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## SATCOM Update

Kitchener Aero (KAAV) and Mid-Canada Mod Center (MC2) have become industry leaders in airborne communication, especially satcom system installation/certification for a large variety of corporate and commercial aircraft. Over the years, we have worked with just about every form of satcom system on the market. Two recent and notable accomplishments or “firsts” at MC2 have involved TrueNorth’s Simphonē and Chorus systems and Rockwell Collins most recent satcom technologies.

Our relationship with Rockwell Collins has been ongoing for many mutually successful years. In fact we are consistently their largest volume by sales dealers in Canada. The name TrueNorth however may be unfamiliar to some. Headquartered in Ottawa, Ontario, TrueNorth Avionics have sales offices in the US and a global network of recognized dealers. Their focus is on corporate aviation and their products are developed to offer an unequalled combination of performance, built-in growth capability and value. TrueNorth appointed us as their Eastern Canadian Region dealer in 2008.

TrueNorth’s executive-class Simphonē airborne telephone network system has a variety of models and applications that offer differing levels of, voice, data and networking for capabilities for business type aircraft. The TrueNorth system handsets include advanced Simphonē VoIP features such as a big, full color, sunlight-readable LCD display, along with such personalization features as custom splash screens, ring tones and even exotic-wood (or other material) construction to match the aircraft’s interior.



For aircraft equipped with a now outdated MagnaStar system, Simphonē systems are a simple and easy upgrade. A typical installation requires no cabin interior modifications. There is a single-box Simphonē transceiver that directly replaces the MagnaStar unit (in fact, it’s smaller and lighter!)

Also the Simphonē handsets and network modules fit the same mechanical specifications as those of the MagnaStar. This system replacement can save owners as much as \$10,000.00 over the other market options currently offered.

The Province of Ontario flight department operates a fleet of aircraft that are used in forestry, medevac and government support roles. Two of the aircraft among the fleet are King Air 200 models that are dedicated for official government transportation. These aircraft needed a modern and upgrade to their satcom system. MC2 were tasked by the province with providing options for this project and then proceed with the installation and certification of the new system. The “solution” agreed to as best suited to the needs of the Ontario Government was the TrueNorth Simphonē satcom system. The end result was a new “first” for all of us.

Presented by:



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Our second industry “first” in satcom involves TrueNorth’s Simphonē Chorus system and Rockwell Collins most recent Satcom technologies – all combined into a corporate Challenger 604. The project was completed under an LSTC however MC2 are in the process of developing this into a Canadian STC and then will have it imported and approved by the FAA once issued.

The Challenger was undergoing an avionics mod to incorporate a Rockwell Collins SAT-6100B SATCOM and HST 2110B high-speed data terminal. First certified in late 2008, this new Rockwell combination offers a range of Swift Broadband (SBB) functionality along with automatic fallback to Swift 64 when out of SBB coverage if so configured. It also has 3 classic aeronautical channels (2 Aero H/H+ voice channels and a low speed data channel) and is approved for ICAO safety services.



The HST-2110B is a high-speed transceiver. Once paired with an appropriate Satcom system, users can access Instant Messenger, VoIP, VPN, secure phone, the Internet and email easily, and download applications while in flight – a task that was impossible with prior systems. The end-use system that MC2 partnered with Rockwell Collins equipment in this case was TrueNorth’s Simphonē Chorus Executive-Class Airborne Telephone.

The Chorus is easy to use, with handsets that feature an intuitive graphical interface, menu-driven commands and a big, bright color display. Exclusive customizations include a choice of splash screens, ring tones and handset materials. The Simphonē Chorus system can expand to meet future needs, thereby eliminating obsolescence. The Chorus system also acts as the router for any Wi-Fi enabled Phone, laptop or device allowing the users to access the internet and emails or share devices such as printers that may be installed in the aircraft.

A compact, single-LRU system, Simphonē Chorus is easy to install, and the transceiver can be mounted inside or outside the aircraft’s pressure vessel. Set-up is easy, too, thanks to another TrueNorth exclusive: A built-in Personality Module that ensures Simphonē Chorus can be configured to work just the way the user wants.

In commenting on this modification, Bill Arsenault, VP of MC2 stated, “We were happy to offer our customer such an innovative, efficient and cost-effective communications solution. Equally impressive was the fact that we simply plugged everything in and the entire system, comprising equipment from three different manufacturers, worked immediately, something we rarely see in this business.”

For more information or discussion, please contact either Barry Aylward or Bill Arsenault. You can reach them by email at [barry@kitcheneraero.com](mailto:barry@kitcheneraero.com) and [bill@midcanadamod.com](mailto:bill@midcanadamod.com) or by telephone at the numbers published below.

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