

BusinessJet *interiors* INTERNATIONAL

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THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF BUSINESS JET INTERIOR DESIGN AND COMPLETION



talentshow

GET TO KNOW EUROPE'S TOP VIP AIRCRAFT
INTERIOR DESIGNERS AHEAD OF EBACE 2012

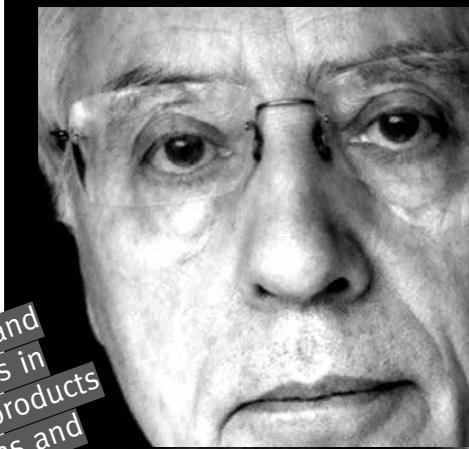
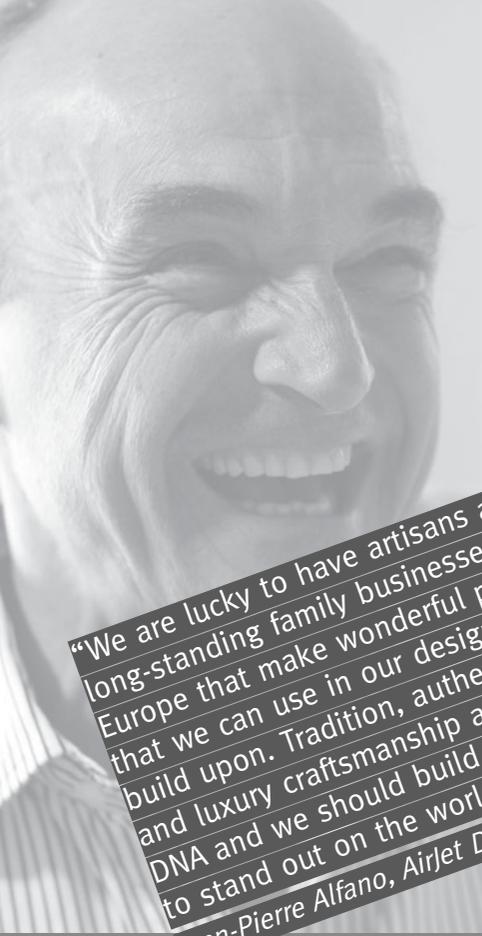
realitycheck

Lufthansa Technik enlists the
virtual world to speed completions

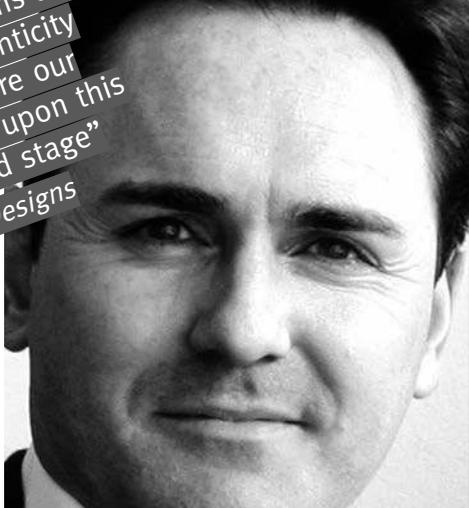
windowshopping

A street-level corporate jet sales
room opens in London

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Jean-Pierre Alfano, AirJet Designs



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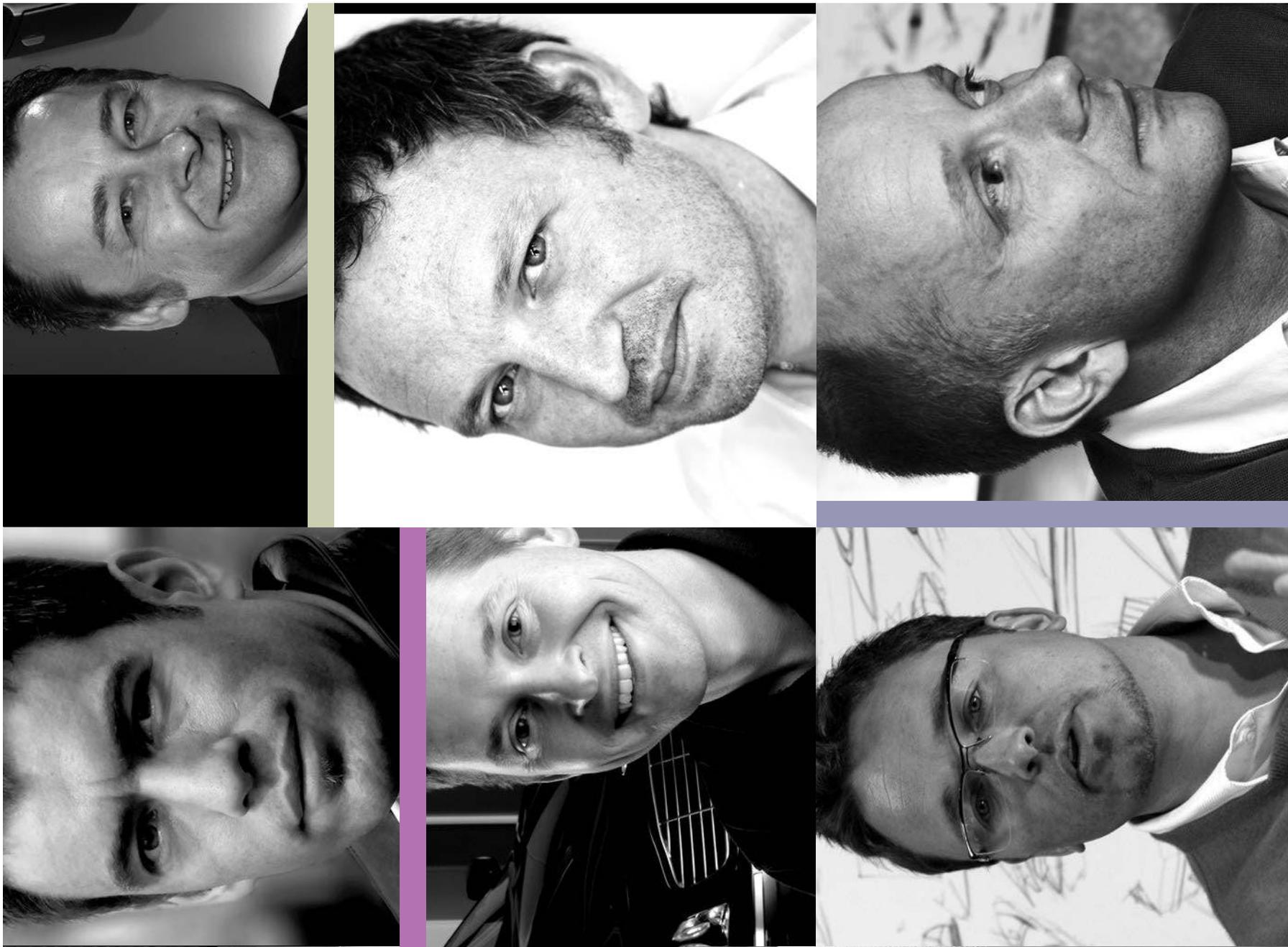
ON THE EVE OF EBACE 2012, EUROPE'S TOP VIP AIRCRAFT INTERIOR DESIGNERS REVEAL WHAT MAKES THE CONTINENT A CENTRE OF DESIGN EXCELLENCE, AND THE TRENDS THEY BELIEVE WILL DEFINE THE MARKET'S FUTURE

Nick Bradley and Izzy Kington,
Business Jet Interiors International



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On the eve of EBACE 2012, Europe's top VIP aircraft interior designers reveal what makes the continent a centre of design excellence, and the trends they believe will define the market's future



Jean-Pierre Alfano



Company: **AirJet Designs**
 Location: **Toulouse, France; Shanghai, China**
 Founded: **2010**
 Other key personnel: **Two interior designers**



11. A cabin design by AirJet Designs

Although the company was only founded in 2010, creative director Jean-Pierre Alfano has been working on VIP aircraft interior projects since 2000. The firm – which partners with other designers and 3D visualisation agencies when necessary (i.e. when on a tight schedule) – has already made its mark with the design of a private ACJ319, as well as a BBJ marketing concept for the Chinese sector, Xin Ge. “As a result of business presence in China, I know that demand is on the rise for private aircraft in the country,” says Alfano. “Private jet owners and companies expect, at a minimum, to have representatives who understand their culture and mindset and speak their

language, as they become more knowledgeable about the market and what is on offer.”

After spending much of 2011 focusing on the Chinese market, in 2012 the company wants to expand its client base in the Middle East. Although he prides himself on understanding these Eastern

“JET OWNERS WANT TO RECOGNISE THEMSELVES IN THEIR AIRCRAFT”

markets, Alfano hasn’t lost faith in European design: “We are lucky to have artisans and long-standing family businesses in Europe that make wonderful products that we can use in our designs and build upon. Tradition, authenticity and luxury craftsmanship are our DNA and we should build upon this to stand out on the world stage.”

Alfano believes that clients will increasingly want to integrate luxury brands more visibly. “We expect to integrate more art or furniture created by highly crafted artisans or artists,” he says. Another trend is for more personal interiors. “Jet owners want to recognise themselves in their aircraft,” says Alfano.

Rupert Rainsford-Mann



Company: **RMD Air**
 Location: **London, UK**
 Founded: **2008**
 Other key personnel: **Nicholas Houghton, designer**



12. A contemporary BBJ interior concept by RMD Air

RMD Air favours a timeless, ‘contemporary classic’ style with a focus on quality materials and detailing showcased in flexible spaces. It is strongly influenced by super-yacht design, with a sister company in that field. “The big difference is the certification but we combat that by working hand in hand with STC21, a certification consultancy based in the UK,” says managing director Rupert Rainsford-Mann. “We can offer our clients full certification and detail drawings if required, for both minor modifications and full interior schemes.

The company is also embarking on a partnership with Greenline Aviation, the new aviation manufacturing arm of Greenline Yacht Interiors, based in Dubai, UAE, for large VVIP jets. To showcase the partner’s capabilities in both design and manufacturing, they will build a mock-up based on RMD Air’s ‘beach house’ style. The company debuted this style – using textured and natural materials – with an interior for a BBJ1.

Past projects have mainly focused on the larger aircraft models – green and grey Boeing 737s as well as the A320. An ongoing project is a BBJ1 refurbishment for a Chinese conglomerate. RMD Air

was awarded the contract in 2010 and completed the design and certification work in the same year, but the aircraft is still in build. “The interior is based on a modern interpretation of art deco style, using a mixture of straight grain and burr veneers to create a luxurious feel within a focused budget,” says Rainsford-Mann. “Flexibility is key with panels that can slide back to open up or segregate off areas.” The company is also designing a modern concept for a Russian client; and developing a hydrographic veneer bonded to an acoustic substrate to create the effect of wooden floorboards.