



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: John Deem
Luquire George Andrews
Work: (704) 552-6565
E-mail: deem@lga-advertising.com

Response to dramatic image leads Curtiss-Wright Controls to make Centennial of Flight poster available to public

GASTONIA, N.C., May 13, 2003 — After an overwhelming response to the striking image in its national *Aviation Week* and *Defense News* advertisements, the North Carolina company with direct ties to Orville and Wilbur Wright is making a dramatic poster commemorating the 100th anniversary of man's first flight available to the public.

Gastonia-based Curtiss-Wright Controls Inc., direct successor to the company formed in 1929 through the merger of the Wright Aeronautical Corporation, and the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company founded by fellow aviation pioneer Glenn Curtiss, today builds high-tech motion-control devices for state-of-the-art aircraft including the Black Hawk helicopter, the Lockheed F-16 and F-22 fighters and every commercial craft produced by Boeing. The production is done in Curtiss-Wright's North Carolina plants in Gastonia and Shelby.

The 2-foot by 3-foot poster, designed by Charlotte advertising and public relations agency Luquire George Andrews Inc., depicts the Wright Flyer soaring over the dunes of Kitty Hawk on Dec. 17, 1903. However, the plane's shadow on the sand is the bat-like image of a modern-day B-2 Stealth Bomber.

"Without words, this powerful image illustrates the enormity of that first flight 100 years ago, and the astounding advancements in aeronautics and aerospace that have followed," said George Yohrling, president of Curtiss-Wright Controls. "As a company and as North Carolinians, we are honored to be an important part of the rich history of flight."

In an ironic twist that illustrates just how far aircraft have come in a century, this company tied to the creation of manned flight now produces electronic control computers for the U.S. military's Global Hawk, an unmanned aircraft used for surveillance and being considered for use in future combat missions.

"Where will flight take us in its second century?" Yohrling asked. "We can't wait to find out. We are proud that Curtiss-Wright and the people of North Carolina will be a continuing part of the process. As we make further discoveries that push the limits of possibility, we will proudly look back on the day in Kitty Hawk when a few men looked to the future, and decided the sky was the limit."

The poster is available for \$15.95 at <http://www.firstflightcentennial.org> or

<http://firstflight.studiostore.com/browse/FIRSTFLIGHT/POSTER/s.zFH0UK9y>

For JPEG or other information:

John Deem

Luquire George Andrews

704-552-6565

deem@lga-advertising.com