



### General Aviation briefs

- Columbia has received CASA certification for its Garmin G1000 equipped 350 and 400 aircraft, making Australia the first international market to certify Columbia's Avidyne Entegra and Garmin G1000 equipped aircraft for local registration.
- Executive Jet International has taken a controlling stake in Grob Aerospace. The Swiss based EJI already owned a 50 per cent stake in Grob's new Spn light jet project.
- Canada's Murphy Aircraft Manufacturing has released an upgrade to its Radial Renegade aircraft. The new version is powered by a 110hp (82kW) Australian Rotec R-2800 radial engine.
- US based fractional ownership operation NetJets has placed an order with Dassault Aviation worth US\$1.1bn (A\$1.5bn) for 24 new Falcon 7X business jet. The aircraft will be delivered between 2008 and 2014.
- Correction: the published price for Bombardier's Global XRS is US\$47.75 million, and not US\$43 million as mentioned on page 79 of the last issue of *Australian Aviation*. Sorry for the confusion.

### CARGO

- US parcel giant FedEx has announced plans to acquire and modify up to 90 Boeing 757-200s over the next decade to replace its large fleet of 727-200 freighters. The 757 offers 20 per cent more payload and 25 per cent lower fuel burn than the 727.

### FINANCE

- Polynesian Blue, the joint venture airline of the government of Samoa and Virgin Blue, has announced a pre-tax profit of NZ\$1.19m (A\$1.0m) for the period October 30 2005 to June 30 2006.



# **bizzy bits**



**nick nichols and  
chalpat sonti**

## **Time to share the wealth**

**W**ITH the Christmas season lurking around the corner, so too is the corporate giving season. Gold Coast companies and organisations already are digging deep into their pockets to help charities in their busiest time of year.

First up was the Southport-based MFS Group which raised \$450,000 with a ball and polo day.

Not to be outdone, the Coast's timeshare industry has poured about \$500,000 into charity, including \$75,000 from the Laura Younger-led peak body, the Australian Timeshare and Holiday Ownership Council, and some big efforts from operators Trend West and Accor Premiere Vacation Club.

Another company to dust off the wallet was the Southport-based PR Finance and Securities.

The Rod James and Peter Llewellyn-led financier raised \$15,000 for Homeless Youth and the Make a Wish Foundation during a recent golf day.