airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology

Airbus A300 600ST Beluga Aerospace Technology: Revolutionizing Oversized Cargo Transport

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology represents a remarkable chapter in the story of aerospace innovation. Designed specifically to transport oversized aircraft components, this unique cargo aircraft has become an indispensable part of Airbus’s manufacturing and logistics chain. Its distinctive shape and impressive capabilities capture the imagination of anyone fascinated by aviation, but the technology behind the Beluga is just as fascinating as its outward appearance.

The Origin and Purpose of the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga

The story of the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga begins with a practical challenge. Airbus needed a reliable and efficient way to move large aircraft parts—such as fuselage sections and wings—between its various production facilities scattered across Europe. Traditional cargo planes simply couldn’t accommodate these enormous components, and road or rail transport posed logistical and time constraints.

Enter the Beluga. Based on the Airbus A300-600 wide-body airliner, the Beluga was modified extensively to create a massive cargo hold with an enormous capacity. Its official name, “Beluga,” derives from the aircraft’s beluga whale-like shape, characterized by an oversized, bulbous fuselage designed to hold large and irregularly shaped cargo.

Key Design Features of the Beluga

The Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology is notable for several innovative design choices:

- **Enlarged Fuselage:** The cargo bay is 7.4 meters in diameter and 37.7 meters in length, allowing it to carry loads impossible for standard cargo planes.
- **Forward-Opening Nose:** The cockpit and nose section hinge upwards, providing unobstructed access for loading large items.
- **Reinforced Structure:** To accommodate the oversized payload and maintain structural integrity, the fuselage and supporting frame were heavily reinforced.
- **Advanced Flight Systems:** Despite its unconventional shape, the Beluga

maintains high maneuverability and flight stability through modern avionics and aerodynamic refinements.

Engineering Marvels Behind Airbus A300 600ST Beluga Aerospace Technology

What makes the Beluga more than just a giant plane is the advanced aerospace technology integrated into its design and operation. Airbus engineers had to rethink numerous conventional aircraft concepts to create a reliable transporter capable of flying heavy, irregular cargo safely and efficiently.

Structural Engineering Challenges

Modifying an existing aircraft into a super transporter was no small feat. Engineers had to ensure the aircraft could withstand different stress patterns caused by the large fuselage bulge. Reinforcements in the fuselage frame and wings were necessary to distribute weight evenly and maintain the aircraft’s balance during flight.

Additionally, the Beluga’s tail section was redesigned with a larger vertical stabilizer to offset aerodynamic effects caused by the oversized belly. This ensured the plane could maintain directional control and stability, even under challenging flight conditions.

Loading and Unloading Innovations

One of the standout features of the Beluga is its ease of loading. The entire cockpit section swings open to allow direct access to the cargo bay, a design that significantly reduces turnaround times. This innovation is critical for Airbus’s just-in-time manufacturing approach, where timing and efficiency are paramount.

Specialized ground equipment was also developed to handle the delicate and massive aircraft parts. The Beluga’s cargo hold includes adjustable support cradles and securing systems designed to protect the cargo from damage during transit.

Operational Role and Impact on Aerospace Manufacturing

The Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology plays a pivotal role in

Airbus’s global manufacturing ecosystem. By enabling quick and safe transportation of large parts, the Beluga supports the assembly of aircraft models such as the A320, A330, and A350.

Enhancing Supply Chain Efficiency

Airbus’s production hubs are spread across several countries, including France, Germany, Spain, and the UK. The Beluga connects these sites seamlessly, slashing transportation times compared to road or sea freight alternatives. This efficient logistics network helps Airbus meet tight production schedules and reduce inventory holding costs.

Environmental and Economic Benefits

While the Beluga is a large aircraft, it also offers environmental advantages by reducing the number of smaller shipments needed and streamlining routes. It minimizes the need for extensive ground transport, which can be more pollutive and time-consuming.

From an economic standpoint, the Beluga’s ability to carry oversized cargo in one trip translates into cost savings and improved turnaround times for Airbus’s assembly lines. This efficiency ultimately benefits customers by speeding up aircraft delivery.

The Future of Oversized Cargo Transport: The BelugaXL

Building on the success of the original Beluga, Airbus developed the BelugaXL, an even larger version based on the A330 platform. This next-generation aircraft incorporates lessons learned from the A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology, offering greater payload capacity and improved fuel efficiency.

The BelugaXL extends Airbus’s ability to transport larger components for newer aircraft models, ensuring that the company can continue to innovate and scale production as demand grows.

Technological Upgrades in BelugaXL

- **Increased Cargo Volume:** The BelugaXL offers around 30% more cargo space than its predecessor.
- **Modernized Cockpit:** It features a digital flight deck with advanced

avionics for better pilot situational awareness and safety.
- **Fuel Efficiency:** Thanks to newer engines and aerodynamic improvements, the BelugaXL burns less fuel per flight, aligning with Airbus’s sustainability goals.

Why Airbus A300 600ST Beluga Aerospace Technology Matters Beyond Aviation

The significance of the Beluga extends beyond just transporting aircraft parts. It represents a bold approach to solving complex logistics challenges using innovative aerospace engineering. The lessons learned from the Beluga program have influenced other sectors where oversized cargo transport is critical, such as space exploration, wind energy, and heavy machinery.

Furthermore, the Beluga has become a symbol of European aerospace ingenuity, showcasing how collaboration between engineering disciplines can produce solutions that are both practical and awe-inspiring.

Inspiring Future Aerospace Engineers

For many aspiring engineers and aviation enthusiasts, the Beluga stands as a testament to creative problem-solving. Its unique design challenges conventions and encourages thinking outside the box, qualities that are essential in advancing aerospace technology.

Educational programs and aerospace museums frequently highlight the Beluga to inspire the next generation of innovators who will continue to push the boundaries of what’s possible in flight.

The Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology remains a shining example of how form follows function in aviation design. Its blend of engineering prowess, operational efficiency, and iconic aesthetics continues to capture imaginations and drive forward the future of oversized cargo transport.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga?

The Airbus A300-600ST Beluga is a specialized cargo aircraft designed for transporting oversized aircraft components and large cargo. It is based on the Airbus A300-600 wide-body airliner but features an enlarged fuselage to accommodate bulky loads.

Why is the Airbus A300-600ST called 'Beluga'?

The aircraft is nicknamed 'Beluga' because its bulbous shape and large cargo hold resemble a beluga whale, which is known for its distinctive rounded forehead.

What are the primary uses of the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga in aerospace technology?

The Beluga is primarily used to transport large aircraft parts such as wings, fuselage sections, and tail assemblies between Airbus production sites, enabling efficient assembly of aircraft across different locations.

What are some key design features of the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga?

Key design features include an enlarged upper fuselage, a hinged nose for easy loading and unloading, reinforced cargo floor, and a cargo hold volume of approximately 1,400 cubic meters.

How does the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga contribute to aerospace manufacturing efficiency?

By enabling the air transport of large aircraft components, the Beluga significantly reduces transportation time compared to sea or road transport, allowing faster assembly and delivery of Airbus aircraft.

What is the cargo capacity of the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga?

The Beluga can carry cargo up to 47 tons in weight and has a cargo hold length of about 37.7 meters, a width of 5.4 meters, and a height of 4.1 meters.

When was the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga first introduced?

The Airbus A300-600ST Beluga first flew in 1994 and entered service shortly thereafter to support Airbus’s growing aircraft production needs.

How many Airbus A300-600ST Belugas are currently in operation?

As of recent data, Airbus operates a fleet of five Beluga aircraft to support its production and logistics requirements.

Are there any successors to the Airbus A300-600ST Beluga?

Yes, Airbus has developed the BelugaXL, which is based on the Airbus A330 platform, offering greater cargo capacity and improved efficiency compared to the original Beluga.

What are the main technological advancements of the BelugaXL compared to the A300-600ST Beluga?

The BelugaXL features a larger cargo volume, increased payload capacity (up to 53 tons), improved fuel efficiency, and longer range, enhancing Airbus’s ability to transport oversized components.

Additional Resources

Airbus A300 600ST Beluga Aerospace Technology: A Marvel of Modern Aviation Logistics

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology represents a pinnacle in specialized aircraft engineering, designed to address one of the most complex challenges in aviation logistics: transporting oversized aerospace components efficiently and safely. The Beluga, officially known as the Airbus A300-600ST (Super Transporter), is a modified version of the A300-600 wide-body airliner, extensively reconfigured to meet the unique demands of carrying large cargo that traditional freighters cannot accommodate. This article delves into the intricate aerospace technology behind the Beluga, its operational capabilities, design innovations, and its critical role within the aerospace industry.

Engineering the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga: Design and Modifications

At the core of the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology is the transformation of the conventional A300-600 into a specialized cargo transporter. Unlike standard freighters, the Beluga’s distinctive bulbous fuselage creates an enormous cargo hold, enabling the transport of large aircraft sections such as wings, fuselage segments, and even entire helicopter bodies.

Structural Innovations

The most visually striking feature of the Beluga is its enlarged fuselage, which increases the cargo volume to approximately 1,400 cubic meters.

Engineers designed the aircraft with a “whale-like” shape, hence the nickname “Beluga.” This design required significant structural reinforcements to maintain airframe integrity despite the fuselage’s increased diameter:

- **Fuselage Enlargement:** The upper fuselage was completely redesigned and fitted atop the original A300-600 frame, creating a large cargo bay with a diameter of 7.1 meters, compared to 5.64 meters on the standard A300.
- **Front Cargo Door:** A distinctive feature is the enormous hinged nose section that swings open, allowing for front loading of oversized cargo. This design solution ensures straight-in loading, critical for large, unwieldy aerospace parts.
- **Reinforced Floor and Bulkheads:** The internal structure includes strengthened floors and bulkheads to support heavy loads, some weighing up to 47 tons.

These modifications, while preserving the original A300’s aerodynamic qualities, posed considerable engineering challenges, particularly in maintaining flight stability and control with the altered center of gravity and increased drag.

Performance Metrics and Operational Capabilities

Despite its unusual form, the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga maintains impressive performance standards, balancing payload capacity with reliable range and efficiency.

- **Payload Capacity:** The Beluga can carry up to 47 metric tons of cargo, making it ideal for transporting large aerospace components that exceed the dimensions or weight limits of traditional cargo aircraft.
- **Range:** Fully loaded, the Beluga can fly approximately 1,700 nautical miles (around 3,150 kilometers), sufficient for intra-continental transport between Airbus production facilities across Europe.
- **Speed and Maneuverability:** The Beluga cruises at about 500 mph (Mach 0.8), comparable to a commercial airliner, enabling timely delivery schedules essential for aerospace assembly lines.

These capabilities make the Beluga invaluable for Airbus’ logistical needs, particularly for transporting large components between factories in France,

Germany, Spain, and the UK.

Comparisons with Other Oversized Cargo Aircraft

The Beluga is often compared with other heavy-lift aircraft like the Boeing 747 Dreamlifter or the Antonov An-124. While the Dreamlifter also serves a similar purpose for Boeing's 787 production, and the An-124 handles heavy military and commercial cargo globally, the Beluga's unique fuselage design offers distinct advantages:

- **Specialized Design:** Unlike the Dreamlifter's modified 747 fuselage, the Beluga's bulbous shape maximizes internal volume for more irregularly shaped cargo.
- **Dedicated Airbus Logistics:** The Beluga is tailored specifically to Airbus' production workflow, offering an integrated solution not just for transport but for assembly efficiency.
- **Operational Limitations:** The Beluga's range is shorter than the An-124, which limits its use to mainly European routes, whereas the An-124 serves global heavy cargo needs.

Role in the Aerospace Supply Chain

The Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology is a critical enabler in the company's distributed manufacturing model. Airbus builds many of its aircraft components at various European sites, requiring an efficient, reliable means to transport oversized parts to final assembly lines.

Logistical Efficiency and Impact

The Beluga dramatically reduces transportation time compared to sea or road freight alternatives. For instance, transporting a wing box by sea could take several days or even weeks; the Beluga accomplishes the same in a matter of hours. This speed is essential to maintain Airbus' just-in-time manufacturing philosophy, reducing inventory costs and production delays.

Moreover, the aircraft's ability to carry large, fully assembled components reduces the need for disassembly or complex packaging, minimizing the risk of damage. This efficiency not only benefits Airbus but also reverberates across the aerospace supply chain, supporting timely deliveries to airlines and maintaining aircraft production schedules.

Environmental and Economic Considerations

While the Beluga’s specialized design prioritizes cargo capacity, it also factors in fuel efficiency by leveraging the A300-600’s proven airframe and engines. However, the increased drag from the enlarged fuselage means higher fuel consumption compared to standard freighters, a tradeoff justified by the operational benefits. Airbus has been exploring upgrades and the introduction of the BelugaXL, based on the A330, to improve fuel efficiency and payload capacity further.

Technological Challenges and Future Developments

Despite its success, the Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology faces challenges that necessitate continuous innovation.

Maintenance and Lifecycle Management

Given its unique airframe, the Beluga requires specialized maintenance regimes, with attention to the structural stresses caused by its expanded fuselage. The aircraft’s aging fleet demands careful lifecycle management to ensure safety and operational readiness.

Introduction of the BelugaXL

To address capacity and efficiency concerns, Airbus developed the BelugaXL, entering service in recent years. The BelugaXL is based on the larger Airbus A330-200 platform and offers:

- Increased cargo volume by approximately 30% compared to the Beluga ST
- Improved fuel efficiency and range
- Enhanced payload capacity of up to 53 metric tons

This next-generation transporter exemplifies the evolution of Airbus’ aerospace logistics technology, ensuring the company can meet future production demands while minimizing environmental impact.

Conclusion

The Airbus A300 600ST Beluga aerospace technology stands as a remarkable example of tailored engineering responding to the specific needs of modern aerospace manufacturing. Its innovative design and operational excellence have made it an indispensable asset for Airbus, streamlining the transport of massive aircraft components and supporting a complex, multi-site production network. As the aerospace industry continues to evolve, the Beluga and its successors will remain central to the logistical challenges inherent in building the world’s most advanced aircraft.

Airbus A300 600st Beluga Aerospace Technology

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Ultra-Large Aircraft, 1940-1970 William Patrick Dean, 2018-04-24 In 1962, a unique transport aircraft was built from the parts of 27 Boeing B-377 airliners to provide NASA a means of transporting rocket boosters. With an interior the size of a gymnasium, The Pregnant Guppy was the first of six enormous cargo planes built by Aero Spacelines and two built by Union de Transport Aeriens. More than half a century later, the last Super Guppy is still in active service with NASA and the design concept has been applied to next-generation transports. This comprehensive history of expanded fuselage aircraft begins in the 1940s with the military's need for a long-range transport. The author examines the development of competing designs by Boeing, Convair and Douglas, and the many challenges and catastrophic failures. Behind-the-scenes maneuvers of financiers, corporate raiders, mobsters and other nefarious characters provide an inside look at aviation development from the drawing board to the scrap yard.

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Stability and Control of Conventional and Unconventional Aerospace Vehicle Configurations Bernd Chudoba, 2019-07-23 This book introduces a stability and control methodology named AeroMech, capable of sizing the primary control effectors of fixed wing subsonic to hypersonic designs of conventional and unconventional configuration layout. Control power demands are harmonized with static-, dynamic-, and maneuver stability requirements, while taking the six-degree-of-freedom trim state into account. The stability and control analysis solves the static- and dynamic equations of motion combined with non-linear vortex lattice aerodynamics for analysis. The true complexity of addressing subsonic to hypersonic vehicle stability and control during the conceptual design phase is hidden in the objective to develop a generic (vehicle configuration independent) methodology concept. The inclusion of geometrically asymmetric aircraft layouts, in addition to the reasonably well-known symmetric aircraft types, contributes significantly to the overall technical complexity and level of abstraction. The first three chapters describe the preparatory work invested along with the research strategy devised, thereby placing strong emphasis on systematic and thorough knowledge utilization. The engineering-scientific method itself is derived throughout the second half of the book. This book offers a unique aerospace vehicle configuration independent (generic) methodology and mathematical algorithm. The approach satisfies the initial technical quest: How to develop a

‘configuration stability & control’ methodology module for an advanced multi-disciplinary aerospace vehicle design synthesis environment that permits consistent aerospace vehicle design evaluations?

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Aviation Week & Space Technology , 2006

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: *The Global Commercial Aviation Industry* Sören Eriksson, Harm-Jan Steenhuis, 2015-07-16 This book provides a state-of-the-art overview of the changes and development of the civil international aircraft/aviation industry. It offers a fully up-to-date account of the international developments and structure in the aircraft and aviation industries from a number of perspectives, which include economic, geographical, political and technological points of view. The aircraft industry is characterized by very complex, high technology products produced in relatively small quantities. The high-technology requirements necessitate a high level of R&D. In no other industry is it more of inter-dependence and cross-fertilisation of advanced technology. Consequently, most of the world’s large aircraft companies and technology leaders have been located in Europe and North America. During the last few decades many developing countries have tried to build up an internationally competitive aircraft industry. The authors study a number of important issues including the political economy of the aircraft industry, globalization in this industry, innovation, newly industrializing economies and the aircraft industry. This book also explores regional and large aircraft, transformation of the aviation industry in Central and Eastern Europe, including engines, airlines, airports and airline safety. It will be of great value to students and to researchers seeking information on the aircraft industry and its development in different regions.

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Aerospace Engineering , 2007

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Aircraft & Aerospace Asia-Pacific , 1998

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Aerospace International , 2003

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: New Results in Numerical and Experimental Fluid Mechanics VIII Andreas Dillmann, Gerd Heller, Hans-Peter Kreplin, Wolfgang Nitsche, Inken Peltzer, 2012-12-27 This volume contains the contributions to the 17th Symposium of STAB (German Aerospace Aerodynamics Association). STAB includes German scientists and engineers from universities, research establishments and industry doing research and project work in numerical and experimental fluid mechanics and aerodynamics, mainly for aerospace but also for other applications. Many of the contributions collected in this book present results from national and European Community sponsored projects. This volume gives a broad overview of the ongoing work in this field in Germany and spans a wide range of topics: airplane aerodynamics, multidisciplinary optimization and new configurations, hypersonic flows and aerothermodynamics, flow control (drag reduction and laminar flow control), rotorcraft aerodynamics, aeroelasticity and structural dynamics, numerical simulation, experimental simulation and test techniques, aeroacoustics as well as the new fields of biomedical flows, convective flows, aerodynamics and acoustics of high-speed trains.

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: International Aerospace Abstracts , 1997

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: International Cooperation in the Aerospace Industry Wesley Spreen, 2023-10-27 International Cooperation in the Aerospace Industry offers a unique study and analysis of how nations and industries have cooperated internationally to design and manufacture civil and military aircraft from a variety of perspectives: historical, economic, organizational, operational, and political. Covering Europe, North and South America, Asia, and the Middle East, the author examines both the practical and managerial aspects of establishing and operating international programs and analyzes the economic and political dynamics associated with international cooperation. A chapter is dedicated to describing and comparing the various organizational and legal structures that have historically been used as frameworks for cooperative programs. It also examines cooperative international activities in aerospace research and development, and international ventures in maintenance, repair, and overhaul of operational aircraft. Throughout the book, practical examples of cooperative programs around the world are

used to illustrate analytical themes, as well as a series of case studies of international cooperative aircraft programs of special political and economic significance. This comprehensive book will be a valuable resource for researchers and postgraduate students specializing in aviation and aerospace management.

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: *Aerospace Source Book* , 2004

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: American Heritage of Invention & Technology , 2000

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Civil Aircraft Jim Winchester, 2004 Features over 120 civil aircraft with photographs, artwork, dimensions, performances etc for each one.

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: *Air Pictorial* , 2000

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Advances in Flight Testing North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development. Flight Vehicle Integration Panel. Symposium, 1997

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Big Wings Philip Kaplan, 2006-03 In the history of aviation there have been many attempts to produce aircraft of extraordinary proportions to expand the limits of technology and create new performance standards. With few exceptions, the early attempts did not become the successes envisaged until post-World War II when such aircraft as the Boeing B-52, and and the Boeing 747 'Jumbo Jet' airliner changed the face of aviation in both the military and civil roles. Big Wings is a well-researched, highly informative look at the sixteen most significant giants of the air. Each aircraft is introduced and its raison d'etre explained, followed by an in-depth review of the successful and failed technical aspects of the design, its operational history, first-hand accounts from those that had flown the aircraft plus some startling facts and statistics. The aircraft selected are as follows: Military - Douglas B-19, Boeing B-29, Consolidated B-36, Northrop B-49 and Boeing B-52 Airliners - Bristol Brabazon, Boeing 747 and Airbus A380 Heavy Lifters - Messerschmitt-Me323, Consolidated-XC-99, Lockheed-C5 and Antonov AN-225 Flying Boats - Dornier Do-X, Martin JRM Mars, Hughes HK-1 and Saunde

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: JPRS Report , 1994-07

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: *Wehrtechnik* , 1997

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Pakistan & Gulf Economist , 1995-10

airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology: Aerospace , 1995

Related to airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology

Pioneering sustainable aerospace | Airbus Airbus designs, manufactures and delivers industry-leading commercial aircraft, helicopters, military transports, satellites, launchers and more

About us - Airbus Airbus is the largest aeronautics and space company in Europe, providing products, services and solutions for the commercial aircraft, helicopter, defence and space sectors. Drawing on over

Airbus in the United States The Airbus Experience Center in Washington D.C. showcases Airbus products, services, and its industrial presence in the Americas for customers, suppliers, and partners

Airbus signs definitive agreement with Spirit AeroSystems Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 28 April 2025 – Airbus SE (stock exchange symbol: AIR) has entered into a definitive agreement with Spirit AeroSystems for the acquisition of industrial

Airbus A350F: next generation freighter aircraft | Airbus Where can I find detailed technical specifications for the A350F? For in-depth technical data, performance figures, and information aimed at airline operators and potential customers,

Airbus advances key technologies for next-generation single-aisle The progress made on these technologies was discussed at the Airbus Summit 2025 on 24 and 25 March, where Airbus brought together industry players and visionaries to

aircraft | Airbus With each of the aircraft families displaying pioneering design, superior comfort and unparalleled efficiency, Airbus aircraft offer a variety of solutions to meet operator needs and

that respond

Careers | Airbus How can I apply for a job at Airbus? Once you have found the offer on the Job Market, you need to create a Candidate Account, complete your profile and proceed with the application

StarFlight orders three Airbus H145 helicopters | Airbus With this order, StarFlight becomes a new Airbus customer. The H145 fleet will be based in Hobart, delivering a versatile platform for aeromedical, search and rescue, and aerial

Airbus A380 Discover the Airbus A380: an iconic double-decker aircraft brimming with innovative technology. Learn about its history, design and passenger experience

Related to airbus a300 600st beluga aerospace technology

Before The Airbus Beluga: What To Know About Boeing's Giant 377 Guppies (Hosted on MSN7mon) The Airbus Beluga is one of the world's most iconic aircraft, instantly recognizable for its whale-shaped fuselage, hence the 'Beluga' name. The outsize cargo plane, initially known as the Airbus A300

Before The Airbus Beluga: What To Know About Boeing's Giant 377 Guppies (Hosted on MSN7mon) The Airbus Beluga is one of the world's most iconic aircraft, instantly recognizable for its whale-shaped fuselage, hence the 'Beluga' name. The outsize cargo plane, initially known as the Airbus A300

Airbus indicates 'operational issues' behind decision to terminate Beluga cargo airline (Flightglobal8mon) Airbus has pointed to operational issues as the primary reason for its decision to close its specialised A300-600ST Beluga cargo airline, little more than a year after obtaining certification. The

Airbus indicates 'operational issues' behind decision to terminate Beluga cargo airline (Flightglobal8mon) Airbus has pointed to operational issues as the primary reason for its decision to close its specialised A300-600ST Beluga cargo airline, little more than a year after obtaining certification. The

Airbus to close A300-600ST Beluga airline just 14 months after gaining AOC (Flightglobal8mon) Airbus has confirmed that it will close its relatively young Airbus Beluga Transport operation, which was intended to cater to demand for outsize cargo carriage. The airframer established the

Airbus to close A300-600ST Beluga airline just 14 months after gaining AOC (Flightglobal8mon) Airbus has confirmed that it will close its relatively young Airbus Beluga Transport operation, which was intended to cater to demand for outsize cargo carriage. The airframer established the

Why Did Airbus Suspend Its Beluga Cargo Airline? (SlashGear2mon) When Airbus launched its Beluga cargo airline, known as Airbus Beluga Transport (AiBT), it was seen as an ambitious move into the world of oversized freight. The idea was simple, but clever: repurpose

Why Did Airbus Suspend Its Beluga Cargo Airline? (SlashGear2mon) When Airbus launched its Beluga cargo airline, known as Airbus Beluga Transport (AiBT), it was seen as an ambitious move into the world of oversized freight. The idea was simple, but clever: repurpose

Ex-White House, Boeing Attorney Lands $5.8M in First Year at GE Aerospace (Law6mon) GE Aerospace made this engine for the Airbus A300-600ST. The Cincinnati-based company also makes engines for Boeing, Airbus' biggest rival. Credit: Sergey Kohl/Adobe Stock Jet engine-maker GE

Ex-White House, Boeing Attorney Lands $5.8M in First Year at GE Aerospace (Law6mon) GE Aerospace made this engine for the Airbus A300-600ST. The Cincinnati-based company also makes engines for Boeing, Airbus' biggest rival. Credit: Sergey Kohl/Adobe Stock Jet engine-maker GE