## **FEATURES**

## 20 Fast Family

The veil of secrecy lifts from one of the Pentagon's largest hypersonic weapons programs

## 46 | Special Delivery

Large business jets continue to find new roles in military service despite the demise of Joint Stars

# 48 Russian Revival

New Mikoyan MiG-31 interceptor roles may include delivering small satellites and fighting enemy sats

## 58 | Super-Sized

GE hits the halfway mark in the certification program for the GE9X that will power the Boeing 777X

#### DEFENSE

- 23 | Armed scout becomes vanguard of U.S. Army rotary renewal
- **24** | Possible Chinook cuts may affect U.S. Army dual-track aviation push
- **42** | Flight trials start a restoration of British carrier power
- 43 | Dragonfire laser could inform the next British fighter weapon
- 44 | The UK looks to the Wedgetail E-7 to replace the E-3 Sentry

### SUPPLIERS

26 | New French carbon-fiber factory is pivotal for Airbus and Safran

### COMMERCIAL AVIATION

28 | Crucial strategy decisions await new Airbus CEO Guillaume Faury

#### BEHIND THE SCENES

Managing Editor for Technology Graham Warwick and Editor-in-Chief Joe Anselmo met with members of New York University's Aviation Club at the university's Brooklyn Polytechnic facility. Warwick's presentation on electric aircraft and urban air mobility was followed by a wide-ranging discussion of technical and business trends in the aerospace and aviation industries.

#### DEPARTMENTS

- 6 | Feedback 16 | Airline Intel 8 Who's Where 18 | Leading Edge
- 10 | First Take 19 | The Launchpad
- 12 | Up Front 64 | Classified
- 65 | Contact Us 13 | Going Concerns 14 | Inside Business 65 | Aerospace
- Aviation Calendar
- **29** The best states in which to be an aerospace manufacturer in the U.S.
- 30 | Zunum picks Safran turbine for hybrid-electric airliner

#### SPACE

- 32 | ESA poised to ship service module for NASA's Orion spacdcraft
- **33** | JAXA and IHI are working on more Epsilon rocket improvements
- 34 | Chinese launcher company Landspace targets reusability
- **36** | Japan's new LE-9 engine for the H3 space launcher advances

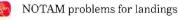
- **36** | Hayabusa2 rovers successfully explore asteroid Ryugu
- 37 | LeoLabs sharpens its eye on LEO debris with latest ground radar
- 38 | SpaceX loses out on USAF nextgen launcher development work

#### **URBAN AIR MOBILITY**

40 | VTOL startup takes scheduledairline approach to short-haul ops

#### AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

- **51** | FAA plans to begin evaluating space-based ADS-B next year
- **52** ADS-B network promises major benefits for New Zealand aviation
- **56** | SFO taxiway overflight highlights



#### VIEWPOINT

**66** | Five rules for portfolio-shaping to help aerospace companies soar

#### ON THE COVER

The impressive size of General Electric's 134-in.-dia, fan GE9X is clearly apparent in this air-to-air view of the company's Boeing 747-400 flying testbed over California's Sierra Nevada mountains. Senior Editor Guy Norris's update on the engine program, which is in final certification for the Boeing 777X. begins on page 58. GE Aviation photo.

Aviation Week publishes a digital edition every week. Read it at AviationWeek.com/awst

**DIGITAL EXTRAS** Access exclusive online features from articles accompanied by this icon.