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Thrush records strong first quarter of 2020

Significant growth in both staffing and orders get the year off to a solid start.

(Albany, Georgia) Despite the recent impact of COVID-19 on virtually every facet of life at the present time, the new leadership team at Thrush Aircraft recorded a very strong first quarter as the first three months of the new year drew to a close. In addition, Thrush added additional staffing and capabilities during this time to support further growth in the year ahead

“Naturally, our first thoughts are with our teammates here at our factory, our community in Albany, and the entire agricultural industry, as we all deal with the COVID-19 situation together” said Mark McDonald, chief executive officer of Thrush Aircraft. “And in light of recent events related to the crisis, this bit of good news seemed very much worth sharing, as I believe all of us could use a bright spot right about now” he continued.

As the first quarter of the new year comes to an end, Thrush has more than doubled the number of team members in production services at the factory – while adding some critical new hires on the sales and support sides as well. These include: Mike Rutledge as Director of Sales for North America, Bryan Amador as Sales Representative for Central America, Steve Jocelyn as Vice President of Manufacturing, and Sherrie Wallace as Sales Administrator.

In addition, Kevin Pierce has been promoted to Director of Services and is now overseeing a new customer support team that will transform the way Thrush supports its customers in the field, while Manager of Flight Operations, Terry Humphrey, continues to lead the company’s flight department. The company has also tripled the size of its engineering department which will greatly enhance updates and certification capabilities.

“Doubling employment levels here at Thrush was a goal from the very start” said Mr. McDonald. “And, thanks to a strong order book, we were able to do so quite quickly” he added.



The company's 2020 order book so far includes some 17 aircraft for both spray and firefighting operations, including Thrush 510P's, 510G's and 710P's destined for customers in the United States, Canada and overseas. Several of these aircraft are expected to be delivered over the next 30 days.

"Despite the challenges every new organization experiences, our sales, support and production teams here in Albany and around the world have more than risen to the occasion, and I could not be more proud of all they've accomplished – nor more excited about all that is to come" said Mr. McDonald. "Our immediate challenge of course is the current COVID-19 crisis. But I'm convinced we have the right people and the right mind-set to deal with the challenge, and to help others do so as well. Working together, all of us as a nation and as global population will prevail" he concluded.

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Caption for attached photo

Under its new leadership team, Thrush Aircraft reported a very strong first quarter to kick-off the new year.

About Thrush Aircraft Company

Headquartered in Albany, Georgia, Thrush Aircraft manufactures a full range of aerial application aircraft used in agriculture, forestry and firefighting roles worldwide. Founded in 2003, Thrush is well-known for building the most durable aircraft in the aerial application and firefighting industries – as well as the best flying – from both pilot and operator perspectives. All Thrush models provide superb visibility, light control response, and a high degree of maneuverability and speed, along with superior efficiency and low direct operating costs. Today there are more than 2,400 Thrush aircraft operating in some 80 countries around the world.

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