
MTU Aero Engines performs first blisk repair by patching

Munich, December 20, 2007 – Debut at MTU Aero Engines: Germany's leading engine manufacturer is the first company worldwide to repair a component by patching, hand it over to the customer and obtain approval for the innovative repair technique. In December, a repaired blisk from a low-pressure turbine of the Eurofighter's EJ200 engine was delivered to the National Quality Assurance Office for aviation equipment.

The blisk needed repairing on account of foreign object damage to two engine blades. Earlier, MTU had been commissioned by the German Air Force to develop a repair solution for such cases. The new technique, dubbed patching, provides for cutting off the damaged portion of the blade and in its stead joining a replacement, the "patch", to the blade using a welding process that had specifically been developed for the purpose. The final step of the repair is adaptive milling to restore the engine blade to its original contour.

"This again witnesses our repair expertise," explained Dr. Rainer Martens, MTU senior vice president and COO. "We're the first company able to perform and offer this blisk repair technique on a production basis." In high-tech repairs, MTU has for decades been setting the pace worldwide, venturing to successfully repair worn parts where others would have long resorted to replacement parts.

MTU Aero Engines is one of the major global players in the engine business. Taken across its affiliates, the company has 7,100 employees. Having carved out leadership positions in engine technologies, the company excels in repair and manufacturing techniques, low-pressure turbines and high-pressure compressors and engine control units. In fiscal 2006, it had 2.4 billion euros in sales.

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