

## Cabin completion commences on first two Falcon 8Xs

A new milestone in the development programme for the new Falcon 8X ultra long range trijet took place last month, when two aircraft arrived at the Falcon completion facility in Little Rock, Arkansas.

One of the two aircraft, 8X s/n 03, will have a full interior installation dedicated to the 8X cabin comfort and functionality test programme and will also undertake an around-the-world operational test campaign. The second aircraft, 8X s/n 04, will be the first production unit to be delivered to a Falcon customer. Nine other aircraft are currently in various stages of assembly on the Mérignac line as Dassault's new flagship ramps up production.

"These achievements reflect the steady advance of the Falcon 8X flight test programme since the aircraft first took to the air last February," said Eric Trappier, Chairman and CEO Dassault Aviation. "Tests have fully confirmed target capabilities, in particular long range performance." As of October 10, the Falcon 8X flight test programme had accumulated 315 flight hours over the course of 153 flights at Dassault's flight test centre in Istres, near Marseille, France and s/n 01 recently reached a speed of Mach 0.97. Initial certification tests, covering takeoff and landing performance and validation of the third generation EASy flight deck are also in advanced testing. The Falcon 8X is anticipated to obtain EASA and FAA certification in mid-2016, with initial deliveries taking place in the second half of the year. II

