

A close-up, low-angle shot of a jet engine on a white aircraft, set against a clear blue sky. The engine's intake is prominent, showing a dark interior. The aircraft's wing and fuselage are visible in the foreground, reflecting the sky. The overall composition is clean and professional, emphasizing the technology and design of the aircraft.

Summit Aviation

Founded in 1991, Summit Aviation is a privately owned company specialising in the maintenance, overhaul, repair and testing of Pratt & Whitney JT8D and JT3D engines.

From the very beginning, Summit's strength has been the high quality of the services it provides in this important specialised field.

Despite considerable expansion over the years, rigorous quality control and thorough training have enabled Summit to maintain its high standards. Facilities now offered include:

- Engine repair and maintenance
- Engineering support
- Engine sales and leasing
- Test cell facilities

Promise of future expansion

Summit Aviation has added a major new element to the facilities it offers to its customers by the acquisition of an engine test cell at Gloucester Airport. Originally owned by Lucas Aerospace, the Gloucester Cell was only capable of testing Pratt & Whitney JT3 engines, as used in DC8 and Boeing 707 airliners.

Apart from some military applications, these engines are now almost obsolete, and the number being sent to Gloucester for testing was rapidly dwindling .

Summit has made a major investment to bring the Cell up to the CAA required standard for testing the more modern JT8 engines. This type of engine is the "workhorse" of many airliner fleets, and will be in service for decades to come.

Comments Summit's Chairman and Managing Director, Ken Wills:

The acquisition of the Gloucester Test Cell is an important landmark for us in the growth of our business. The proper professional testing of serviced engines is not only a legal requirement, but is an essential safeguard to public safety. The ability to do this testing within the United Kingdom enables us to provide a better and more efficient service to all of the airlines and carriers whose engines we maintain.

Summit Aviation



Engine Repair and Maintenance

Summit's workshops are equipped and staffed to provide all engineering services needed in the repair and maintenance of JT8D and JT3D engines including modifications, repair, overhaul, and component changes, dry and chemical cleaning, and the work necessary for Service Bulletin and Airworthiness Directive compliance.

Correct balancing is one of the most important aspects of jet engine assembly, and this operation is a Summit Aviation speciality. All rotating parts are balanced prior to assembly and all modules are dynamically balanced during the building of the engine.

Schenk static and dynamic machines are used to ensure that this vital operation is carried out with the necessary accuracy and precision.

At Summit Aviation all components are rigorously tested for hidden flaws; fluorescent penetration, electro-magnetic and electro-pulse procedures and other forms of non-destructive testing are used to make sure that no flaws pass undetected.

Engineering Support

Where it is necessary to work on engines "on the wing", Summit engineers can provide this service anywhere in the world, working to EASA 145 Standards (Approval No UK.145.00576). Summit can also supply any technical assistance required, either at its customer's base of operations or anywhere in the world.

Engine Sales and Leasing

Both JT8D and JT3D are available for short or long term lease or can be made the subject of a very cost-effective "power by the hour" contract. They can also be provided for outright sale or exchange, configured to the user's precise requirements.

One of the greatest advantages to the user of acquiring engines from Summit Aviation is the confidence that they have been maintained by Pratt & Whitney trained and certificated engineers and subject to the highest standards of quality control.

Test Cell facility at Gloucester Airport

Summit Aviation operates a fully-equipped gas turbine engine test facility, based on the edge of the Gloucester Airport located between Gloucester and Cheltenham. The facility is easily accessed by all major rail, road and air links. The test cell is experienced in both flight and industrial engines.

Main features of the test bed are:

- Engine thrust facility to 30,000 lbs
- Maximum air mass flow of 600 lbs/second
- Floor and overhead engine mounting facilities
- Silencing and dispersal of exhaust gases through a detuner.
- Comprehensive range of computerised instrumentation covering all normal engine parameters.
- Dedicated quick fit frames to allow rapid and simple engine installation.
- Boost fuel supply to 8,000 g.p.h.



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