



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PIEDMONT AVIATION COMPONENT SERVICES EXPANDS REPAIR CAPABILITIES

Kernersville, NC July 10, 2003 - - - Piedmont Aviation Component Services is expanding to create a Repair Services division. Appointing FAA Designated Engineering Representative Sanjay Balakrishna to their staff recently, the company is now authorized to perform highly technical repairs that lower customers' overhaul costs.

Sanjay has over 5 years experience as a FAA Designated Engineer Representative He will spearhead the Piedmont program, focusing initially on APU (Auxiliary Power Unit) repair. Sanjay's experience includes development of repairs for the 36,85, and 331 Honeywell series APUs, which are used on Boeing 737, 757, 767 jets as well as the newly introduced regional jets. Another engineer will be hired to assist Mr. Balakrishna and to further expand capabilities.

Repair Services will be managed through the company's existing Machine Shop operations in Winston-Salem. In another organizational move, Piedmont promoted John Simmons into the newly created position of Repair Services Manager. John has been employed with Piedmont for 10 years. John will manage the company's machining, electro-plating, and non-destructive testing operations.

President Tom Ferrell reports, "Gearing up to perform this sophisticated level of repair is a major commitment. We're making a considerable investment to expand our machining capabilities. We're moving forward because it will provide significant savings to our customers. **We have re-focused our entire company to offer the highest quality service at a true value.** "

Client inquiries about Piedmont's newly expanded repair capabilities will be channeled through Barry Orrell. His direct phone line is 336.776.6142. Barry also serves as Director of Purchasing and Inventory Control.

Piedmont Aviation Component Services, formerly a division of Piedmont Hawthorne, became an independent organization in 2002. The company has re-focused its energies on its core businesses: propeller and landing gear overhaul and repair, APU overhaul, and related parts sales and distribution. Management believes their strongest asset is the experience and dedication of their employees. Corporate offices and APU facilities are located in Kernersville, NC. Propeller and landing gear facilities are located at Winston-Salem's Smith Reynolds Airport.

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