



Media Release

For Immediate Release

AEI to Provide Merx Aviation with its First B737-800SF Freighter Conversion

Miami, Florida – June 6th, 2022 – Aeronautical Engineers, Inc. (“AEI”) is pleased to announce that Merx Aviation (“Merx”) has signed a contract for an AEI B737-800SF freighter conversion. The aircraft bearing manufacturer’s serial number 35131, owned by a fund managed by affiliates of Apollo (NYSE: APO) and serviced by Merx, has just commenced modification, and is scheduled to redeliver in August. An end customer has not yet been announced. All touch labor for the conversion and maintenance requirements will be accomplished by the authorized AEI Conversion Center, KF Aero in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada.

Gary Rothschild, CEO of Merx and Head of Aviation Finance at Apollo, said: “We are pleased to have entered into this transaction with AEI and to add the 737-800SF, a mainstay of the global cargo fleet, to our portfolio. The type’s capacity, performance and versatility are well suited to a wide variety of operators around the world. We are pleased to be able to offer this aircraft to customers and look forward to continuing our relationship with AEI.”

While Merx owns and manages approximately forty-five 737NG aircraft, this order represents its first AEI B737-800SF freighter conversion.

AEI is currently the only conversion company to have ETOPS 180 approval on the 737-800 freighter conversion. Additionally, AEI can convert all 737-800 line number aircraft, including those with Split Scimitar winglets.

The AEI converted B737-800SF freighter offers a main deck payload of up to 52,700 lbs. (23,904 kg) and incorporates eleven full height 88” x 125” container positions, plus an additional position for an AEP/AEH. The conversion also incorporates new floor beams aft of the wing box, a large 86” x 137” Main Cargo Door with a single vent door system.

AEI's forward-thinking design allows for containers to be loaded into the aircraft a full 16.5" aft of the forward door jamb, ensuring ground operators have sufficient maneuvering room which minimizes potential door and aircraft strikes. Additionally, the AEI B737-800SF includes a flexible Ankra Cargo Loading System, a rigid 9g barrier, five supernumerary seats as standard, a galley, and full lavatory.

About AEI

Aeronautical Engineers, Inc. (AEI) is the global leader in the aircraft passenger-to-freighter conversion business and is the oldest conversion company in existence today. Since the company's founding in 1958, AEI has developed over 130 Supplemental Type Certificates (STCs) and has modified over 550 aircraft with the STCs. AEI helps its customers extend aircraft life and increase the overall value of aircraft assets by continuously focusing on dependable and flexible product offerings. AEI currently offers passenger-to-freighter conversions for the Boeing 737-800, 737-400, 737-300, MD-80 series, and CRJ200 aircraft. <https://www.aeronautical-engineers.com/>

About Merx Aviation

Merx Aviation is a global aircraft leasing, management and finance company based in New York and Dublin.

Merx was founded in 2012 and is a wholly-owned portfolio company of Apollo Investment Corporation (NASDAQ: AINV), a publicly traded business development company managed by an affiliate of Apollo.

The company has acquired 208 aircraft with a value of \$6 billion since inception, with a current owned and managed fleet operated by 39 lessees across 26 countries. For more information, visit <https://www.merxaviation.com/>

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