



# NEWS RELEASE

*Astronics Corporation · 130 Commerce Way · East Aurora, NY · 14052-2164*

**For more information contact:**

**Company:**

David C. Burney, Chief Financial Officer  
Phone: (716) 805-1599, ext. 159  
Email: david.burney@astronics.com

**Investor Relations:**

Deborah K. Pawlowski, Kei Advisors LLC  
Phone: (716) 843-3908  
Email: dpawlowski@keiadvisors.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Astronics Corporation Announces Selection of EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System by Piper Aircraft**

EAST AURORA, NY, October 10, 2011 – Astronics Corporation (NASDAQ: ATRO), a leader in advanced, high-performance lighting, electrical power and automated test systems for the global aerospace and defense industries, today announced that it has been selected by Piper Aircraft to supply the 28VDC to 115VAC EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System as a standard installation on Piper Aircraft's Meridian, Mirage and Matrix aircraft.

Piper Aircraft Inc. has modernized these aircraft to enhance the experience of the owner/operator. Utilizing the EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System to add cabin power to support passenger electronic devices is one of the ways Piper Aircraft is adding additional productivity and entertainment value. With the selection of the EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System, Astronics is pleased to add Piper Aircraft to the list of Original Equipment Manufacturers that have turned to the EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System to meet customer demand.

"Astronics is committed to bringing industry-leading electrical power systems to the business aviation market. The EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> product selected by Piper Aircraft is an example of an elegantly simple design solution which allows business aircraft to meet passenger demands for power on the aircraft," noted Peter Gundermann, President and CEO of Astronics Corporation.

The EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> Inverter is TSO-C73 certified, DO-160E compliant and is in full compliance with FAA Policy Statement ANM-01-111-165 for certification of power supply systems for Portable Electronic Devices. Built with safety, convenience and efficiency in mind, the EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System has ground fault interrupt, over voltage and current protection, as well as thermal load shedding built into the unit. This intelligent in-seat power system eliminates the need for external protection and control devices, reducing cost and weight. The inverter is also configured for an enable/disable input and a system in-use light for crew visibility and control per the FAA Policy Statement.

Utilizing Astronics patented intelligent power management, the inverter provides power to the outlet unit only after an appropriate device is properly inserted. For seamless use around the world, the outlet unit will accommodate plugs from 155 countries. To complement design motifs, outlet units are available in a variety of colors. Additionally, gold and un-plated outlet covers are available adding to the elegance of aircraft interiors.

For more than 15 years, Astronics has developed patented intelligent power management systems. The patented EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> System is currently in service with more than 150 Airline/OEM customers at more than 500,000 seat locations. The 28VDC to 115VAC EMPOWER<sup>®</sup> In-Seat Power Supply System was launched into the business jet market in 2009 and is the first intelligent power management system of its kind available to the business jet market.

-MORE-

#### **ABOUT PIPER AIRCRAFT**

Piper Aircraft Inc. is headquartered in Vero Beach, FL. A global force in aviation, Piper offers efficient single-engine and twin-engine trainer, personal and business aircraft. Piper Aircraft designs, manufactures, sells and supports the strongest and broadest single-engine product line in the industry, from high-performance pistons to turboprops to the world's most fuel-efficient seven-person business jet, the PiperJet Altaire. With economical acquisition and operating costs, Piper airplanes deliver the best value available today and into the future. Piper is a member of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association.

#### **ABOUT ASTRONICS CORPORATION**

Astronics Corporation is a leader in advanced, high-performance lighting, electrical power and automated test systems for the global aerospace and defense industries. The Company's strategy is to develop and maintain positions of technical leadership in its chosen aerospace and defense markets, to leverage those positions to grow the amount of content and volume of product it sells to those markets and to selectively acquire businesses with similar technical capabilities that could benefit from our leadership position and strategic direction. Astronics Corporation, and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, DME Corporation, Astronics Advanced Electronic Systems Corp. and Luminescent Systems Inc., have a reputation for high quality designs, exceptional responsiveness, strong brand recognition and best-in-class manufacturing practices. The Company routinely posts news and other important information on its website at [www.Astronics.com](http://www.Astronics.com).

***For more information on Astronics and its products, visit its website at [www.Astronics.com](http://www.Astronics.com).***

#### **Safe Harbor Statement**

This press release contains forward-looking statements as defined by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. One can identify these forward-looking statements by the use of the words "expect," "anticipate," "plan," "may," "will," "estimate" or other similar expression. Because such statements apply to future events, they are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include the state of the aerospace industry, the market acceptance of newly developed products, internal production capabilities, the timing of orders received, the status of customer certification processes, the demand for and market acceptance of new or existing aircraft which contain the Company's products, customer preferences, and other factors which are described in filings by Astronics with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company assumes no obligation to update forward-looking information in this press release whether to reflect changed assumptions, the occurrence of unanticipated events or changes in future operating results, financial conditions or prospects, or otherwise.