

# JETGALA

LIFE BEYOND FIRST CLASS



# 30

November 2016 – January 2017

## WORLD TIMER WATCHES

TEA PLANTATION ESCAPES  
CHOPARD | ZEN SUPERYACHT  
CANALI | BILL PEACH JOURNEYS

## EMBRAER PHENOM 100 EV

CESSNA DENALI | SUKHOI SPORTJET  
CASINO JET LOUNGE | JETEX TRIP PLANNING



AIRJET DESIGNS

by Sandy Tan



# PLAYERS LOUNGE

LADY LUCK MEETS JAMES BOND  
IN THESE AIRCRAFT INTERIORS

**IN THE RIGOROUS DISCIPLINE OF AIRCRAFT DESIGN, EVERY DETAIL COUNTS.** All aspects, ranging from the way seats are arranged to the materials used for tabletops, influence the flight experience. And sometimes, a well-designed distraction is part of the bigger plan. In the case of the Casino Jet Lounge, a concept aircraft interior by AirJet Designs, this comes in the form of a blackjack table and a bar designed for social interaction.

“For long-haul flights — when you are travelling with colleagues or family members — one aspect that is truly enjoyable is the ability to leave your seat and go to the lounge,” says Jean-Pierre Alfano, creative director of AirJet Designs, who created the concept together with Frédérique Houssard, founder of design studio Designescence.

White and warm tones dominate the lounge, complemented by clean lines, leather textures and natural elements such as bamboo and ceramic stone. Four club chairs with lace-like patterns give the

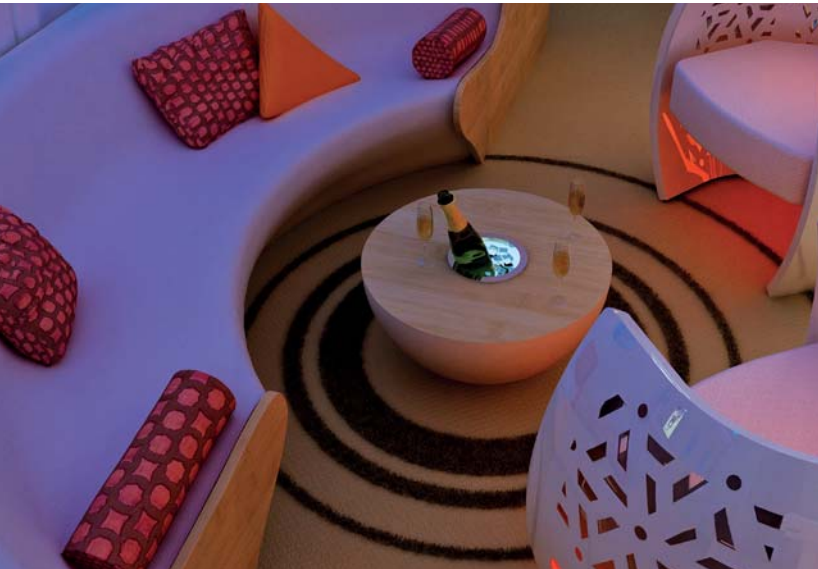
“FOR LONG-HAUL FLIGHTS, ONE ASPECT THAT IS TRULY ENJOYABLE IS THE ABILITY TO LEAVE YOUR SEAT AND GO TO THE LOUNGE”

impression of floating lanterns in a Japanese Zen garden, creating a light and airy ambience during the day. At night, mood lighting given off by the wall sconces, ceiling domes and illuminated wall panels transforms the space with changing hues.

The blackjack table and bar are the central elements of the lounge. Apart from blackjack’s popularity, the designers chose it because card games are easier to manage during turbulence. A built-in touch-screen menu at the bar makes it easy to order drinks, while floating TV screens around the seating areas provide further entertainment.







OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM TOP

Pop-up TV screens provide additional entertainment

Mood lighting enhances the sense of intimacy in the lounge

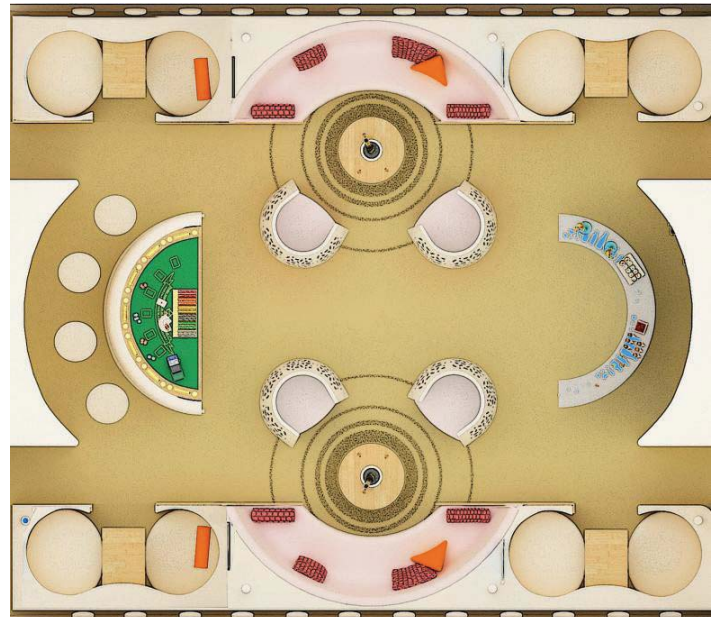
ABOVE

The lounge and bar were designed to encourage interaction

## THE DESIGNERS WERE INSPIRED BY THE 1950S, WHEN FLYING WAS A GLAMOROUS AND SOCIAL EXPERIENCE

The designers were inspired by the 1950s, when flying was a glamorous and social experience. The aesthetics recall contemporary resorts, while the overall space flow is patterned after casino hotel lounges. “We incorporated seat and bench designs that break with conventional aircraft seat design, which will give passengers the impression that they are flying, but at the same time they won’t feel imprisoned by the space,” says Alfano. The lounge layout provides passengers a smooth path back to their seats should turbulence occur.

The Casino Jet Lounge also comes with customisation options, including a ‘Quick-Change kit’ that makes it easy to remove the lounge sections should one prefer more space for seating. As with all aircraft interiors, the



designers worked within limitations on weight, structure, space and safety. Alfano adds that the team’s design practice usually includes ideas taken from other industries, including architecture, automotive and hospitality, as well as consumer products.

Alfano and Houssard envisage the concept, which is based on private jet interiors, to be adaptable for the First Class, Business Class and VIP sections of commercial flights. But no matter what cabin the Casino Jet Lounge is installed in, the goal is the same — to make flying pleasurable. “One has the feeling that you have entered a new dimension, set apart from the rest of the aircraft,” says Alfano. And with that, the designers have realised one of the roots of man’s oldest dream — that of escape, however temporary. ✈️