

NETHERLANDS COASTGUARD DEPENDS ON TPE331 ENGINES FOR NORTH SEA MISSIONS

Honeywell partner JetSupport delivers vital maintenance to keep coastguard fleet in the air

Case Study

MAJOR KJELD GUNDERSON, PILOT, ROYAL NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE:

“We fly 150 miles off the coast and 1,000 feet above the North Sea, so for both the Netherlands Coastguard and for me as a pilot, it’s very important to have reliable engines like the Honeywell TP331. Good maintenance is also vital and we get that through JetSupport.”

Honeywell

OVERVIEW

Life and death emergencies are not uncommon for the Netherlands Coastguard and so its resources must be instantly available 24x7. That is particularly important in the air, which is why the service flies two versatile Dornier 228 aircraft powered by reliable Honeywell TPE331 engines. To keep them airborne, the planes are maintained by Honeywell partner JetSupport and close links between the two companies ensure a dependable supply of parts and services.

BACKGROUND

Monitoring and responding to distress signals, pollution control, conducting search and rescue missions and maintaining coastal law and order are just some of the many tasks carried out by Netherlands Coastguard.

Its law enforcement tasks include monitoring import, export and the transit of goods, upholding laws regarding the environment and sea fishing.

With no assets of its own, the coastguard boats, helicopters and aircraft are provided by other organizations and include two Dornier 228 aircraft.



SOLUTION

Pilots from the Royal Netherlands Navy and Royal Netherlands Air Force fly the coastguard's two Dornier 228 aircraft, which are crewed by observers from various ministries. The aircraft are equipped with navigation, communication, tracking, photo and video equipment.

Renowned for its reliable performance, the Dornier 228 is a versatile high-wing aircraft that is used by organizations for demanding special missions.

Pilots trust the plane's technology and, in particular, its twin Honeywell TPE331 turboprop engines.

The TPE331, developed for many markets, including the military, is one of the most reliable and proven engines in the world, with more than 13,000 units sold and over 122 million hours of flight time recorded. The series now includes 18 engine models and 106 configurations.

The engine is particularly suitable for the Netherlands Coastguard because of its exceptional horsepower, quick throttle response, shorter take-offs, fuel economy and good power to weight ratio. It also decreases time-to-climb, has a quieter flyover, cruises faster and makes each aircraft more productive with longer maintenance intervals.

Major Kjeld Gunderson, an air force pilot who flies the coastguard Dornier 228s explained: "For the Netherlands Coastguard and for me as a pilot, it's very important that we have a reliable engine.

"We fly about 2,000 hours a year, operating up to 150 miles off the coast and at 1,000 feet above the North Sea, so having a reliable, serviceable and good engine like the Honeywell TPE331 is very important.

"It's a basic, simple engine and in the harsh environments of the North Sea, reliability is what we need. We don't need a lot of electronics, and the TPE331 does the job very well."



BENEFITS

“We use the Dornier aircraft for law enforcement, pollution and maritime control but with search and rescue, it’s all about saving lives and we are constantly on 90-minute callout,” added Gunderson.

“That’s why it’s very important for us that the aircraft are well serviced and JetSupport is responsible for the daily maintenance of the complete aircraft.”

Based at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam, JetSupport is an EASA Part-145 certified maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) company. It now provide services for more than 18 different aircraft types. These include small to medium business jets and special mission planes like the Dornier 228.

A Honeywell service partner for more than five years, JetSupport has been working with Netherlands Coastguard for 12 years.

“The services we provide include both engines and airframes,” said JetSupport B1 maintenance engineer, James Brown.

“The TPE331 are fantastic engines. They are fit, adjust and forget engines and maintenance is very simple. Once they’re in and adjusted they only require basic servicing for things like the oil and fuel filters.

“The Netherlands Coastguard benefits from having a maintenance facility like ours that is always on standby to keep both their aircraft operational at all times. We do daily inspections and A Checks, which are around every 250 hours, and we also do C Checks which are calendar based on a bi-yearly timeframe.”

The coastguard service and JetSupport’s other customers all benefit from its close contact with Honeywell, which means speedy turnaround of parts and high availability of manuals and other services.

“For the Netherlands Coastguard it’s very important that we have a close relationship with JetSupport and that is easy because we are based pretty much in the same building,” added Gunderson.

“If, for whatever reason, we have problem, JetSupport also has a direct line to Honeywell so parts delivery and communications are good. They’re very quick and that’s what we need.

“Operating in the harsh environment over the North Sea is one of the main reasons we use these aircraft because they are so simple. They are always working and thanks to JetSupport and Honeywell, we can keep them airborne at all times.”

QUICK FACTS

Customer

- Name: Netherlands Coastguard
- Location: Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- Industry: Coastguard
- Website: www.kustwacht.nl/en

Honeywell Solution

- TPE331 engine
- Maintenance from Honeywell partner JetSupport

Why Netherlands Coastguard chose Honeywell

- The Dornier 228 and Honeywell TPE331 engines deliver the reliability that is vital for coastguard services
- Honeywell places great importance on after-sales service and maintenance
- JetSupport is always available and its close contact with Honeywell ensures swift delivery times for parts and other services

Customer Results

- Aircraft are constantly available for emergency call-out and other coastguard duties
- Honeywell TPE331 engines operate on longer maintenance period times
- The engines provide exceptional horsepower, quick throttle response, shorter take-offs, fuel economy and good power to weight ratio
- They also decrease time-to-climb, have quieter flyover and cruise faster

Honeywell Aerospace
1944 East Sky Harbor Circle
Phoenix, AZ 85034
aerospace.honeywell.com

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