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WxOps Inc. announces the first successful flight test of its OpsTablet® EFB software, an integrated tablet and mobility suite designed for use by commercial airline pilots, dispatchers, cabin crews and line maintenance personnel. Currently undergoing live trials, OpsTablet® and other components of Hawaiian’s EFB “e-Flie” program are expected to be operationally approved in mid-2017.

During October 2016, initial installations and flight tests were successfully performed on several Hawaiian Airlines Boeing B767 and Airbus A330 wide body aircraft. Initial testing assessed software performance, human factors, data currency, cellular and satellite connectivity, bandwidth stability and data transfer speed. During one particular flight, over 65 Mbyte of data was successfully transferred bi-directionally between ground and aircraft. The tests yielded positive results in each tested data category.

Test Categories included:

Dispatch to Aircraft (DA) – Transfer and analysis of operational information including flight manuals, ground operational data, flight data and graphical weather products. Ongoing testing addresses security, encryption, data compression, optimization and metering.

Aircraft to Dispatch (AD) – Transfer and analysis of aircraft derived data and manual messaging with attachments. Ongoing testing addresses transfer of ARINC 429, 717 and other data via the AID server to ground.

Primary/Secondary Server (PSS) – Redundant EFB servers, data feeds and databases provide failover and backup capability, with dedicated secure servers in Honolulu and San Antonio.

Mark Spence, WxOps Inc. CEO comments on the findings: *“The system worked pretty well. It demonstrated that delivery of secure and higher bandwidth operational data to and from aircraft is feasible. Taking a deeper dive into both the e-Flie “use case” and the overall EFB “business case” allowed Hawaiian to identify returns beyond what just the removal of paper manuals provided. Ongoing research and development also indicates that airline training, situational awareness and tactical decision making could be improved in other areas through the use of timely more accurate aircraft data, including ground operations, crew scheduling, aircraft maintenance.”*

About WxOps®

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WxOps® was founded in 2010 to develop and commercialize Command, Control, Communications & Computer (C4) systems for use by Government and Industry. WxOps® also provides data products and services to transportation and logistics companies. WxOps holds several patents and patents pending for products in the areas of Geospatial, C4 and logistics tracking, and Clear Air Turbulence. Other WxOps apps include:

OpsDocs™ A Mobile Content Management (MCM) system used for delivery, remote management and viewing of flight plan and other operational information, weather and current Flight Operations Manuals.

WorldWindEarth (WWE) is a 4D C4 geobrowser providing a Common Operating Environment (COE) to users for the display of AOC and flight related data. WxOps is developing WWE from NASA WorldWind open source under SBIR contract with NASA Ames Research Center (ARC).

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