



MRO Middle East

Maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) is one of the Middle East aviation market's most important emerging sectors. So when I was asked to lend my patronage to an event focusing on this crucial aspect of our industry, I did not hesitate.

With huge growth in regional commercial and business aviation markets, the need for indigenous MRO facilities is expanding week on week. The local skills base that is required to maintain ever-growing numbers in regional aircraft fleets also continues to rise.

We are predicting a seven percent compound average growth rate for the MENA region's five year MRO addressable market – a considerable increase upward trend that needs to be met both efficiently and professionally. We are also witnessing a paradigm shift in the regional MRO market as it moves towards a total care approach, employing leading-edge technologies and favorable cost structures.

As airlines look at cost-saving initiatives, the need for shorter turnaround times through total maintenance solutions and classic MRO services for commercial airframe, engines and components becomes critical.

The development of a dedicated MRO event that addresses these issues and affords companies a forum to showcase their products and discuss the future with industry professionals is yet another feather in Dubai's cap. The emirate has taken great strides to establish itself as the region's primary aerospace hub as well as being the networking venue for all concerned with this dynamic global industry, as witnessed by the recent success of the 10th Dubai Airshow 2007, now the third largest event of its kind in the world.

The addition now of 'MRO Middle East' will further complement and enhance this vision.

HH Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum
President, Dubai Civil Aviation Authority
& Chairman of Dubai Airports & Emirates Group