



M2K Group Allies With Martin Aircraft Bring Jetpacks To India Market

By Arming India Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Indian firm M2K Group has signed an alliance agreement with New Zealand's Martin Aircraft Company Limited (MAC) to bring the world's first practical single-pilot Jetpack to the Indian market through a joint venture. The two companies are also exploring possible production of the Jetpacks in India and export option out of India.

The New Delhi-based firm - with interests in the aviation, biotechnology, hospitality, and real estate sectors - inked the deal on June 16, 2015 at Le Bourget, where the Paris Air Show is currently in progress.

"The M2K and MAC signed a Joint Venture agreement providing for exclusive marketing of the Jetpack in India, with possibility of future local production and buy back. The JV is now planning for bringing the Jetpack to India with a series of demos and displays," a statement from M2K Group from Le Bourget said on June 17. Martin Aircraft is exhibiting its innovative Jetpack at the Paris Air Show at Le Bourget that will end on June 21.

"The Martin Jetpack is a truly revolutionary product, developed by the extremely talented and innovative engineers at MAC. We have been working on demand assessment and market seeding in India, and the response from the defense, para-military, surveillance, rescue and other potential users has been overwhelming. I expect this JV to be a landmark of the new-age businesses in India," M2K Group Chairman Mahesh Bhagchandka said.

The Martin Jetpack, flown by a single pilot or via remote control, can take off and land vertically (VTOL) and because of its small dimensions, it can operate in confined spaces such as close to or between buildings, near trees or in confined areas that other VTOL aircraft such as helicopters cannot access, the company said.

The Jetpack will find ready use in patrolling, surveillance, emergency, rescue, entertainment and a host of other applications. The Martin Jetpack's manned version gives it a competitive advantage in key markets: first responder, military, commercial and recreation.

"In addition, as a heavy-lift Vertical Take-off and Landing (VTOL) unmanned air vehicle (UAV), the Martin Jetpack has a significant operational advantage being able to carry payloads of up to 120 kilogram," the firm said.

With a focus on safety, the Martin Jetpack has a composite structure pilot module that protects the pilot in the event of any incident and a ballistic parachute system that can deploy and safely recover the aircraft from only a few metres above the ground. This will make the Jetpack one of the safest aircraft in the world today, it claimed.

"As the world's first practical jetpack, the Martin Jetpack is set to revolutionize the industries of first responder, aviation, recreation and transportation and our attendance at this year's Paris Air Show will set the stage for the global launch of this inspirational and versatile aircraft. I am delighted we have secured an agreement with M2K, which is such a respected Indian company. We are looking forward to a long and successful relationship," Martin Aircraft Company Managing Director and CEO Peter Coker said.

"Jetpacks will be a paradigm changing technology, and will become a ubiquitous part of our lives. They will offer prompt and cost-effective solutions for emergency and rescue services, defense and police applications, patrolling of linear assets such as power and gas pipelines and a host of other exciting applications limited only by our imagination. We have assessed significant demand in India among first-responder and security forces," M2K Group President Deepak Singhal said.

"Commercial Jetpacks are no longer the domain of science fiction. The future is here today. We expect the Indian demand to be significant, and have created a focused and highly competent team to ramp up business in India without delay. We will be announcing our schedule for demos, order booking and supply of Jetpacks shortly," M2K President Vikash Bhagchandka said.

NOTE: The International Paris Air Show, known locally as 'Salon international de l'aéronautique et de l'espace, Paris-Le Bourget', is the world's oldest and largest air show. Established in 1909, the Paris Air Show is arguably the world's premier trade show for the aviation industry and its professionals. Held every two years, it draws the biggest and the best aviation companies, suppliers and users from around the world who showcase their products and services to an audience of global buyers and operators including customers in the First Responder community and government agencies.

