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*Boeing and Bombardier are concerned that sole-source award of the EC-X Compass Call replacement program to incumbent prime contractor L3 Technologies and its selection of the G550 platform could set a precedent for a series of expected commercial-derivate procurements.*



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*The Airbus Perlan Mission II team's Perlan 2 stratospheric glider rode the Polar Night Jet to a record-setting altitude over the remote southern Andes on the way to planned future research flights at even greater altitudes in the lower-density upper atmosphere. Senior Editor Guy Norris's report begins on page 47. Also in this issue: the aerospace workforce evolves (page 68), a U.S. Air Force F-15E pilot on shooting down an Iranian-made UAV over Syria (page 26), and SpaceX prepares for Falcon 9 Heavy first launch (page 61). Aviation Week publishes a digital edition every week. Read it at [AviationWeek.com](http://AviationWeek.com) and on our app.*

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Perlan's Soaring Achievement



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