

HARTFORD AVIATION GROUP, INC. AWARDED NASA SOFIA PROJECT ENGINE CONTRACT

September 12, 2013, Hartford, CT – Hartford Aviation Group, Inc. is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the NASA contract to provide four refurbished Pratt & Whitney JT9D-7J engines equipped for high-altitude flights for the SOFIA B747SP “flying telescope” aircraft. SOFIA (Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy) is the world’s largest airborne astronomical observatory. Hartford won the bid in an international competition. This award marks the second time Hartford Aviation has been selected to supply engines for the SOFIA aircraft.



The highly modified Boeing 747SP aircraft began its first test flights in 2007 and its first science flights in 2010. In addition to the 2.5 meter (8.2 feet in diameter) telescope, the airborne observatory includes work stations for scientists and educators. According to the NASA website, over the course of its planned 20 year lifetime, “SOFIA will inspire the development of new scientific instrumentation and foster the education of young scientists and engineers.”



Based in the central business district of the capitol city of Hartford, Connecticut, Hartford Aviation Group, Inc. has been serving the commercial, VIP and experimental aviation sectors since 1985.

“While leasing remains our primary business, the transfer of four JT9D-7J engines from the lease pool will enable Hartford Aviation to reinvest the capital to expand our offerings of engines to support our lease customers,” said Diane Tyszka, Director of Asset Management for Hartford Aviation. “Our investment and strict asset management strategies enable us to offer our clients the most competitive lease rates,” Tyszka said, adding that Hartford is well known for its month-to-month off balance sheet lease structures which have provided strategic tax and cost benefits to its customers since the mid-1980’s.

Hartford Aviation Group serves flight test operators, major foreign and US passenger airlines, freight operators, and VIP head of state operators. Its core business is supplying lease engines for use on wide-body, long-haul aircraft. For more information about Hartford Aviation Group, Inc., visit www.hartfordaviation.com.