

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

Stans, Switzerland, 6 March 2017

## THIRD PC-24 PROTOTYPE TOOK OFF ON MAIDEN FLIGHT TODAY!

The third and final PC-24 prototype, P03, which also represents the series aircraft standard, took off from Buochs airfield today at 9.45 to complete its maiden flight. The eye-catching blue Super Versatile Jet, registration HB-VSA, flew across Central Switzerland for 2 hours and 5 minutes. This flight marks another important milestone in the Pilatus PC-24 development programme.

P03, the third and final PC-24 prototype, took off on its maiden flight today. In the wake of the maiden flights by the first PC-24 prototypes, P01 in May 2015 and P02 in November 2015, this marks another major success for Pilatus. The P03 completes the fleet of PC-24 test aircraft. The first two prototypes have flown a total of 1350 hours to date, including numerous significant test flights. Certification flights will be flown with the series-conform P03.

Certification of the PC-24 is expected in the 4th quarter of 2017. Initial deliveries of the 84 pre-ordered aircraft will go ahead immediately after certification is obtained.

### **Promising progress**

Oscar J. Schwenk, Chairman of the Board of Directors, commented as follows on progress with the PC-24 programme:

"I'm delighted to have seen the P03 in the air today! The PC-24 test flight programme is proceeding as planned and the results are very encouraging. The data we have so far indicate that our Swiss business jet exceeds published performance figures. I am confident that certification will be achieved in the 4th quarter, and am naturally looking forward with immense anticipation to the moment when our first customers take delivery of their PC-24!"

# **Presentation at EBACE in Geneva**

The PO3 will be presented to the general public for the first time at the European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE) in Geneva, 22 to 24 May 2017.

The eye-catching PO3 sports a blue livery with special pigments designed to produce a superb shimmering pearlescent effect.

The P03 will be kitted out with a "Zermatt" executive interior following today's maiden flight.



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The PC-24 is the first business jet worldwide to be equipped with a cargo door as standard, and is capable of taking off and landing on very short runways and unmade strips. The jet also boasts an extremely spacious cabin designed for easy adaptation to personal requirements. Six stylish colour themes have been created in partnership with Designworks, a BMW Group company, and are named after well known ski resorts such as "St. Moritz", "Zermatt" and "Aspen".

High-resolution images of the PC-24 PO3's maiden flight are now available for download at <a href="http://images.pilatus-aircraft.com">http://images.pilatus-aircraft.com</a>.

# Further information for media representatives is available from:

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Founded in 1939, Pilatus Aircraft Ltd is the only Swiss company to develop, produce and sell aircraft to customers around the world: from the legendary Pilatus Porter PC-6 to the best-selling PC-12, a single-engine turboprop, and the PC-21, the training system of the future. Pilatus' newest aircraft is the PC-24 – the world's first ever business jet that can be operated from short unprepared runways. Domiciled in Stans, the company is certified to ISO 14001 in recognition of its efforts for the environment. The Pilatus Group includes two independent subsidiaries in Broomfield (Colorado, USA) and Adelaide (Australia). With over 1800 employees at its headquarters, Pilatus is one of the largest employers in Central Switzerland. Pilatus provides training for over 110 apprentices in eleven different professions – job training for young people has always been a very high priority at Pilatus.

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