

### Recent Supersonic Vehicle Studies At Gulfstream Aerospace

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FAA Civil Supersonic Aircraft Workshop Arlington, Virginia 13 November 2003

### **Gulfstream Supersonic Studies Timeline**



## All Supersonic Studies are Not the Same

- NASA's High Speed Civil Transport (HSCT) program, initiated in the late 1980s and terminated in 1999, differs greatly from the envisioned Quiet Supersonic Jet (QSJ)
- Design Requirements
  - HSCT... a 300 pax, Mach 2.4, 600k lb airliner
  - QSJ... a relatively small 100k to 150k lb, Mach 1.8 transport
- Study Focus
  - HSCT... not intended to fly supersonic over land
  - QSJ... requires supersonic over land flight for success
- Focused efforts to design a small, low boom configuration, if successful, may pave the way forward for future high speed vehicles.



## **QSJ Initial Design Goals**

How Far —	→NBAA IFR Range	4,800 NM
How Fast	→Cruise Mach	1.6 - 2.0
How Much —	Max Ramp Weight	100,000 Lb
	→ Design Payload	1,600 Lb
	└-→ Cabin Size	1,300 Cu Ft (GII Size)
From Where -	→ Takeoff Field Length - SL	;ISA+20C 6,500 Ft
	→ ACN, Approach Category	, and Design Group <30 / C / III
Safely	Civil Certification	FAA FAR 25 or Similar Standard
Responsibly -	Environmental Issues	
	→ Boom Overpressure	Acceptable for Overland SS Flight
	Takeoff Emissions	ICAO with Margin
	→ Cruise Emissions	Minimum Impact
	Airport Noise	Stage 4 with 10dB Margin
Reliably ——	Mission Readiness	> 0.99
Cost	►Engine Life (STBO)	>= 2,000 Hr
Effectively	└─► Civil Market Price	\$ 70 - 100 M
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## **A Baseline QSJ Configuration**



Variable geometry provides... improved airport performance, lower noise, and improved subsonic range at the expense of... increased complexity, more difficult certification, and weight.



# **QSJ Technical Challenges**

#### **Propulsion Integration**

- Engine Fuel Efficiency
- Engine Life
- High Inlet Performance
- Low Inlet Distortion
- Rotor Burst Protection

#### **Environmental Issues**

- Sonic Boom Suppression
- Engine Exhaust Emissions
- Community Noise
- Conformal Vision

**Pilot View** 

Video Vision

- Enhanced Vision
- Synthetic Vision

#### **Operational and Regulatory Issues**

- Supersonic Over Land Flight Prohibition
- Certification and Safety Standards
- ATC Integration
- High Altitude Operations

#### **Structural Arrangement**

- Structural Stiffness
- Thermal Management
- Advanced Materials
- Low Weight / Flutter Resistant Concepts

#### Aerodynamic Performance

- High Supersonic L/D
- High CLmax
- Handling Qualities



#### **Advanced Systems**

- FBW / FBL / PBW
- Variable Geometry Systems
- CG Management

#### **Sonic Boom Noise Source**



### **Sonic Boom Shaping Strategy**



## **Sonic Boom Suppression - Approach**

- Boom Strength ~ Vehicle Weight
  - QSJ Size An Advantage
  - Minimize Weight
- Aerodynamic Shaping
  - Vehicle Configuration
  - Engine Placement
  - Boom Reduction Concept Development
  - Wind Tunnel Testing (Concept Validation)
- Define Acceptable Boom Characteristics/Signature
  - Human Ear Response
  - Building Structures Response
  - Sonic Boom Simulation
    - Gulfstream Boom Lab
    - NASA LaRC Boom Lab
- Develop/Test Technology Demonstrator Vehicle



#### **Progress on Sonic Boom Reduction**



## Lighter weight vehicles have weaker sonic boom signatures.

# Special shaping further reduces the sonic boom signature.

Vehicle size, shaping, and advanced concepts dramatically reduce the sonic boom signature.



## **Advanced Boom Reduction Concept Testing**



**Gulfstream Wind Tunnel Models in NASA Langley UPWT** 

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### **Cruise Acoustic Signature Levels**

#### QSJ Advanced+ >35dB Quieter Than Concorde



## **Engine Exhaust Emissions**

Airport Environment, Requirements Based on ICAO Regulations and Demonstrated Engine Performance

- Oxides of Nitrogen <60 g/kN</li>
- Unburned Hydrocarbons <4 g/kN</p>
- Carbon Monoxide <40 g/kN</li>
- Characteristic Smoke Number <10</p>

Considered Technically Feasible

- Cruise Emissions -- No Regulations for NO<sub>X</sub>, Ozone Depletion, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Gulfstream Atmospheric Modeling Study -- Favorable Results for QSJ NOX/Ozone Impact
  - H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub> -- Design for Min Fuel Burn -- Minimize SFC and Zero Fuel Weight, and Maximize L/D

"Green" aircraft solutions are driven by aeronautical fundamentals.



#### **Estimated Certification Noise Levels**



- Future designs should not be any noisier than today's product standard.
- Initial estimates indicate Stage 4 -10dB is achievable.

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### **Progress Being Made**

- Smaller supersonic configurations designed to cruise below Mach 2.0 are viewed as a logical first step toward next generation supersonic transports.
- Configurations with shaped, low boom signatures are considered feasible.
- Boom suppression technology demonstrator is needed.
- Certification standards and criteria for acceptable supersonic over land flight need to be developed.

Progress toward a viable supersonic business jet requires elimination of the prohibition of supersonic over land flight.

