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Guam soon to have non-military air ambulance

A NEW air ambulance will soon offer service to Guam-based patients in need of highly specialized medical transport to hospitals overseas, according to a press release.

Aviation Concepts Inc., operator of CareJet air ambulance service, this week took delivery of a Westwind II twin-engine jet at its base facility at A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport.

The service is slated to begin as early as Nov. 1, 2007. It will be the first time that a non-military air ambulance is based on Guam.

“The arrival of the Westwind II is a major milestone in the development of a state-of-the-art commercial air ambulance service for Guam and the Western Pacific,” said Terry Habeck, president of Aviation Concepts Inc. “This state-of-the-art jet represents our company’s unsparing commitment to, and investment in, only the very best aircraft, technology, support systems, and aviation and medical professionals for CareJet.”

The Westwind II is specially designed and configured for expert emergency medical care and transport. Its fuselage sits low to the ground, making it ideal for patient transport as it allows for easy access from the runway. Its twin jet engines are highly fuel efficient, making it especially well-adapted for extended range



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distances. The jet has a maximum range of 2,600 statute miles and maximum cruise of 480 mph. From its base in Guam, CareJet will be able to reach Manila in 3.3 hours, Tokyo in 3.4 hours, Hong Kong in 4.4 hours, and Cairns, Australia in 4.9 hours. CareJet's flight crewmembers are veteran pilots operating under the FAA Part 135 Air Carrier Certificate of Aviation Concepts Inc., which has worldwide flying authority. In-house teams of certified A&P aircraft mechanics will oversee the aircraft's maintenance and adherence to federal safety guidelines. Maintenance will be conducted at CareJet's 50,000-square-foot operations center which features direct access to the Guam airport's restricted Air Operations Area.

The jet can accommodate two patients, a flight crew, a medical crew and an accompanying passenger. It is installed with the highest standard of medical equipment to ensure the patient is well cared for while in-flight. CareJet's medical team will consist of a U.S. board-certified surgeon to serve as medical director and a team of highly-skilled registered nurses and EMTs with extensive experience in advanced life support in hospital emergency rooms and intensive care units.

"CareJet is designed to meet and exceed world-class standards of patient care and medical aviation transportation," Habeck added.

