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Honda Aviation – A Brief History

- 1986:** Honda begins research in Japan on both small aircraft and jet engines.
- 1993:** Honda begins research on composite body aircraft, leading to the development of an aircraft called “MH-02.” Research continues until 1996.
- 1995:** Honda begins high altitude testing of its first generation turbofan engine, HFX-01, conducting more than 70 hours of tests through 1996.
- 1999:** Development begins on the HF-118 turbofan jet engine in the 1,000 to 3,500-pound thrust class, featuring a compact, lightweight, and fuel-efficient design.
- 2000:** Honda R&D Americas establishes a research facility at the Piedmont Triad International Airport in Greensboro, North Carolina, U.S., in October 2000 for the purpose of researching, fabricating and flight testing of HondaJet.
- 2002:** Honda conducts high altitude tests of the HF-118 engine starting in June 2002.
- Honda publishes and reports its first technical paper in June 2002 concerning technological achievements of the new airframe. Honda continues publishing technical papers, with the most recent paper in June 2005.
- 2003:** HondaJet takes its first test flight, December 3, 2003. Honda makes first public announcement of the achievement days later.
- 2004:** Honda and GE Aviation announce February 16, 2004, an alliance to commercialize the HF-118 engine. The two companies establish a joint venture, GE-Honda Aero Engines, LLC, in October 2004, to pursue the development, production and sales of the HF-118 turbofan engine in the light business jet market.

In July 2004, Honda establishes both Honda Aero, Inc., to manage its aircraft engine business in the U.S. and the Wako Nishi R&D Center in Japan to research and develop turbofan jet engines.

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2005: HondaJet makes its public “world debut” July 28, 2005, at the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) AirVenture 2005 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, U.S.

2006: Honda announces July 25, 2006, at the EAA AirVenture 2006 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, U.S., that it will commercialize HondaJet.

Honda Aircraft Company, Inc. (HACI), established in August 2006, assumes responsibility for Honda’s overall airframe business strategy and the further development, sales promotion and production of the innovative HondaJet.

Honda Aircraft Company, Inc., begins sales of HondaJet at the NBAA (National Business Aviation Association) annual convention in Orlando, Florida, U.S., on October 17, 2006. HondaJet will be powered by the GE Honda HF120 turboprop engine. HondaJet is targeted for type certification and first customer delivery in late 2010.

2007: Honda Aircraft Company announces February 9, 2007, that its US\$100 million world headquarters, R&D center and production facility will be located at the Piedmont Triad International Airport (PTIA) in Greensboro, North Carolina, U.S.

Honda Aircraft Company breaks ground June 27, 2007, for its new world headquarters, R&D center and production facility. Construction of the office facility is scheduled for completion in summer 2008, with the R&D center to be finished by late 2008. The production facility is expected to be completed in 2010.

2008: Honda Aircraft Company announces in March 2008 the expansion of HondaJet sales to Mexico and Canada.

In May 2008 at the annual EBACE (European Business Aviation Convention and Exhibit) conference in Geneva, Switzerland, HondaJet sales are further expanded to include Europe. Also in May, HACI moves into its new 68,000 ft² world headquarters complex at PTIA.

In December, Honda Aircraft Company completes construction of its new state-of-the-art 187,000 ft² world R&D center on its new PTIA campus.

2009: Construction of conforming aircraft begins in January in Honda Aircraft Company's new world R&D center.

Honda Aircraft Company announces in May a HondaJet program schedule update that includes revised type certification and first customer delivery anticipated in the fourth quarter of 2011.

In July, flight testing of the HondaJet exceeds 450 hours.

Initial ground preparation is planned for late summer 2009 on the HondaJet production facility on Honda Aircraft Company's world headquarters campus. The 250,000 ft² production facility is scheduled for completion in early 2011 and will house flight training facilities featuring full-motion Level-D flight simulators.

Once the production facility is complete, Honda Aircraft Company's world headquarters campus will encompass over 500,000 ft² in total under roof on its 83-acre campus.

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