

NBAA: HBC to offer tracking and health reporting as original equipment

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Hawker Beechcraft is to be the first airframer to offer as original equipment a real-time aircraft tracking and health reporting system, on Hawker 125 series jets.

The technology is Flyht AFIRS, which stands for automated flight information reporting system. It is made by AeroMechanical Services, a Calgary, Canada-based company of which former NBAA president Jack Olcott is a director.

Using an internet connection, Afirs transmits engine and aircraft data on demand to the operator while the aircraft is in flight. Using the system will allow Hawker operators to be "proactive about troubleshooting maintenance issues and taking necessary actions to reduce unscheduled downtime", says Christi Tannahill, Hawker Beechcraft vice president global customer support.

The equipment will be available on Hawker 900XP, 850XP, 800XP and 750 types from next year.