

AVIATION WEEK

& SPACE TECHNOLOGY



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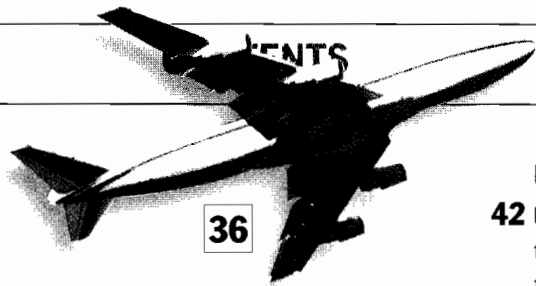
China's first known stealth aircraft is undergoing high-speed taxi tests at Chengdu Aircraft Design Institute's airfield. Reportedly designated J-20, it is larger than most observers expected—pointing to long range and heavy weapon loads.



42 *This time last year, Jeffery Smisek was settling into his new role as chairman, president and CEO of*

Continental Airlines, but within four months he had initiated, by some key measures, the creation of the world's largest airline. Smisek, now president and CEO of United Continental Holdings, is Aviation Week & Space Technology's Person of the Year. Cover design by Art Director Lisa Caputo; photos by Lenny Gilmore (Smisek) and Managing Editor James R. Asker (Chicago O'Hare International Airport).

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- 57** Aerospace Calendar
- 10** **Washington tax deal** could worsen pain for aerospace, limiting funds for research and capital projects
- 11** **Russian air force** beginning to field Ka-52 attack helicopter, bolstering other elements of rotorcraft fleet
- 11** **Harrison Ford wins** Wright Brothers trophy for his advocacy of aviation, particularly among young people
- 12** **Obituary for Ed Woll**, aviation propulsion pioneer and longtime General Electric engineer
- 18** **Beijing rolls out** a holiday surprise, a long-range heavyweight combat aircraft bigger than the F-22
- 21** **China's huge air force** and its advanced missiles call for new U.S. air combat capabilities
- 22** **F-35 flight testing** enters 2011 at stepped-up pace, but with many key 2010 objectives still unmet
- 23** **U.K. to unveil** new defense industrial and technology policy that will spell out essential capabilities
- 50** **French air force** expects first squadron of Rafale F3 fighters to be ready for recon missions by spring
- 52** **India again proves** it cannot move too fast in acquiring a major weapon system
- 26** **Intelsat hopeful** it can recover use of a wayward satcom that had wreaked havoc with operator
- 27** **Russia struggling** to put full Glonass satnav constellation in service after launch failure
- 28** **Italy's new 10-year** space plan looks at liquid fuel rocket engines, hyperspectral imaging technologies
- 29** **ILS's Proton M** booster is back in business, following launch last week of Eutelsat's KA-SAT
- 53** **New analysis** suggests weight savings of as much as 20% in launch vehicles can be achieved
- 54** **Plant building** Long March 5 proves technology for precise assembly of large sections
- 30** **Sikorsky turns** to composite specialist Spirit AeroSystems to help triple lift of Marines' CH-53
- 32** **HondaJet certification** testing underway, manufacturer hopes to begin deliveries in late 2012
- 33** **Alfred Kahn's** legacy continues to shape the U.S. airline industry, 30 years after deregulation



AIR TRANSPORT

- 34 Boeing poised** to issue a revised 787 program schedule following the resumption of flight tests
- 34 Europe this year** may introduce new rules on wake vortex separation aimed at freeing up capacity
- 36 Chinese airfreight** market faces consolidation with China Eastern takeover plans for cargo pair
- 37 AirAsia is Southeast Asia's** largest low-cost carrier, but will face competition from Firefly this month
- 38 Wave of new carriers** to enter Asian market this year to fill in for players that exited earlier

- 39 Mumbai set to see** second, \$2-billion international airport to help ease overcrowding at city's hub

AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

- 40 European planners** hope the process to approve the use of Egnos can be put back on track

PROPULSION

- 41 Series of production** efficiencies developed on civil engines rolls through GE's military products

PERSON OF THE YEAR

- 42 United Continental CEO Smisek's** tenacity and quick wits bring him to forefront of global aviation
- 44 David Neeleman** now working his JetBlue magic in Brazil's burgeoning air travel market

- 46 Ashton Carter's** procurement influence means defense industry titans are waiting out his term

VIEWPOINT

- 58 Air traffic growth** will not be as fast as predicted, leading to increased consolidation and improved profits