

## Global Aerospace Summit to review aviation sector

Three aviation companies plan joint participation in summit

- By Abdulla Rasheed, Abu Dhabi Editor
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- Image Credit: Oliver Clarke/Gulf News Archives
- Mubadala's kiosk at the Careers UAE event held in Dubai recently. Mubadala's aerospace unit is hosting an international summit in Abu Dhabi. It will be attended by industry leaders.

Abu Dhabi Abu Dhabi Aviation is to take part in the global aerospace summit which will be held at Abu Dhabi St Regis hotel from Monday until Thursday under the patronage of Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of UAE armed forces.

Nader Al Hammadi, chairman of Abu Dhabi Aviation, said that many international companies specialising in aerospace will take part in the summit, which will discuss the geographical, political, economic and environmental challenges facing the global aviation industry.

Commenting on the importance of the summit, Al Hammadi said: "Global aerospace summit 2012, hosted by Mubadala aerospace unit, is a global forum that gathers all air transport, space

and aerospace decision makers on the international, regional and local levels to discuss future growth strategies. Hence the importance of the summit comes at a time when the UAE has invested billions of dollars in building a huge aviation infrastructure capacity, including establishing world class carriers, developing new national airports and expanding existing ones."

Al Hammadi said it is a milestone for Abu Dhabi to host the summit. He continued: "Once again our beloved capital will warmly welcome carrier's leaders, aviation manufacturers, airports management companies, world class travel and tourism companies and other interested parties in this critical sector to discuss air transportation and aviation's future orientation strategy".

Abu Dhabi Aviation is the largest commercial company with helicopter and fixed wing planes in the Middle East. Recently the company announced the establishment of an aviation simulation centre in cooperation with Mubadala.

The centre will accommodate 16 simulation devices for all plane types and cater for the training needs of all pilots, not only in the UAE but also in the whole region. The first simulation device will be dedicated to the AW139 helicopter and will be operational by mid-2013.

Abu Dhabi Aviation is a major investor in Royal Jet; the world class luxury private aviation company, and Maximus Air Cargo, a pioneer air cargo company in the Middle East. These companies recently announced their joint participation in the summit.

Explaining the decision to participate with a united front, Al Hammadi said the three companies had a strong and successful operational and financial performance in 2011.

"We are looking forward to tap into the world's fast growing regions, especially in Asia and Middle East, through our expansion plans, which are in full harmony with Abu Dhabi government's vision, to achieve growth and prosperity. This summit will be one of the mechanisms applied to achieve this vision", Al Hammadi said.

The chairman of Abu Dhabi Aviation praised the huge efforts and the pivotal role played by Mubadala aerospace unit to prepare for the summit, especially dedicating a part of the summit activities to the professionals programme.

A programme which will be extended to UAE students and provide them with a unique opportunity to interact with other students and aviation decision makers.