

AN-132D First Flight: A New Page in the History of Ukraine's Aircraft Industry

Defense-aerospace



The An-132, a much-improved variant of the venerable An-32 "Clank" developed for Saudi Arabia, made its first flight on March 31. It is fitted with Western engines and components, and no longer has any Russian parts. (Antonov photo)

Innovative AN-132D successfully performed its first flight. As soon as the plane landed at Hostomel Airport, the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and government officials greeted the crew.

This is the first plane with no Russian components – created by UKROBORONPROM SE "Antonov" – which is a good example of international cooperation between Ukraine and international aerospace giants.

AN-132D was created in record time. The program was launched in May 2015 and today the aircraft hit the sky. It has no Russian components – we launched international cooperation with global aircraft giants, including partners from USA, Canada, UK, Germany, France and other countries – Honeywell, Pratt & Whitney Canada, Liebherr-Aerospace Toulouse SAS, Dowty Propellers.

Decision on implementation of An-132 program was based on the request of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia organizations, as well as aircraft operators. An-132D construction is the first stage of the program of creating light multipurpose aircraft of new generation AN-132.

An-132 is designed for short distance and medium-range routes, it will perform a wide range of tasks on transportation; different cargo cabin configurations are available. The aircraft will have a cruising speed of 500 km / h and a maximum cruise altitude up to 9000 m with a

maximum payload up to 9.2 tons. In future, a whole family of different purpose aircraft will be developed on the basis of An-132.

An-132 also became the first aircraft, produced by the UOP Aircraft cluster that was created in 2016 as part of the reform strategy of Ukraine's defense industry. Production and logistic algorithms – used by UKROBORONPROM while working on An-132 – will be used in other clusters.

Aircraft cluster allows Ukrainian aviation industry to operate as integrated, coordinated mechanisms with clear development to deeper integrate into the world market and international standards implementation.