



Discovery Air Innovations announces the first annual Hybrid Air Vehicle Student Paper Competition

Yellowknife, NT January 30, 2012 - Discovery Air Innovations (DAI), in collaboration with the Canadian Transportation Research Forum, is pleased to announce the first annual Hybrid Air Vehicle (HAV) student paper competition. DAI, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Discovery Air, is sponsoring the event to help foster the academic development of Heavy Lift Hybrid Air Vehicles in North America.

The 2011-2012 competition, open to all full-time University Graduate students, will focus on the humanitarian application for Heavy Lift Hybrid Air Vehicles (HLHAV). The students will examine the capabilities and operating characteristics of HLHAV and determine their ability to offer a solution to global suffering. The analysis should match or consider strengths and weaknesses of Heavy Lift solutions applied to specific humanitarian missions and result in clear and logically derived conclusions.

"Discovery Air Innovations is thrilled to sponsor the HAV student competition," said DAI's Director of Business Development, Stephen Newton. "Heavy Lift Hybrid Air Vehicles are a promising technology for the future with significant application in circumstances such as humanitarian missions where conventional modes of transportation may not be feasible. Getting students involved in the developmental phase of this technology is essential for the future of this technology."

The Canadian Transportation Research Forum (CTRF,) a non-profit association that promotes the development of research in transportation "has a long history of encouraging students to pursue transportation-related studies through student paper competitions and scholarship awards," said Vijay Gill, President of CTRF. "We are proud to be able to extend that history through our collaboration with DAI."

"We are very pleased that our students will have the opportunity to engage in innovative ideas with meaningful applications," commented Dr. Paul Earl, Director, Transport Institute, I.H. Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba. "The trauma of natural disasters is accentuated by disruptions to the transportation systems that limit humanitarian logistics efforts. This initiative provides an opportunity to explore the role that hybrid aircraft could play in saving lives and relieving suffering when conventional logistical services are interrupted."

The deadline for the competition is March 31, 2012 and all submissions are being judged by the CTRF. Winning authors will be awarded \$500 and \$250 for first and second prize respectively. For more information about the 2011-2012 Hybrid Air Vehicle Student Paper Competition and how to submit an entry, please visit the Discovery Air Innovations website at www.da-innovations.ca.

ABOUT DISCOVERY AIR AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

Discovery Air Inc. is a Canadian specialty aviation company, operating over 140 aircraft with our 850 team members. We deliver airborne training to the Canadian military; airborne fire services; VFR

helicopter operations; fixed-wing air charter services; expediting and logistics support; and a range of maintenance, repair, overhaul, modification, engineering and certification services.

Discovery Air's shares and debentures are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (Symbols DA.A and DA.DB respectively).

ABOUT THE CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH FORUM

The Canadian Transportation Research Forum is a non-profit association of professionals and students dedicated to research in transportation and related fields. CTRF provides a forum for networking and discussion and supports education in transportation related fields through publication of research papers, conferences, scholarships and student competitions.

For further information, please contact us at:

Discovery Air Innovations
Stephen Newton
Director, Business Development
Stephen.newton@da-innovations.com
(613) 297-6017

Canadian Transportation Research Forum:
Carole Ann Woudsma, Secretariat
PO Box 23033
Woodstock, Ontario N4T 1R9
cawoudsma@ctrf.ca
(519) 421-9701