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THE JET PROPULSION ENGINE — SIXTH IN A SERIES OF MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE AVIATION INDUSTRY

The jet propulsion engine was developed in Britain during World War II. The first jet-propelled flight took place in 1941 when a Gloster E.28/39, powered by an engine generating 3,700 foot pounds of thrust, flew over a Royal Air Force base in Lincolnshire, England. Today, the largest commercial jet engine is the GE90-115B, which generates 115,300 foot pounds of thrust. Two such engines enable the Boeing 777-300ER, with 365 passengers on board, to travel up to 7,705 nautical miles without refueling.

The jet propulsion engine has been instrumental in the growth of the world economy. The jet engine enables today's commercial passenger and cargo aircraft to traverse long-range, intercontinental routes safely and efficiently. Modern jet engines operate at higher energy efficiencies with reduced maintenance requirements, and operate at significantly higher altitudes than traditional internal-combustion engines. This significant achievement in aviation technology has led to a worldwide transportation system with reduced dependence on low-level weather patterns, and the ability to fly longer and more cost-efficient routes than ever before.



The Boeing 777ER at takeoff

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RICONDO & ASSOCIATES, INC., *an Aviation Consultancy*

20 NORTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 1500

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602 USA

TEL: +1 [312] 606-0611 • FAX: +1 [312] 606-0706

info@ricondo.com • www.ricondo.com • AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER