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Boeing Business Jets today signed an agreement with Lufthansa Technik that designates the company as an authorized warranty repair facility and service center, providing Boeing Business Jet (BBJ) operators another service option in Europe.

The contract allows Lufthansa Technik to perform warranty work on the BBJ on behalf of Boeing. In addition, the Hamburg, Germany-based company will provide other maintenance, repair and overhaul services as required.

The agreement was announced ahead of the third annual European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva. A BBJ is on display at the show, which runs May 7-9 at the Palexpo convention center adjacent to the Geneva International Airport.

"With extensive experience both inside and outside the cabin, Lufthansa Technik can provide BBJ operators with nose-to-tail service," said Lee Monson, president of Boeing Business Jets. "We've worked with Lufthansa Technik for a number of years and are pleased to further that partnership."

Lufthansa Technik, a skilled VIP interior completion center, has wide-ranging experience maintaining Boeing Next-Generation 737 airplanes -- the model that the BBJ is based on -- for operators around the world. The company has installed interiors on 10 BBJs, including a number of the NetJets BBJs, and two BBJ 2s. One BBJ and two BBJ 2s are currently in work at Lufthansa Technik's 172,000-square-foot (16,000- square-meter) Hamburg facility.

August Henningsen, chairman of the executive board at Lufthansa Technik AG, said the agreement with Boeing Business Jets is another example of the working relationship between the two companies.

"That relationship has led to establishing new milestones in BBJ interior completions, and we anticipate the same result in this latest agreement," Henningsen said. "As an authorized service facility we further expand our portfolio of services for BBJ operators."

With the addition of Lufthansa Technik, BBJ operators can chose from three locations in Europe and two locations in the United States for authorized service and warranty work. Those include: Associated Air in Dallas, Tex.; DeCrane Aircraft Systems Integration Group (PATS) in Georgetown, Del.; and Jet Aviation in Basel and Geneva, Switzerland.

Boeing Business Jets is a joint venture with General Electric launched in July 1996 to respond to market demand for a larger, more capable business airplane that can fly more than 6,000 nautical miles. The versatility of the BBJ, a version of the Boeing 737-700, allows owners to create a unique environment tailored to their specific needs and seating requirements -- whether it's for eight or 100 passengers -- for private, corporate, or charter use or for government transport. There are more than 60 BBJs in service worldwide.

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