

August 2025

In This Report

General Activity, Business Jet Activity
Rise in Q2

Airbus and Embraer Drive Order
Activity at 2025 Paris Airshow

Airlines Navigate Rising Costs Despite
Revenue Growth

INVESTMENT BANKING

Aviation Services Industry Update



Aviation Services Observations and Key Trends

Robust Aircraft Demand at 2025 Paris Air Show and Evolving Airline Outlook; Policy and Technology Advances Drive U.S. Aviation Competitiveness

General aviation activity grew in the second quarter of 2025, demonstrating a notable increase of 17% compared to the prior quarter. Business jet activity also rose, up approximately 2% year-over-year.¹

There is continued strength in business aviation, with Argus International reporting global business aircraft activity up 4.8% year-over-year in June. North America led the trend, up 3.7%, while Europe rose 2.4% and the rest of the world surged 13.4%. In North America, all categories showed year-over-year growth, including light jets (+5.7%), large-cabin jets (+3.5%), and turboprops (+2.9%). Fractional activity remained strong, with large-cabin fractional flights up nearly 28%.²

Airbus and Embraer Capture Headlines at the 2025 Paris Airshow

The 2025 Paris Airshow brought renewed confidence in global aircraft demand, with Airbus and Embraer emerging as major winners on the commercial side. Airbus booked firm orders for 148 aircraft, including a significant volume of both narrowbody A320neo-family and widebody A350 jets. Notably, orders from customers

such as LOT Polish Airlines, placing its first Airbus order, and ANA Holdings highlighted sustained interest in fleet modernization and long-haul expansion strategies.³

Embraer also made headlines, securing a firm order from SkyWest for 60 E175 jets, bolstering the Brazilian OEM's strong momentum in the regional jet market.⁴ Embraer's backlog has benefited from rising U.S. regional carrier demand, particularly for scope-compliant aircraft.

The strength in OEM order books reflects a robust outlook for the commercial aerospace sector heading into the year's final months. With backlogs stretching out beyond the decade, the industry's emphasis has shifted from order intake to production execution.

Airlines Project Modest Profit Growth in 2025

According to IATA's June 2025 outlook, global airlines are projected to generate \$979 billion in revenue in 2025. Net profits are forecast to reach \$36.0 billion, representing a modest increase from \$32.4 billion in 2024, with margins improving slightly to 3.7%, from 3.4% the previous year.⁵

While passenger demand is projected to reach 4.99 billion travelers for the first time, the industry's profitability is still challenged by high operating costs and limited pricing power. Total expenses are expected to rise to \$913 billion, driven by inflation, labor costs, and supply chain disruptions.⁶

IATA noted that the airline sector continues to face structural financial pressures despite post-pandemic recovery, with net profit per

departing passenger averaging \$7.20 globally. Continued capital investment in sustainability, digitization, and infrastructure will be critical to supporting long-term stability.⁷

In the News

- **NBAA Supports Aviation Provisions in Budget Bill**

The National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) welcomed several NBAA-supported aviation measures included in July's Congressional budget bill, aimed at enhancing growth, safety, and sustainability. Among the key provisions was a \$12.5 billion down payment for modernizing ATC infrastructure and controller staffing, permanent full expensing for factory-new and pre-owned aircraft purchases, and an extension of clean-fuel tax credits.⁸

- **GE Aerospace Rolls First GE9X Engines Off the Production Line**

GE Aerospace's new GE9X engine has begun rolling off the production line ahead of its planned entry into service next year on Boeing's 777X widebody fleet.⁹

- **White House Moves to Lift Supersonic Overland Flight Ban**

The Trump administration has directed the FAA to take regulatory action to lift the decades-long ban on supersonic commercial flight over land. The directive is part of a broader policy aimed at re-establishing U.S. leadership in high-speed aviation and directs agencies to streamline approvals for civil supersonic aircraft development. The FAA is expected to propose new noise standards and routing guidelines by early 2026.¹⁰

1. Source: Federal Aviation Administration.

2. Source: [ARGUS International TRAQPak](#), July 9, 2025.

3. Source: Company press releases and William Blair analysis.

4. Source: Embraer, "[SkyWest Places Firm Order For 60 Embraer Aircraft](#)," July 18, 2025.

5. Source: © International Air Transport Association, 2025, "[Airline Profitability to Strengthen Slightly in 2025 Despite Headwinds](#)," All Rights Reserved.

6. Source: Ibid.

7. Source: Ibid.

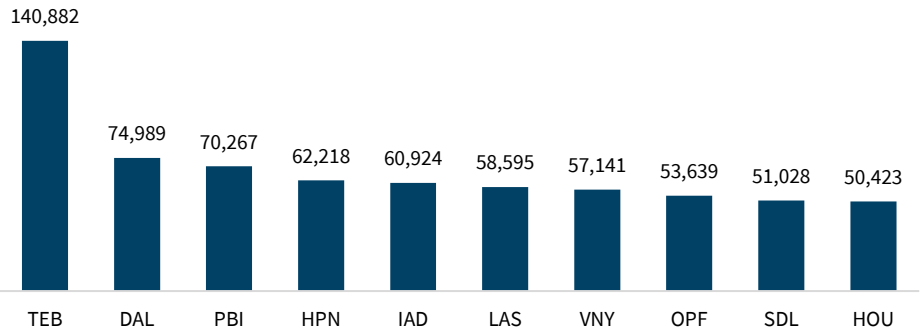
8. Source: The National Business Aviation Association (NBAA), "[NBAA Welcomes Final Congressional Passage of Aviation Priorities in Budget Bill](#)," July 3, 2025.

9. Source: GE Aerospace, "[Steeled for Action: The Ultra-Hardy GE9X Has Begun Rolling Off the Production Line](#)," May 12, 2025.

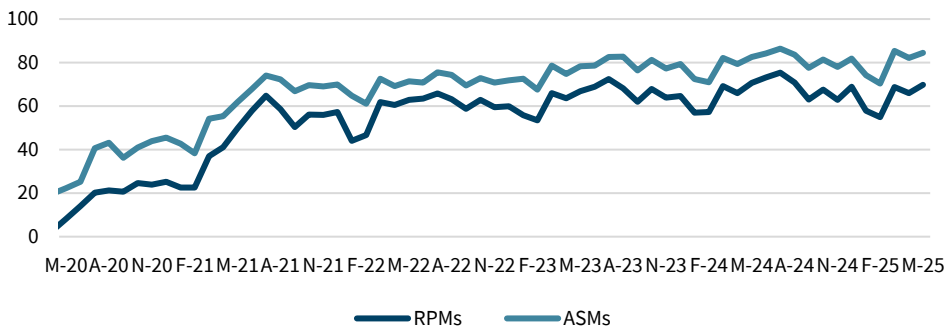
10. Source: White House Executive Order, "[Leading the World in Supersonic Flight](#)," June 6, 2025.

Business Jet
Operations and
Commercial Flight
Activity

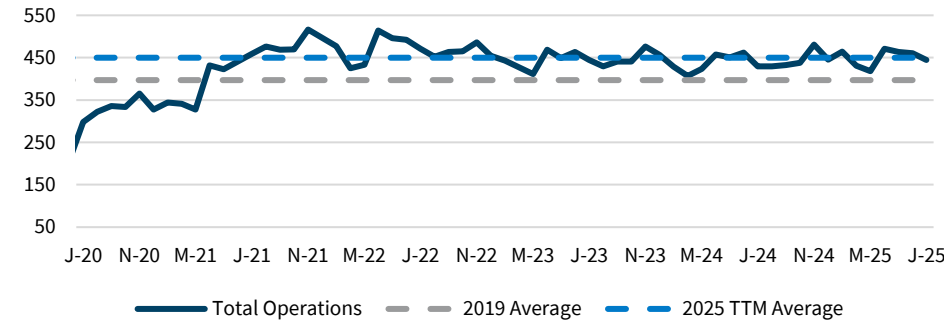
Top 10 Airports for Domestic Business Jet Operations
(LTM June 2025 Business Jet Operations)



Air Traffic (RPMs) and Capacity (ASMs)
(Millions of Miles)

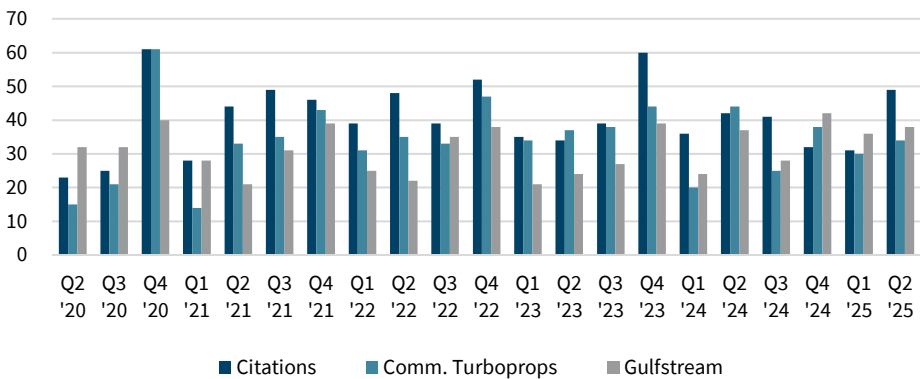


Business Jet Operations
(Thousands of Operations)

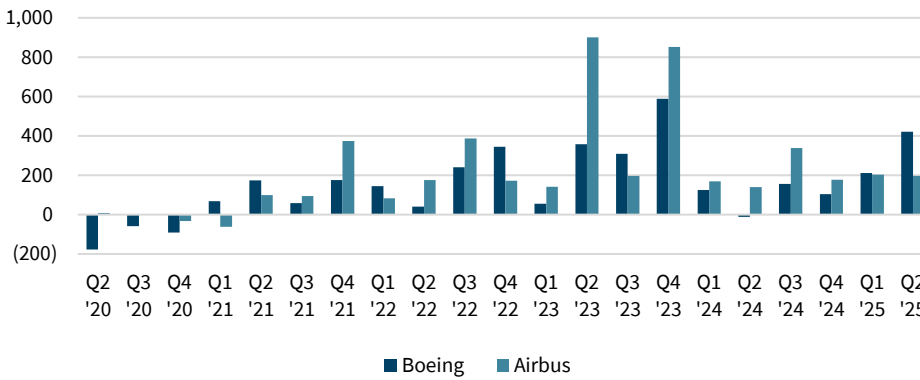


Business Jet
and Commercial
Aircraft Orders and
Deliveries

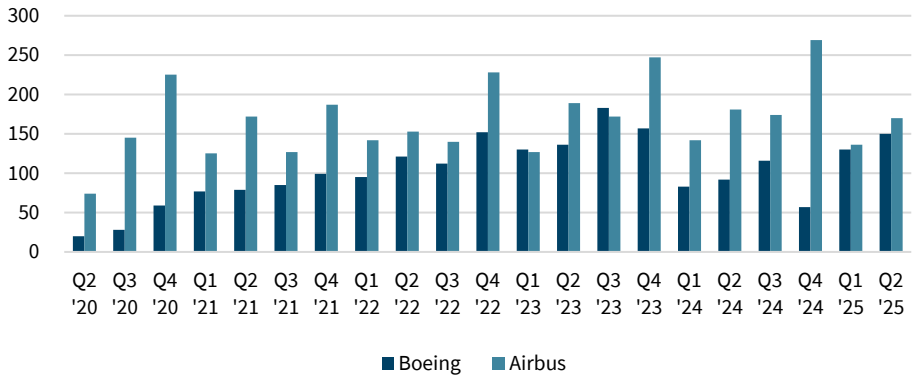
Private Aircraft Deliveries



Net Orders



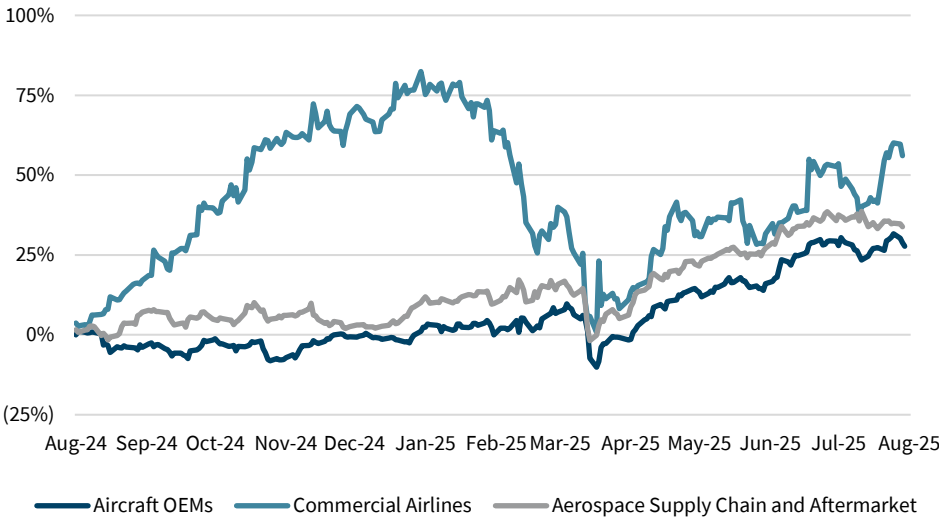
Deliveries



Public Company Performance

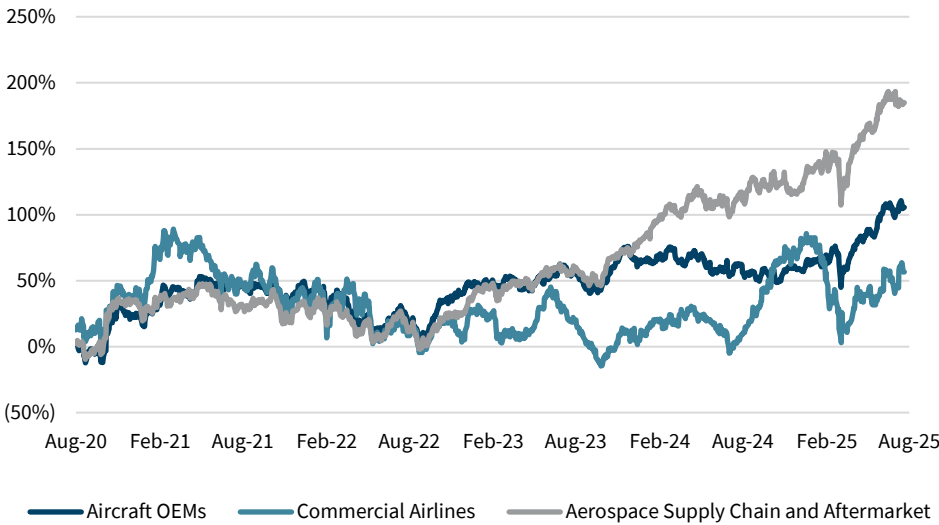
Public Company 1-Year Stock Performance

(Indexed Market Capitalization for the Period August 2024–August 2025)



Public Company 5-Year Stock Performance

(Indexed Market Capitalization for the Period August 2020–August 2025)



Aircraft OEMs: ENXTPA:AIR, ENXTPA:AM, NYSE:BA, NYSE:ERJ, NYSE:GD, NYSE:TXT, TSX:BBD.B
Commercial Airlines: NasdaqGS:AAL, NasdaqGS:JBLU, NasdaqGS:UAL, NasdaqGS:ULCC, NYSE:ALK, NYSE:DAL, NYSE:LUV,
Aerospace Supply Chain & Aftermarket: ENXTPA:SAF, NasdaqCM:ASLE, NasdaqGS:ATRO, NasdaqGS:VSEC, NasdaqGS:WWD, NYSE:AIR, NYSE:DCO, NYSE:HXL, NYSE:LOAR, NYSE:MOG.A, NYSE:RBC, NYSE:SPR, NYSE:TDG, NYSE:WCC, TSX:CAE, TSX:MAL, XTRA:MTX

Public Company Operating and Valuation Metrics

Company	Enterprise Value (\$ millions)	Market Capitalization (\$ millions)	% of 52 - Week High	Rev Growth		LTM EBITDA Margin	Enterprise Value /			
				'25P	'26P		LTM Revenue	NTM Revenue	LTM EBITDA	NTM EBITDA
Aircraft OEMs										
The Boeing Company	\$211,288	\$177,894	96.9%	(3.2%)	19.9%	(9.3%)	2.8x	2.3x	NMF	NMF
Airbus SE	174,837	173,158	99.9%	13.7%	12.6%	10.2%	2.1x	1.9x	20.9x	13.9x
General Dynamics Corporation	93,350	84,254	97.3%	18.9%	3.5%	12.1%	1.9x	1.8x	15.4x	14.8x
Textron Inc.	16,794	14,059	86.2%	2.8%	7.9%	10.7%	1.2x	1.1x	11.1x	9.1x
Dassault Aviation société anonyme	14,274	25,243	83.0%	44.0%	15.7%	10.5%	1.8x	1.6x	17.1x	12.8x
Bombardier Inc.	17,125	11,964	96.4%	8.5%	10.9%	12.3%	2.0x	1.8x	15.9x	10.4x
Embraer S.A.	11,866	10,509	93.3%	35.8%	7.8%	10.3%	1.6x	1.5x	15.8x	12.9x
Mean	\$77,076	\$71,012	93.3%	17.2%	11.2%	8.1%	1.9x	1.7x	16.0x	12.3x
Median	\$17,125	\$25,243	96.4%	13.7%	10.9%	10.5%	1.9x	1.8x	15.9x	12.8x
Aerospace Supply Chain and Aftermarket Support										
Safran SA	\$141,620	\$143,163	98.8%	32.0%	11.5%	19.9%	4.1x	3.7x	20.7x	17.3x
TransDigm Group Incorporated	100,479	78,207	85.5%	23.0%	10.0%	50.9%	11.7x	10.6x	23.0x	19.7x
MTU Aero Engines AG	24,834	24,455	98.1%	62.8%	9.4%	16.8%	2.6x	2.4x	15.4x	12.2x
Woodward, Inc.	15,227	14,710	91.7%	11.1%	9.4%	16.0%	4.4x	4.1x	NMF	20.2x
WESCO International, Inc.	15,749	10,035	94.1%	(0.7%)	5.8%	6.3%	0.7x	0.7x	11.3x	9.7x
RBC Bearings Incorporated	13,255	12,407	94.8%	8.1%	14.2%	29.9%	8.0x	7.0x	NMF	22.2x
CAE Inc.	11,213	8,809	92.0%	5.3%	5.1%	20.0%	3.2x	3.1x	16.1x	12.3x
Spirit AeroSystems Holdings, Inc.	9,893	4,824	97.0%	3.8%	24.7%	(23.0%)	1.6x	1.3x	NMF	NMF
Loar Holdings Inc.	6,744	6,560	70.3%	42.3%	16.1%	34.6%	14.9x	12.9x	NMF	NMF
Moog Inc.	7,293	6,076	83.6%	9.3%	6.1%	12.8%	2.0x	1.8x	15.3x	12.6x
Hexcel Corporation	5,662	4,911	86.9%	4.9%	7.0%	17.7%	3.0x	2.8x	17.0x	14.8x
AAR Corp.	3,634	2,671	87.2%	28.2%	5.0%	8.5%	1.3x	1.2x	15.4x	10.3x
VSE Corporation	3,747	3,346	97.0%	45.6%	(8.8%)	12.3%	3.0x	3.3x	24.3x	20.8x
Ducommun Incorporated	1,583	1,367	97.5%	5.0%	8.0%	12.7%	2.0x	1.8x	15.7x	11.4x
Astronics Corporation	1,363	1,180	89.6%	19.4%	(100.0%)	7.3%	1.7x	N/A	22.8x	N/A
Magellan Aerospace Corporation	651	641	78.7%	7.3%	6.7%	10.8%	0.9x	0.9x	8.5x	6.6x
AerSale Corporation	538	402	95.5%	4.8%	17.9%	9.1%	1.5x	1.3x	16.9x	9.1x
Mean	\$21,381	\$19,045	90.5%	18.4%	2.8%	15.4%	3.9x	3.7x	17.1x	14.2x
Median	\$7,293	\$6,076	92.0%	9.3%	8.0%	12.8%	2.6x	2.6x	16.1x	12.5x
Commercial Airlines										
Delta Air Lines, Inc.	\$58,122	\$39,073	86.1%	6.7%	(0.3%)	12.5%	0.9x	0.9x	7.5x	6.2x
United Airlines Holdings, Inc.	49,844	32,674	87.0%	7.9%	4.9%	14.4%	0.9x	0.8x	6.0x	6.0x
American Airlines Group Inc.	37,318	8,690	69.0%	2.8%	3.6%	9.4%	0.7x	0.7x	7.3x	6.4x
Southwest Airlines Co.	18,045	16,543	83.0%	5.3%	5.5%	6.0%	0.7x	0.6x	10.9x	6.8x
Alaska Air Group, Inc.	10,863	6,614	73.5%	29.0%	9.2%	10.9%	0.8x	0.7x	7.4x	5.6x
JetBlue Airways Corporation	8,249	1,898	62.8%	(5.0%)	2.5%	5.1%	0.9x	0.9x	17.8x	14.4x
Frontier Group Holdings, Inc.	5,338	1,031	44.1%	5.3%	4.7%	(6.7%)	1.4x	1.3x	NMF	6.8x
Mean	\$26,826	\$15,218	72.2%	7.4%	4.3%	7.4%	0.9x	0.9x	9.5x	7.5x
Median	\$18,045	\$8,690	73.5%	5.3%	4.7%	9.4%	0.9x	0.8x	7.5x	6.4x

Select Aviation Services Transactions

Date	Target	Acquirer	Sub-Sector	William Blair Transaction
Jul-25	AvServe	Vantage Aviation	FBO	
Jun-25	Infinity Aviation Group	Igneo Infrastructure Partners	FBO	
May-25	West Star Aviation	Greenbriar Equity Group	MRO	
May-25	Percival Aviation and Cima Aviation	Jet Parts Engineering	MRO	
May-25	TRYP and MySky Aviation	FlyUSA	Charter	
Apr-25	AAR (Landing Gear Overhaul and Wheels & Brakes Business)	GA Telesis	MRO	
Mar-25	Premier Air Charter	Altair International	Charter	
Feb-25	Millennium International	Heico	MRO	
Feb-25	Triumph Group	Berkshire Partners and Warburg Pincus	MRO	
Feb-25	Benitez Aviation	Modern Aviation	FBO	
Jan-25	Aviation Sales	Premier Private Jets	FBO	
Jan-25	Global Engineering & Technology	Yingling Aviation	MRO	
Jan-25	Odyssey Aviation (3 locations)	Tallvine Partners	FBO	●
Jan-25	Glendale Aero Services	The Blackhawk Group	MRO	
Dec-24	Powerhouse Engine Services	Inoa Capital	MRO	●
Dec-24	Kemp Jet Services	Avflight Corporation	FBO	
Dec-24	Farsound Aviation	Onex Partners	MRO	●
Dec-24	Kellstrom Aerospace	VSE	MRO	
Oct-24	Dominion Aviation Service Inc	Vantage Aviation	FBO	
Oct-24	Desert Jet (Charter)	Advanced Air	Charter	
Sep-24	Icon Aerospace	Precision Aviation	MRO	
Sep-24	Tag Aero	Precision Aviation	MRO	
Sep-24	Jet IN	Jet Aviation	FBO	
Aug-24	Dulles Jet Center	Signature Aviation	FBO	
Jul-24	MRO Holdings	Bain Capital	MRO	
Jun-24	Mayo Aviation	Stevens Aerospace	MRO	
May-24	Sunvair Aerospace Group	Greenbriar Equity Group	MRO	●
May-24	American Aero	Modern Aviation	FBO	
Apr-24	Turbine Controls, Inc.	VSE	MRO	
Mar-24	Mid-Continent Aviation Services	Yingling Aviation	MRO	
Mar-24	Triumph Group (Product Support Group)	AAR	MRO	
Jan-24	Meridian	Signature Flight Support	FBO	
Dec-23	Fontainebleau Aviation	Skyservice (Instar)	FBO	●
Dec-23	FlyExclusive	EG Acquisition	Charter	
Nov-23	Jet East	West Star Aviation	MRO	
Nov-23	Modern Aviation (16 locations)	Apollo (Majority) and Tiger Infrastructure Partners	FBO	
Aug-23	Wencor	HEICO	MRO	●
Aug-23	Flying Colours	FlexJet (Eldridge and Directional Aviation)	MRO	
Jun-23	Yingling Aviation	AE Industrial Partners	FBO / MRO	
May-23	Primeflight Aviation Services	Capitol Meridian Partners and The Sterling Group	Ground Handling	
May-23	Star Handling	Skytanking (Primeflight)	Ground Handling	
Apr-23	Epps Aviation (Atlanta, GA)	Aero Centers (SAR-Trilogy and Redbird Capital)	FBO / Charter / MRO	●
Mar-23	Midwest Corporate Aviation	Clemens Aviation	FBO / Charter / MRO	
Mar-23	Atlas Air	Apollo Global, JF Lehman, and Hill City Capital	Air Cargo	
Mar-23	Golden Isles Aviation (St. Simons, GA)	Odyssey Aviation	FBO	

Recent Debt Capital Markets Transactions

Launch Date	Company	Corporate Rating	Amount (\$ millions)			2nd Lien	Term Loan B		2nd Lien
			Total	TLB	RC		Spread (bps)	Floor (bps)	
May-25	Signature Aviation	B+/B2	\$845	\$845	--	--	275	\$50	--
May-25	American Airlines	B+/B1	\$1,000	\$1,000	--	--	325	--	--
Feb-25	American Airlines	B+/B1	\$2,275	\$2,275	--	--	225	--	--
Feb-25	JetBlue	B-/B3	\$763	\$763	--	--	475	50	--
Feb-25	Atlantic Aviation	B/B2	\$3,685	\$3,285	\$400	--	250	--	--
Dec-24	American Airlines	B+/B1	\$1,089	\$1,089	--	--	225	--	--
Dec-24	Ontic	B/B2	\$1,569	\$1,569	--	--	275	--	--
Nov-24	WestJet Airlines	B/B2	\$1,493	\$1,493	--	--	325	--	--
Nov-24	Air Canada	BB/Baa2	\$1,169	\$1,169	--	--	200	--	--
Oct-24	StandardAero	BB-/Ba3	\$2,380	\$1,630	\$750	--	225	--	--
Oct-24	United Airlines	BB-/Ba2	\$2,090	\$2,090	--	--	200	--	--
Sep-24	Alaska Air	BB/Baa1	\$750	\$750	--	--	200	--	--
Aug-24	JetBlue	B-/B3	\$765	\$765	--	--	550	--	--
Jun-24	Signature Aviation	B+/B2	\$1,853	\$1,853	--	--	275	50	--
May-24	Ontic	B/B2	\$1,425	\$1,425	--	--	325	--	--
Nov-23	Atlantic Aviation Corporation	B/B2	\$1,069	\$1,069	--	--	350	50	--
Jul-23	Ontic	B2/B	\$957	\$957	--	--	400	--	--
May-23	Atlantic Aviation	B/B2	\$750	\$750	--	--	400	50	--
Apr-23	Signature Aviation	B+/B2	\$400	\$400	--	--	375	50	--
Feb-23	American Airlines	B-/B2	\$1,000	\$1,000	--	--	275	--	--
Feb-23	Castlelake Aviation	BB-/Ba3	\$635	\$635	--	--	275	50	--
Sep-22	Ontic	B/B2	\$85	\$85	--	--	450	--	--
Jul-22	Atlantic Aviation	B/B2	\$425	\$325	\$100	--	400	50	--
Jun-22	Signature Aviation	B+/B1	\$1,100	\$1,100	--	--	375	50	--
Feb-22	Ontic	B/B2	\$80	\$80	--	--	400	--	--
Oct-21	Signature Aviation	B+/B1	\$330	\$330	--	--	275	50	--
Oct-21	Atlantic Aviation	B/B2	\$330	\$330	--	--	300	50	--
Sep-21	Castlelake Aviation	BB-/Ba3	\$1,730	\$980	\$750	--	275	50	--
Jul-21	Avolon	BBB-/Baa3	\$672	\$672	--	--	225	50	--
Jul-21	Ontic	B/B2	\$140	\$140	--	--	400	--	--
Jul-21	Air Canada	B+/Ba3	\$2,900	\$2,300	\$600	--	350	75	--
Jul-21	Atlantic Aviation	B/B2	\$1,925	\$1,350	\$225	\$350	300	50	575
Apr-21	Gogo	B-/B3	\$825	\$725	\$100	--	375	75	--
Apr-21	Signature Aviation	B+/B1	\$2,035	\$1,685	\$350	--	275	50	--
Apr-21	United Airlines	B+/Ba2	\$6,750	\$5,000	\$1,750	--	375	75	--
Mar-21	American Airlines	B-/B2	\$3,500	\$3,500	--	--	475	75	--
Feb-21	Ontic	B-/B3	\$551	\$551	--	--	400	--	--
Nov-20	Avolon Aerospace	BBB-/Baa3	\$675	\$675	--	--	250	75	--
Sep-20	Fly Leasing	BB/B1	\$180	\$180	--	--	600	100	--
Sep-20	Delta SkyMiles	--	\$3,000	\$3,000	--	--	375	100	--
Jun-20	JetBlue	B+/Ba2	\$750	\$750	--	--	525	100	--
Apr-20	Delta Air Lines	BB/Baa3	\$1,500	\$1,500	--	--	475	100	--
Feb-20	Avolon Aerospace	BBB-/Baa3	\$850	\$850	--	--	150	75	--
Jan-20	American Airlines	BB-/Ba3	\$1,220	\$1,220	--	--	175	--	--
Nov-19	Fly Leasing	BB/Ba3	\$391	\$391	--	--	175	--	--
Oct-19	Air Canada	BB+/Ba1	\$592	\$592	--	--	175	--	--

Source: LCD Comps, LevFin Insights.

Premier, Global Boutique

Globally integrated advisory capabilities, deep sector experience, and unmatched industry intelligence driven by frequent dialogue with the most relevant market participants

Firm Snapshot

20+
offices worldwide

~2,000
total employees

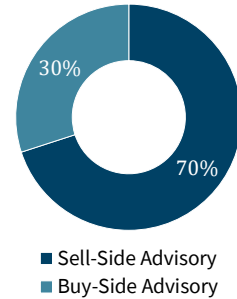
640+
investment banking
employees

900+
M&A advisory transactions
since 2020

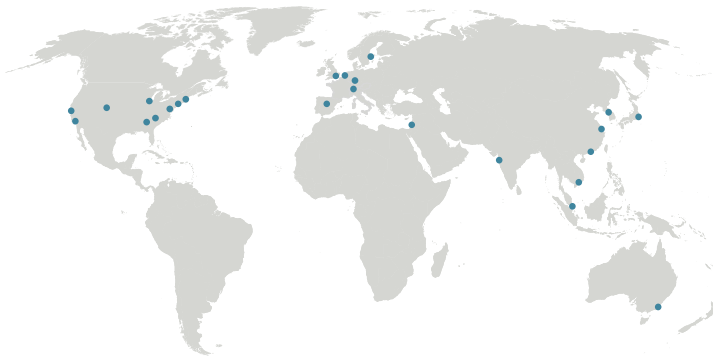
\$870B+
M&A and financing
activity since 2020

100%
owned by active
partners

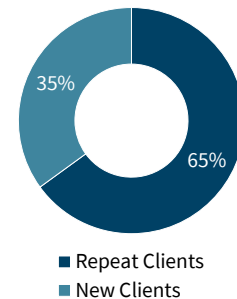
M&A Expertise Since 2020



Global Footprint



Trusted Advisor Since 2020



Selected Aviation Services Transaction Experience

VERTICAL <small>a portfolio company of</small> Follow-On Offering	ODYSSEY <small>a portfolio company of</small> has been acquired by TALLVINE <small>PARTNERS</small>	POWERHOUSE <small>AVIATION</small> has been acquired by INOVA <small>CAPITAL</small>	FARSOUND <small>a portfolio company of</small> has been acquired by ONEX
SUNVAIR <small>AEROSPACE GROUP</small> <small>a portfolio company of</small> has been acquired by GREENBRIAR	VSE <small>CORPORATION</small> Follow-On Offering	FONTAINEBLEAU <small>AVIATION</small> has partnered with skyservice <small>a portfolio company of Instar</small>	WENCOR <small>a portfolio company of</small> has been acquired by HEICO <small>WARBURG PINCUS</small>
EPPI <small>Aviation</small> has been acquired by AEROCENTERS <small>a portfolio company of SAR Trilog Management and Redbird Capital Partners</small>	TAC Air has been acquired by Signature <small>FLIGHT SUPPORT</small> <small>a portfolio company of Blackstone, Global Infrastructure Partners & Cascade Investments</small>	Signature <small>FLIGHT SUPPORT</small> has divested three FBO locations to ATLANTIC <small>a portfolio company of KKR</small>	ATLANTIC <small>a portfolio company of KKR</small> has divested its Stuart, FL location to APP <small>JETCENTER</small> <small>a portfolio company of Hadenwood Infrastructure</small>

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Note: Data is as of June 30, 2025. Map includes strategic partnerships with Allier Capital, BDA Partners, and Poalim Capital Partners.

Disclosure

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