



Mitsubishi Aircraft News No. 20

## MRJ Iron Bird Successfully Became Airborne

December 22, 2011

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Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation announced that the MRJ (Mitsubishi Regional Jet) successfully became airborne in the hydraulic and flight control system rig test (known as "iron bird").

The iron bird is one of most significant system integration test of the development process to test the maneuvering functions of the MRJ: it is a system which consists of flight deck, hydraulic and flight control equipment, on-board software to be loaded on the actual aircraft, and simulation computers creating the all of flight environment. This testing of "iron bird" is being conducted at the MRJ dedicated experiment building built within Oye Plant (located in Nagoya, Minato-ku) of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd, currently responsible for manufacturing and testing the MRJ as the major partner to Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation.

The commencement of the iron bird test marks an important milestone, as well as to the component manufacturing and assembly work commencement. The successful start of these maneuvering tests shows steady progress of MRJ development toward flight tests.

The iron bird is able to conduct tests, such as intentional failure, that actual aircraft cannot. Maneuvering tests using the iron bird will therefore continue within the next 3 years to achieve the development of the aircraft assuring its utmost safety.



## **MRJ**

The Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) is a family of 70- to 90-seat next-generation regional jets developed by the Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation. By featuring state-of-the-art aerodynamic design, noise analysis technologies and a game-changing engine, the MRJ will significantly cut fuel consumption, noise, and emissions. By offering both top-class operational economy and outstanding cabin comfort, the MRJ will also improve airline competitiveness and profitability. The MRJ features a four-abreast seat configuration, large overhead bins, and feature an innovative slim seat offering heightened passenger comfort.