

Press Release 18th September 2025

PBS GROUP and RTX – Pratt & Whitney to develop a new generation of auxiliary power units (APUs)

EAST HARTFORD, Conn. (Sept. 18, 2025) – Pratt & Whitney, an RTX (NYSE: RTX) business, has entered into an agreement with PBS Group, headquartered in Prague, to develop a next-generation auxiliary power unit (APU) for commercial and military applications, such as fighters, rotorcraft, and business jets.

The cooperation was established through the initiative and support of the Industrial Cooperation Section of the Ministry of Defense, which has long been assisting in the implementation of key projects and connecting domestic and international partners with the aim of strengthening the innovative potential of the Czech defense industry.

“PBS Group is a unique company both in the Czech Republic and globally. Its cooperation with RTX, one of the largest companies in the defense industry, is not only proof of PBS’s capabilities, but also a testament to the strength of Czech industry as a whole. The project between PBS and Pratt & Whitney will significantly increase the competence and capacity of Czech industry, which is essential for ensuring security of supply in crisis situations,” said Radka Konderlová, Director General For Industrial Cooperation at the Czech Ministry of Defense & Armed Forces.

APUs are compact engines that start the main engine and provide electrical power and compressed air to support aircraft systems – such as air for cabin temperature control, powering and cooling for avionics and emergency power to re-start the main engines in-flight. The next-generation APU is projected to have the highest power density on the market, delivering maximum performance at a reduced form factor and weight, driving new capabilities for fixed-wing and helicopter platforms.

“Advanced APUs are essential for both defense and commercial aviation, delivering the reliable, efficient power needed to keep aircraft mission-ready on the ground and optimized for performance in the air,” said Jessica Villardi, vice president of Fighter and Mobility Programs at Pratt & Whitney. “This work with PBS underscores Pratt & Whitney’s commitment to our customers and our focus on developing next generation turbine technologies to support future industry needs.”

“There are only four companies in the world that are authorized to develop and certify civil APUs. PBS Velká Bíteš, a member of the PBS GROUP, is one of them – and that is why we are now joining forces with one of the most important players in the field to jointly develop a new generation of APUs. We are leveraging the best of our know-how and that of our collaborator to advance the technological capabilities of APUs for future civil and defense projects,” said Milan Macholán, CEO of PBS Velká Bíteš.

The next-generation APU is designed to be significantly smaller and lighter than traditional APUs in the same power class and capable of rapidly starting and operating at high altitudes. This will enable new aircraft design opportunities and additional capabilities across military and commercial applications, including additional electrical power, enhanced thermal management and electronic warfare technologies.

RTX has been producing APUs for decades, using its strong foundation as a major supplier of gas turbine engines to drive innovation for commercial and military propulsion solutions. Similarly, PBS has a long

tradition in this field, having developed and manufactured auxiliary power units since the 1970s, i.e., for more than 50 years. During this time, it has gained extensive experience covering the entire process, from development, calculations, and design, through technology, production, and installation in aircraft, to service and overhaul.

About PBS GROUP

PBS GROUP, a manufacturer of aviation technology, is synonymous with innovation in the field of high-precision engineering. It is a renowned manufacturer of jet engines. With its main production facility in Velká Bíteš and growing production capacities in the USA and India, the company has become a major global player in the field of defense and civil technologies. PBS GROUP has long been involved in the development of modern aviation technologies that support the defense projects of NATO and its allies, as well as in civil aviation.

About Pratt & Whitney

Pratt & Whitney, an RTX business, is a world leader in the design, manufacture and service of aircraft engines and auxiliary power units for military, commercial and civil aviation customers. Since 1925, our engineers have pioneered the development of revolutionary aircraft propulsion technologies, and today we support more than 90,000 in-service engines through our global network of maintenance, repair and overhaul facilities.

About RTX

RTX is the world's largest aerospace and defense company. With more than 185,000 global employees, we push the limits of technology and science to redefine how we connect and protect our world. Through industry-leading businesses – Collins Aerospace, Pratt & Whitney, and Raytheon – we are advancing aviation, engineering integrated defense systems for operational success, and developing next-generation technology solutions and manufacturing to help global customers address their most critical challenges. The company, with 2024 sales of more than \$80 billion, is headquartered in Arlington, Virginia.

For questions or to schedule an interview, please contact corporatepr@rtx.com

Contact for media:

PBS GROUP: MgA. Monika Hrubalová, Marketing Director

T: +420 234 094 437 | M: 734 672 683

E: hruhalova@pbs-group.cz

www.pbs.cz/cz/Presscentrum