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# Press Release

## SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SELECTS THE GA8 AIRVAN FOR SURVEILLANCE MISSION CAPABILITIES

**Santa Ana, CA, February 6, 2014:** Following an extensive review of available platforms, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department (SBCSD) has selected the GippsAero-Mahindra Aerospace GA8 Airvan as its next generation ISR mission platform. Replacing its current fleet of Cessna aircraft, the GA8 Airvans are being acquired to expand mission capabilities and lower operational costs.

"We operate in desert to mountain topography from sea level (and below) to over 14,000 feet in highly challenging conditions" states Captain Dale Gregory, Flight Department Head. "We required a multi-mission capable, high performance aircraft which can handle the variety of missions and environments in which we operate. The Airvan proved to be the best surveillance platform for the money to address our needs."

GippsAero, a division of Mahindra Aerospace, has been producing the FAA certified Airvan since 2001. With a highly successful track record of ISR mission utilization by the government of Australia, the Airvan is also in daily service in the United States with a fleet of 16 mission aircraft flown by the USAF Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol and has delivered over 200 Airvans world wide.

Wayne Pliss, Chief Fixed Wing Pilot for SBCSD adds, "the Airvan provides outstanding hot and high capabilities, which is imperative in our operational environment. The Airvan is an all-around performer, which made it the easy choice as our next generation surveillance and mission support aircraft."

To learn more about the unique configurations and mission capabilities the Airvan provides ISR operators, please visit: [www.wcas.aero/airvan](http://www.wcas.aero/airvan).

**The GA8 Airvan – Versatile. Rugged. Spacious. Affordable:** The GA8 Airvan has been used extensively by utility operators worldwide and now brings its unmatched load carrying ability, reliability and durability to the American market. For more information about the GA8 Airvan by GippsAero, a division of Mahindra Aerospace, please visit [www.ga8airvan.com](http://www.ga8airvan.com).

## **About San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department**

Responsible for surveillance and support operations in the largest county in the United States, the Flight Department of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department conducts multiple fixed and rotor wing missions on a daily basis.

## **About Air Bear Tactical Aircraft**

Air Bear Tactical Aircraft, LLC provides complete, mission ready airborne law enforcement solutions, custom designed for specific agency mission requirements. With a staff of experienced airborne law enforcement officers and expert aircraft acquisition and project managers, Air Bear has the capability to deliver solutions which meet and exceed your needs. Tactical Flight Officer and Pilot tactical training, operational consulting and custom integration are all part of the services Air Bear provides.

Please visit [www.airbear.aero](http://www.airbear.aero) for more information.

## **About West Coast Aircraft Sales [www.wcas.aero](http://www.wcas.aero)**

West Coast Aircraft Sales, LLC is an industry leading international aircraft acquisition and resale company. With over 25 years of experience, we consistently create optimized solutions for sellers and purchasers in the sale, acquisition and ownership of small, medium and large jet, turbo prop and utility aircraft. West Coast is the exclusive Airvan distributor for the western region of the United States.

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