

AVIATION WEEK

& SPACE TECHNOLOGY

38

The bonanza that the planet-hunting Kepler spacecraft has revealed in just its first four months of operations is doing exactly what scientists hoped for when it was launched—shaking up years of theories with new sets of intriguing questions about the formation of distant star fields and the possibility they might contain life.

NASA

- 8 Feedback
 - 10 Who's Where
 - 14-15 The World
 - 16 Leading Edge
 - 18 Airline Intel
 - 20 In Orbit
 - 21 Washington Outlook
 - 45 A European Perspective
 - 62 Inside Business Aviation
 - 63 Classified
 - 64 Contact Us
 - 65 Aerospace Calendar
- 12 **2011 could bring** a mergers and acquisitions gold rush to the aerospace and defense world
 - 14 **Neuron fuselage** section delivery marks major step in six-nation stealth demonstration program
 - 15 **Helicopter pioneer** Charles Kaman dies, loved intermeshing rotors, guitars and German shepherds
 - 22 **Political upheaval** in Middle East expected to have longer-term effects on the aerospace industry

- 25 **JSF project faces** another almost half-dozen years of challenging development and testing
- 26 **Lockheed Martin** works to ensure failure that crippled AEHF will not occur in other A2100-based sats
- 27 **Missile Defense Agency** to be turning the corner on quality issues with contractors
- 30 **Eurocopter plans to start** development this year of all-new replacement for its Dauphin/Panther
- 31 **Unmanned Fire Scout** set to deepen its operational experience both on land and at sea
- 32 **Australia will attempt** to make defense officials accountable for foul-ups; NH90 is most recent
- 34 **Japanese astronauts** may fly commercial, but only after careful spacecraft review by JAXA

AVIATION WEEK



46 While the Tejas fighter has advanced India's combat-aircraft development skills, satisfaction of the country's military ambitions demands large purchases of foreign aircraft. For this decade, at least, India will need not only the fighter that will fill the MMRCA requirement, but huge numbers of helicopters, unmanned aircraft, trainers, transports and miscellaneous types such as airborne early warning aircraft to operate from aircraft carriers. The army's ambitions to take control of all battle-field aircraft could result in expanded orders in that area, too. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. and Indian Ministry of Defense photo.



41 Painful cuts bring fractional aircraft ownership company Net-Jets back from the brink.



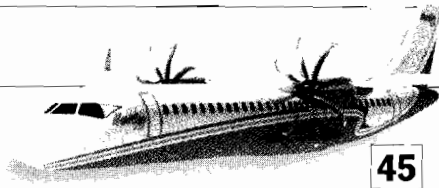
43 Security experts envision the shape of things to come in the airport checkpoint of the future.

- 35 **France and Germany** will offer a common agenda for launch system price support and ISS use
- 36 **New Russian launch** mishap may force planners to reconsider the priorities of ongoing space overhaul
- 37 **Orbital will integrate** and test the 81 spacecraft in next-generation Iridium mobile satellite system
- 38 **'Kepler has blown lid off'** of everything we've known about Earth-sized planets,' says astronomer
- 56 **NASA ramping up** preparations to install Ad Astra Rocket's prototype Vasimr engine on the ISS Z1 truss
- 58 **First Delta IV Heavy** liftoff from Vandenberg shows flames coming from a purge of hydrogen
- 59 **Initial results** from ESA's Planck cosmic background explorer providing new insights into galaxy
- 39 **Boeing banking** on 747-8F experience to keep Intercontinental certification on track

40 Independent panel: Air France needs to significantly alter its safety organization and culture

41 NetJets off life-support after belt-tightening that included canceling billions of dollars of aircraft orders

43 Practice of screening at airports about to take a leap forward after slowly evolving over four decades



46 MMRCA program, world's biggest fighter competition, will hinge on series of national objectives

49 At least \$50 billion to be committed for military hardware, force multipliers and advanced systems

52 Competitions, development programs, recent orders to make India a key rotorcraft market

53 Indian navy sets up coastal UAV squadrons and explores rotary, long-endurance options

54 Indian army eyes new transport aircraft, helicopters and more tactical air authority

55 India's first home-grown carrier-borne fighter effort is moving toward first flight next month

66 WTO may not be the best forum to produce framework to settle the aircraft subsidies dispute

