Read about the ECLIPSE 500

Review by Mark Russo for Angel's Share

FIRST OF THE NEW BREED OF VERY LIGHT JETS

Fresh from completing flight-testing, this "very-light-jet" promises to deliver the features and whistles of private jets at a smaller price tag than thought possible.



Powered by two Pratt & Whitney Canadian (P&WC) PW6105F turbine engines, the new ECLIPSE 500 VLP (very light jet) delivers 375-ktas performance up to a range of 1,280 nautical miles for less than the price of most used turbo props.



Eclipse Aviation, led by aviation veteran Vern Raburn, has pioneered the use of innovative manufacturing processes which speed production and lower costs. The firm can knock out a fully FAA-conforming six passenger jet for a little over a million dollars a pop. Special luxuries can include all leather interiors and styling high end touches which will make this a great jet to travel in.



On flight test day, Eclipse Aviation president and CEO Vern Raburn told Angel's Share, "We are the very first manufacturer to fly an FAA-conforming VLJ, and we are destined to become the first to certify and deliver this new breed of jet into customer's hands."



Eclipse reports orders have been taken for nearly 2,200 jets.

Quick Look

Price

About \$1, 175,000 US

Certification

March 2006

Seating Configuration

Six maximum

Range

1,280 nautical miles

External Dimensions

33.1 feet in length

11 feet height

37.4 wingspan

Internal Cabin

12.3 feet long

4.2 feet high

4.6 feet wide

Cruising speed

375 ktas

Engine

Pratt & Whitney

Fuel Capacity

1,540 pounds

Eclipse Aviation is in the business of designing, certifying, and producing modern, affordable jet aircraft that will revolutionize the transportation market. The company is applying revolutionary propulsion, manufacturing, and electronics systems to produce aircraft that cost less than a third of today's small jet aircraft, will be significantly safer and easier to operate than those of today, and have the lowest cost of ownership ever achieved in a jet aircraft.

The goal of Eclipse is to bring the word "personal" into aviation, making it possible for commercial air passengers to move directly between cities on a quick, affordable, and convenient basis. It will also allow pilot owners to enter the world of jet-powered aviation.

Eclipse Aviation is located in Albuquerque, New Mexico at Sunport International Airport.

Contact

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