TECHNICAL: G ENERAL AVIATIO N

Agricultural aircraft
see growth in China
C

hina is developing three
new utility aircraft, accord-
ing to the nation's Ministry of
Aerospace Industry, for agricul-
tural and forestry work.
The Shijiazhuang Aircraft
Plant (SAP) Yun-5B, which re-
tains the airframe, powerplanl
and multirole capability of its
predecessor, the Antonov -
designed SAP Antonov Yun-5'N,
is equipped with a large hopper
or tank and a wind-driven
pump. Tank contents can be
jettisoned in an emergency.
The aircraft has spraybars with
nozzles of varying sizes and the
cabin doors are sealed.

The Chinese airworthiness
authority has certificated the
Yun-5B after successful flight
trials and the aircraft is now in
production, says the Chinese
Ministry of Aerospace Industry.
The Nong-5, the second devel-
opment, is a single-seat, single-
engined aircraft with a cargo
capacity oflSOOkg. It is said to be
a modern design and was flight-
tested at the end of last year. The
aircraft is expected to be availa-
ble lo customers in 1991.
The third aircraft is the Yon—
1 IB, based on the Yun-11 and
expected to go into production
next vear. •

Demand soars for Falcon 16-seater

F

alcon Jet is offering a 16-
passenger layout for opera-
tors of the Dassault Falcon 900
corporate-jet following "a spate
of customer requests". Company
president Frank Wisekal denies
that the result is a sardine-fit,
claiming that the new interior
provides "a very respectable de-
gree of comfort". One high-
density completion has already
been carried out and the com-
pany is following up several

other inquiries. Demand is said
to have arisen because of corpo-
rate operators' dissatisfaction
with US airline travel. The new
layout permits "corporate bus or
taxi" operations, according to
Falcon Jet. A typical high-
density Falcon 900 interior could
comprise three zones: a four—seat
VIP forward section, six-seat cen-
tral conference area, and six-
place rear-cabin accommodation
or rest area. D

UK POLICE TAKE INFRA-RED SENSORS ON BOARD

McAlpine Helicopters has installed a FUR Systems 2000 infra—red sensor, video recorder and microwave downlink to an •Aerospatiale AS.355F2 Twin Squirrel helicopter operated by the L'K West Midlands police. This is the first UK police helicopter to have a permanent infra-red sensor, says the Aerospatiale distributor which also modified the cockpit (inset).

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BAe WOO OFFERS IMPROVED SHORT-FIELD CAPABILITY

The British Aerospace BAe 1000 business-jet prototype features unusual wing devices and Rohr thrust reversers for improved short-field performance over the BAe 125-800. The BAe 1000 wing is similar to that of the BAel25-800 but has no fences. It has instead a row of vortex generators over most of the span and vortilons extending from below the leading edge. Vortex generators lower slall speed by an estimated 3kt (6km/h) and reduce field requirement significantly. Thrust reversers, not yet deployable on the prototype, are to he standard.

CAA survey supports transponders
A

UK Civil Aviation Author-
ity (CAA) survey has found
that many pilots and owners
favour the introduction of sec-
ondary surveillance radar trans-
ponders for light aircraft. The
move would benefit the general
aviation community, said 49% of
those replying; 21% were neutral
and 27% gave negative replies.
The survey questioned 10,000
light aircraft owners and 5,000
light aircraft pilots in the light of
the increasing traffic in the
lower band of uncontrolled air-
space below 10,000ft (3,080m)
and the need to assure overall
flight safety there.
The CAA says that the survey

has been given increased ur-
gency with the prospect of trans-
ponder-activated airborne anti-
collision warning systems being
deployed in public transport air-
craft in the future. •

N EWS I NB RIEF

NORMARC CHINA BOUND
Normarc of Oslo has won a
S2.7 million contract to sup-
ply Beech with a digital na-
vaids flight-inspection sys-
tem. The system will be fitted
to a Super- King Air Model 300
ordered by the People's Repub-
lic of China.

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