. For more information, visit www.photo-etch.com or call (817) 332-3806.