INDUSTRY International

Products

Company News

Great Britain

EMI Polaris Contract EMI Electronics Ltd, in conjunction with its associated company in America, Hughes Aircraft, has been selected as the main contractor for simulators at the Royal Navy Polaris School now under construction at Faslane in Scotland. This school will provide full synthetic training for RN personnel, using a weapon control simulator manufactured by Hughes. EMI engineers will assist in the installation, testing and tuning of this device, and will also train naval personnel in its use.

According to EMI, "The formation of the joint EMI-Hughes company (EMIHUS Ltd) has greatly facilitated smooth Anglo-American co-operation in providing this important training facility."

Sulzer Compressors for Rotax Sulzer Bros Ltd, of Bainbridge House, Bainbridge Street, London WC1, has been awarded a contract to design, supply and commission an air compressor system for a new environmental test facility at the Willesden works of Rotax Ltd. It will be used in the testing of ram- and bleed-air turbines, air starters and other equipment.

Use will be made of the Sulzer dry-labyrinth compressor, one of the main advantages of which is that the strict separation of the gas space from the force-lubricated (and in part water-cooled) crank gear provide optimum working conditions and longer life for the component parts. The design is the result of over 20 years' experience in the manufacture of oxygen compressors.

Each compressor is continuously rated at a minimum air delivery, which is carbon- and oil-free, of 3¼lb/sec at 400 p.s.i.g.

Heenan & Froude Export Order Among recent export orders secured by Heenan & Froude, of Worcester, is one for a PT 21 dynamometer for Hispano-Suiza, of France, for testing the Rolls-Royce Tyne turbo-props being built for the Breguet Atlantic and Transall C.160 programmes. Conversion equipment for the Conway engine test plant supplied to Air-India last year and now installed at Bombay has recently been ordered to enable it to handle Pratt & Whitney JT3D turbofans as well.

Ropner Acquire Airtech Ropner Holdings Ltd, which already had a 40 per cent interest in Airtech Ltd, has bought out most of the other shareholders of that company and now holds more than 90 per cent of the equity.

Airtech Ltd, of Haddenham, Bucks, registered as a private company with an issued capital of £221,485 in £1 shares, produces a number of highly specialized products, including the well-known range of airportable containers and associated equipment marketed under the trade name "Aircon."

The new chairman of Airtech is Sir Robert D. Ropner, who has been on the board for many years. Mr F. S. G. Codling continues as managing director.

USA

1,000 JT8Ds Ordered Pratt & Whitney Aircraft report that total sales of the JT8D turbofan amount to 1,008 engines, to support 258 Boeing 727s, DC-9s and Caravelle Super Bs sold to 20 airlines. The first production JT8D was shipped in February 1963, and more than 400 have now been delivered. Over 100,000 engine flight hours have been logged by JT8D-1 engines in 727s.

Simulating Intruders Goodyear Aerospace Corp has delivered to NAS Oceana what is described as the world's most complex aircraft weapons system trainer to simulate the full operational capability of the Grumman A-6A Intruder. The machine is housed in two trailers and incorporates a moving-base cockpit and facilities for simulating varying weather conditions, such as sunlight, lightning and cloud as well as the basic operational capabilities. The Intruder is equipped with the DIANE system of Doppler and radar navigation and attack, the main cockpit portion of which is a television flight director showing an analogue representation of the external world and a "pathway in the sky" director for flight-path control. This system is intended to direct the pilot during high-speed flight at heights as low as 50ft and through all the weapon-delivery manœuvres.

Tungsten Nuclear-rocket Study The US National Aeronautics and Space Administration will negotiate with General Atomics Division of General Dynamics (San Diego, Calif) for a contract worth some $1.7m covering studies related to the thermal tungsten-rocket reactor concept. Work under the contract is part of the United States' programme to explore the feasibility of the tungsten reactor and to determine its capabilities in the nuclear rocket.

General Atomics will determine means of calculating the critical mass of uranium needed to provide reactivity, the distribution of uranium in the core for efficient thermal design, and the ability of the control rods to perform their function. The company also intends to devise experiments to confirm calculations.

High-density packaging technique used in Hughes-Fullerton MITE (missile-integration terminal equipment) is examined by a US Army warrant officer as he removes a digital plug-in card. Designed to integrate missile batteries with "operations centrals" in existing Army air-defence systems, MITE assemblies are installed in helicopter-transportable huts. Several have been delivered to West Germany