

# Global aircraft majors to participate in aviation expo

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*New Delhi*

THE first civilian air show, 'India Aviation 2008' – an International exhibition and conference on civil aviation to be held from October 15 to October 18 – is attracting a number top aviation companies in the world. Top aircraft manufacturers including EADS, HAL, BEL, Rolls Royce, Engine Alliance, Cessna Aircraft Company, Bell Helicopter Textron, ATR, Bombardier have already confirmed their presence in the event.

"India Aviation 2008 will showcase the development of Indian aviation industry. The event will highlight the history, growth and present stature of Indian civil aviation," said Praful Patel, minister of civil aviation.

The country's first air show to be organised jointly by the ministry of civil aviation and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci), will be held in Hyderabad at Begumpet Airport. On the lines of Farnborough and Berlin airshows, it will not only help multi-national aircraft manufacturers explore investment opportunities, but also boost Andhra Pradesh as the hub for aviation. It will also see Airbus delivering its first A380 to the Kingfisher Airlines. "There will be a number of players from across the countries. US will be our country partner for the event," said the minister.

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