



SURF AIR MOBILITY CONFIRMS ORDER FOR FIRST 20 CESSNA GRAND CARAVAN EX AIRCRAFT

News / Business aviation, Manufacturer



Surf Air Mobility confirmed its order and paid the deposit for first 20 [Cessna Grand Caravan EX](#) aircraft to be purchased under its previously announced initial fleet order. Deliveries of the aircraft are expected to begin in the first half of 2024. Surf Air Mobility intentions to upgrade Cessna Grand Caravan EX single-engine turboprops to Surf Air Mobility's proprietary electric or hybrid-electric powertrain technology. Surf Air Mobility is targeting FAA supplemental type certification in 2026. The anticipated initial fleet delivery demonstrates progress in the exclusive relationship between two companies supporting Surf Air Mobility's development of an electrified Cessna Grand Caravan EX aircraft.

Surf Air Mobility anticipates that the hybrid electric Cessna Grand Caravan EX aircraft will be utilized by Surf Air Mobility across its own network, connecting more airports with short-haul direct service across the U.S. on a path to creating a regional mass transport platform to sustainably connect communities. Surf Air Mobility will also be the exclusive provider to Textron Aviation of certain battery electric and hybrid electric powertrain technology for the Cessna Grand Caravan.

Lannie O'Bannion, senior vice president, Global Sales and Flight Operations, commented: "We are

excited to see Surf Air's progress in expanding their fleet with deliveries expected to begin early next year. The Cessna Caravan's adaptability for passenger and cargo operations makes it an ideal platform for hybrid electric and electric propulsion innovations. This exclusive relationship demonstrates Textron Aviation's commitment to the future of sustainable flight."

Sudhin Shahani, co-founder of Surf Air Mobility, said: "Our relationship with Textron Aviation is paramount in our mission to revolutionize air travel. This initial fleet delivery solidifies our commitment to bringing advanced electric aircraft to market to reduce fuel emissions and the cost of air travel."

The Cessna Caravan fleet of more than 3,000 aircraft is certified in 100 countries with more than 24 million flight hours amassed since the aircraft was introduced. Caravan aircraft fulfill roles for multiple missions, ranging from flight training to recreation, commuter airlines to VIP transport, cargo carriers and humanitarian missions. The Cessna Grand Caravan EX was engineered for challenging missions, high payloads and short, rough runways.

26 SEPTEMBER 2023

ARTICLE LINK:

<https://connect.50skyshades.com/news/business-aviation/surf-air-mobility-confirms-order-for-first-20-cessna-grand-caravan-ex-aircraft>