CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

EASY II avionics help Canadian executives meet global travel demands

Upgraded avionics system with 3D technology improves aircraft performance, safety and value

Overview
For the owner and senior executives of Tidnish Holdings, time is money. The company’s Dassault Falcon 900LX executive jet enables them to travel to business meetings in person, all over the world, often at short notice. Thanks to the aircraft’s EASY II flight deck comprised of Honeywell’s Primus Epic avionics system, chief pilot Frank Burke can ensure that his passengers arrive on schedule, fresh and prepared, whatever the location, whatever the weather.

Background
Tidnish Holdings is a small private enterprise based on Canada’s East Coast, with extensive multi-industry international interests.

In October 2012 the company replaced its company jet with a new Dassault Falcon 900LX, one of the most advanced executive jets on the market.

Capable of flying 4,750 miles non-stop, the tri-jet Falcon 900 is also one of the most versatile and fuel efficient aircraft in the world, flying slower on approach than its twin jet competitors and comfortably handling short runways at high altitudes.

Chief pilot Frank Burke, a highly experienced Royal Canadian Air Force veteran, flies the company’s owner and senior executives to business meetings all over the world, and clocked up more than 230 hours flying time in the Falcon in just the first few months of ownership.

Business Need
With a variety of business interests across the globe and a need to develop and maintain important relationships with commercial partners, Tidnish Holdings’ executives travel extensively from their maritime base in Nova Scotia.

They have busy schedules and, because there are few direct flights from Halifax to Europe, flying by private jet is an essential component of business operations.

It enables executives to conduct business quickly and efficiently, without relying on scheduled services from big city airports, with the associated risks of delay, cancellation and unproductive waiting time.

Having their own jet ready at all times allows for fast turnarounds and a comfortable working environment in the cabin in which to prepare for the business of the day and arrive fresh and rested.

Tidnish Holdings’ investment in its Falcon 900 is substantial and securing a healthy return on that investment is essential.

As well as flying to and from the world’s major airports, the company’s business interests mean that Frank Burke must be ready to fly to much smaller, often rural airfields too, to get his passengers closer to their ultimate destination and thereby reduce overall travelling times.

These smaller, less well-known and sometimes more remote airports can be challenging for pilots and aircraft alike, with shorter runways, unique geographical features and conditions and unpredictable local weather patterns.

Some have only limited navigation and precision approach technology on the ground and variable air traffic control coverage in places where English is not clearly spoken.

The ability to get into these smaller, more difficult airports is where private jet travel really comes into its own, cutting hours – even days – off conventional modes of transport.

QUICK FACTS

Honeywell solution
Honeywell Primus Epic®

Customer results
- The ability to travel to important business meetings is now unaffected by adverse weather or unfamiliar destinations
- The safety and comfort of passengers and crew is enhanced
- The value of a crucial company asset is increased and the cost of ownership reduced

Why Tidnish Holdings chose Honeywell
- Honeywell is regarded as a world leader in avionics technology
- Honeywell and Dassault have a longstanding partnership producing a world class product
- Exemplary product raining and after sales support

Customer
- Name: Tidnish Holdings
- Location: Nova Scotia, Canada
- Industry: Multi-industry
“EASy II provides you with a wealth of information. Everything is clean and easily accessible and is extremely reliable. It gives us the capability to fly in all airspace and, so far, we have not had any delays or cancellations in about 230 hours of flying in all environments. The training in EASy II was first rate too.”

Frank Burke, chief pilot, Tidnish Holdings

But even 30-year veterans like Frank Burke, with many thousands of hours of flying time under his belt, many of them in the most demanding of circumstances serving his country, appreciate the value of the latest technology in providing the tools to help pilots fly safely and successfully, whatever the location, whatever the situation, whatever the weather.

Solution

Tidnish Holdings’ Falcon 900LX was the first jet of its type in Canada equipped with the latest version of Honeywell’s revolutionary EASy II flight deck, providing Frank with the most advanced avionics technology on the market.

EASy II is the latest upgrade available for Dassault’s EASy flight deck and is comprised of both hardware and software enhancements that deliver superior situational awareness, improved safety and better navigation capabilities for pilots.

Industry leading technology has been used to provide a synthetic vision system which gives the pilot a ‘view’ of the world outside for improved situational awareness in all flight conditions, regardless of the weather or visibility.

A new intuitive primary flight display (PFD) features a full scale horizon line and added HUD symbology, while Honeywell’s optional SmartView™ synthetic vision technology adds a three-dimensional view of the surrounding terrain, obstacles and runways.

Computer generated terrain imagery dramatically increases situational awareness and is rendered from Honeywell’s enhanced ground proximity warning system (EGPWS) database which has logged more than 250 million flight hours to and from destinations throughout the world.

The head-up display (HUD) presents additional imagery and symbology without pilots having to look down or change their normal position or viewpoint – though the new EASy II PFD incorporates similar HUD symbology, making the heads up to heads down transition a much more seamless and natural process for the flight crew.

A pilot data link communication (CPDLC) system enables messages to be sent between air traffic control and the pilot over a datalink rather than speaking over the noisy and often busy radio. And there is an automatic dependant surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B) feature enhancing the aircraft’s interaction with air traffic control and, thereby, improving safety for the aircraft and its passengers.

Another feature included with EASy II is SmartRunway®, Honeywell’s runway awareness and advisory system, providing aural alerts of possible runway incursions and excursions.

The optional XM Graphical Weather feature provides an advanced weather alert system which provides a continuous stream of data to the aircraft that significantly improves the amount of reliable data pilots have to make route changes to avoid adverse weather.

Benefits

EASy II helps to improve aircraft performance and safety by providing pilots with advanced technology that improves situational awareness in all conditions.

With this comes fewer delays, more fuel efficient routes and flight paths, reduced risks and stress for pilots at unfamiliar locations and improved passenger comfort.

Aircraft value is enhanced, cost of ownership reduced and return on investment maximised, while for busy executives, freeing up vital extra working hours is critical to business success.

The value of EASy II for Frank and Tidnish Holdings came not long after taking delivery of the Falcon 900 when flying into a remote airfield at Queenstown on South Island, New Zealand.

“This particular airfield is challenging, no doubt about it, situated at the foot of a high mountain range and I was sufficiently concerned about it to take some special training in a simulator before the flight,” said Frank Burke.

“So it was great to have the EASy II system on board to assist me as we approached. It’s intuitive, and it’s been designed from a pilot’s perspective, which sounds obvious but it doesn’t always happen that way.

“It provides you with a wealth of information. Everything is clean and easily accessible and is extremely reliable. We are now at the pointy end of technology!

“This gives us the capability to fly in all airspace and, so far, we have not had any delays or cancellations in about 230 hours of flying in all environments. The training in EASy II was first rate too.”

“We recently spent a week in Europe, often flying to more than one meeting in more than one country in the same day and it is technology like EASy II that helps to make that possible.

“I suspect that if our people had travelled on scheduled services around Europe, the same trip would have taken two weeks. For a business like ours, that represents a huge saving in valuable time for our executives.”

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