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## AFRICAN BUSINESS AVIATION MARKET SET FOR GROWTH

### *160 new aircraft set to be delivered to continent by 2025*

**27 November 2017, Johannesburg.** To coincide with Africa’s first African business aviation conference and exhibition (AfBAC), which runs from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December in Johannesburg, South Africa, new analysis of industry data by Global Jet Capital, a global leader in financial solutions for private aircraft, reveals that the continent’s business jet market is set for significant growth.

The company predicts that the African private jet fleet will grow by more than 25% by 2025, with 160 new aircraft being delivered to the continent. These aircraft are forecast to have a total value of around \$3.9bn, or just under \$500m per year.<sup>1</sup>

A key driver behind this growth will be the southern Africa region which is expected to account for around a third of all the jets based in the continent.

Region	Private jet fleet size, 2017	Anticipated private jet fleet size, 2025
Southern Africa	145	184
Western Africa	97	124
North Africa	79	101
Central Africa	59	75
Eastern Africa	29	37
<b>All Africa</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>520</b>

The total value of the jets to be delivered to southern Africa by 2025 is predicted to be around \$1.4bn. One of the big challenges in ensuring these forecasts are met and that Africa benefits from the advantages of business aviation is to have the financing solutions available to support aircraft acquisitions.

This will be a major focus of AfBAC this week in Johannesburg, arguably the key business aviation hub on the continent and thus the perfect location to host the event.

Simon Davies, VP Sales, Middle-East and Africa for Global Jet Capital, will be speaking at AfBAC on how the industry can maximize its potential and stimulate demand.

Davies said: “We recently carried out research amongst business aviation professionals which showed that more than three quarters expect the demand for aircraft financing to increase in the next five years.<sup>2</sup> It is critically important that clients are able to access financial support in order to continue to develop the African business aviation fleet.”

“We are seeing a growth in global demand for operating leases, which have the advantage to the operator of placing the residual risk of the aircraft with the lender rather than the lessee. We expect to see this trend in African markets as well and look forward to discussing these options at AfBAC this week.”

Global Jet Capital is capitalized by three global investment firms – GSO Capital Partners, a Blackstone company in partnership with Franklin Square Capital Partners\*; The Carlyle Group; and AE Industrial Partners. In January 2016, Global Jet Capital completed the purchase of GE’s corporate aircraft lease and loan book in the Americas.

Global Jet Capital currently has approximately \$2.5 billion in assets under management.

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**Notes to editors**

- (1) Global Jet Capital analysis of Bombardier Business Aircraft Market Forecast 2016 – 2025 and JetNet data. 160 new business aircraft are predicted to be delivered to the continent, while 48 old aircraft are predicted to be retired during this timeframe.
- (2) Research conducted by Global Jet Capital and Corporate Jet Investor amongst a panel of 144 business aviation professionals between 21<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017.



### **Global Jet Capital**

With approximately \$2.5 billion in assets under management, Global Jet Capital provides financing solutions for the private aircraft market. The company is capitalized by world-class private investors with expertise in the global aviation industry: GSO Capital Partners, a Blackstone company, in partnership with FS Investments, The Carlyle Group and AE Industrial Partners. The Global Jet Capital management team has served the private aircraft industry for a combined 200-plus years and has completed over 3,500 aircraft transactions. The company has the expertise, financial strength, industry relationships and infrastructure necessary to offer a variety of flexible financing solutions at the speed the market requires.

[www.globaljetcapital.com](http://www.globaljetcapital.com)

### **GSO Capital Partners and FS Investments**

GSO Capital Partners, with approximately \$89 billion in assets under management, is the credit platform of The Blackstone Group, a leading global institutional alternative asset manager, with assets under management of over \$360 billion\*. FS Investments, formerly Franklin Square Capital Partners, is a leading asset manager that designs alternative investments, including six funds sub-advised by GSO or its affiliates representing over \$18 billion in assets under management as of June 30, 2016. [www.blackstone.com/gso](http://www.blackstone.com/gso)

\* As of September 30, 2016

### **The Carlyle Group**

The Carlyle Group (NASDAQ: CG) is a global alternative asset manager with \$176 billion of assets under management across 128 funds and 170 fund of funds vehicles as of June 30, 2016. Carlyle's purpose is to invest wisely and create value on behalf of its investors, many of whom are public pensions. Carlyle invests across four segments – Corporate Private Equity, Real Assets, Global Market Strategies and Investment Solutions – in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle East, North America and South America. Carlyle has expertise in various industries, including: aerospace, defense & government services, consumer & retail, energy, financial services, healthcare, industrial, real estate, technology & business services, telecommunications & media and transportation. The Carlyle Group employs more than 1,650 people in 35 offices across six continents.

[www.carlyle.com](http://www.carlyle.com)

### **AE Industrial Partners**

AE Industrial Partners is a private equity investment company founded in 1998, by David Rowe and his late father, aviation pioneer Brian Rowe, to make direct investments in aerospace, power generation and specialty industrial companies. Today AE Industrial is led by 11 partners with each having an average of over 30 years of relevant operating and direct investment experience. AE Industrial is focused on investing in precision component manufacturing,

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distribution, MRO (maintenance, repair and overhaul) and industrial service-based businesses that are strategically important to their market places. AE Industrial has invested in over 30 companies including: Aviall, Dynamic Precision Group, Grand Prairie Accessory Services, Moeller Aerospace, Landmark Aviation, Kellstrom Materials and Belcan Corporation.

[www.aeroequity.com](http://www.aeroequity.com)